



***Sacred Heart Parish, North Albury, pays respect to the Wiradjuri people, the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather to celebrate our faith and worship God. We acknowledge with respect elders past, present and emerging.***

***Fifth Sunday of Lent  
21st / 22nd March 2026***

***Sacred Heart Parish is a Child Safe Community. We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all and a zero tolerance to child abuse.***

**Parish Clergy:**

**Fr Martin Cruickshank—Parish Priest**

**Parish Office 9am-2pm**

**Gemma Whitehead Monday & Wednesday**

**Frances Kernaghan Friday**

**Phone: 02 6025 1516**

**Email: [sacredheartna@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartna@gmail.com)**

**Web: <http://sacredheartnorthalbury.com>**

**Bank A/c Details for Parishioners wishing to Direct Deposit into our Church A/c (2nd Collect)**

**BSB: 066 789; A/c No: 10000 5574;**

**Ref No: Name # Please contact Office for a number**

**Presbytery A/c BSB: 066 789; A/c No: 10000 5575**

**Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable People:**

**<https://wagga.catholic.org.au/safeguarding-children-vulnerable-people/>**

**Mass Times**

**SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm**

**SUNDAY: 9.30 am**

**Live-streaming on Sunday 9.30 am Mass by accessing our website**

**WEEKDAY MASSES: This Week:**

**Wednesday & Friday 9.30am**

**RECONCILIATION: SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM**

**BAPTISMS: By appointment.**

**CHILDRENS LITURGY:**

**Children's liturgy is offered in Sacred Heart parish community each second and fourth Sunday at 9.30am mass during school terms.**

**BIBLE STUDY GROUP:**

**Our parish bible study group is usually held every second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 7.00pm in the parish hall. During Lent our bible group is joining with the Lenten discussion group held every Tuesday at 7pm in the parish hall.**

**Pope Leo's Prayer to Saint Francis**

Saint Francis, our brother, you who eight hundred years ago went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace, intercede for us before the Lord.

You recognized true peace in the Crucifix of San Damiano, teach us to seek in him the source of all reconciliation that breaks down every wall.

You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world raises up boundaries.

In this time afflicted by conflict and division, intercede for us so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ. Amen.



**Fifth Sunday of Lent  
21–22 March 2026**

Since October 2023, Caritas Jerusalem staff in Gaza have endured displacement, personal loss, and danger alongside the communities they serve. Despite unimaginable challenges, they remain committed to providing lifesaving support, standing in solidarity with families enduring this conflict.



**Please donate today.**

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

**Or online at: [www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate](http://www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate)**

**Or by calling: 1800 024 413**

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

# Parish Community



*We pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith especially:*

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Fr Dermot Clinton, Glenys Royal, Marie Nichols, Imelda Bourke, Sally Hart, Lloyd Graham, Joan Harrold, Judith Hyland, James White, Brian Munk, Stephen Neville, Peter Baker, Margaret Gawen, Anne Maginness.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Joe Ratcliffe, Allan Scholz, Inge Husz, Garry Rake, Robert Nichols, Sr Carmel Clancy, Bill McNamee, Mary Cudmore, Susan Dawson, Connie Barber, Billie Walsh, Jack Livsey, Mary Scott, Catherine Caton, George O'Neill, Michael Mitchell, Harry Flood, Margaret O'Dwyer, Ethel Shipard, Dawn Ridley, Lindsay Anderson, Glenn McPherson, Robert Salzke, Leonard Vogel, Attilio Belina, Paul Husz, Molly Cooper, William Grant, Catherine Condon, Penny Murphy, Vince Ryan, Leslie Evans.

*Gather our loved ones into your arms. Quiet our doubt and anger*



*This weekend we welcome into the community of the Christian church through the sacrament of Baptism:*

**Maya Rose Mackenzie**

*Daughter of Benjamin and Courtney*

**Winslie Grace Owen**

*Daughter of Trevaye and Jodee*

## ROSTERS

**Sat / Sun: 21st / 22nd March**

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
<b>Commentator</b>	Michael Byrnes	Natalie Osborne
<b>Lector 1</b>	Barb McDermott	Brigita Serbinek
<b>Lector 2</b>	Ben Clancy	Liz Phegan
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Jan Skinner Pauline Mulquiney	Dianne Treacy Gemma Whitehead Trish Parkinson
<b>Cantor</b>	Brian Waters/John van Lint	Heath Neville
<b>Musicians</b>	Judy Foley	Ashleigh Donaldson
<b>Counters:</b> Margaret Brown & Moira Porta		

**Sat / Sun: 28th / 29th March**

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
<b>Commentator</b>	Adrian Mitchelhill	Sr Carina Morton
<b>Lector 1</b>	Mary-Jayne Boyd	Samuel Serbinek
<b>Lector 2</b>	Paula Waters	Liz Phegan
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Colleen Day Shinead Kilroy	Sr Patricia Weekes Moira Porta Sue McLaurin
<b>Cantor</b>	Ann McIntyre	Bernadette, Wendy and
<b>Musicians</b>	Judy Foley	Helen
<b>Counters:</b> Anne Gordes & Lorraine Willis		

### Thought for the week Pope Leo XIV

Jesus is closest when life feels like a "closed sepulchre" of despair, weeping with us just as he did for Lazarus. The Pope encouraged removing the "bandages" of pessimism and fear that isolate and paralyse. Jesus calls believers to "roll away the stone," get up, and regain confidence, affirming that "we are not alone in the dark".

### Prayer—Fifth Sunday of Lent

*Dear Saint Lazarus,  
friend of Christ Incarnate and patron  
of the poor and the sick.*

*I request your intercession,  
with the aid of the Holy Spirit;  
May the Lord, Who prefigured His  
Resurrection through your own  
miraculous rising,  
always guide me in my earthly  
pilgrimage and protect me in  
sickness and in health.*

*Together with Saint Martha and  
Saint Mary, you welcomed the  
Saviour into your home.*

*May I do the same by welcoming  
Jesus into my heart and serving Him  
faithfully in my brothers and sisters.  
Saint Lazarus of Bethany, when we  
are overwhelmed with grief and  
doubt your love and presence inspire  
me to have faith and hope in Jesus,  
the one who enters our tombs and  
raises us to life.*

*Amen*



# Parish News

## HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES 2026

The dates may change but times and venue remain the  
**Holy Thursday (2nd April)**

Mass of the Lord's Supper **6.00pm**

**Good Friday (3rd April)**

Ecumenical Stations of the Cross in Sacred Heart  
Church **10.30am**

Hot cross buns shared afterwards in the Parish Hall.

Commemoration of The Lord's Passion **3.00pm**

**Easter Saturday Vigil (4th April) 6.00pm**

**Easter Sunday (5th April) 9.30am**

We require readers, commentators, & Eucharistic Ministers for Holy Thursday, Good Friday (Commemoration of the Lord's Passion) Easter vigil and Easter Sunday.

Please add your name to the list located at the Swan Street entrance.

## SPIRIT WEAVER'S MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING

Spirit Weaver's is a Christ-centred group promoting women's spirituality, unity, journeying and connection, including inter-faith and cross-cultural exchanges.

**Our next coffee morning is next Saturday 28th March** at Retro Lane Café (QE11 Square), 525 Swift Street, Albury at 10.30am (last Saturday of the month (for approx. 1 hour)

You are invited to come along where we can share faith and friendship.

## Australian Catholics—Autumn Edition

The Autumn Edition of the journal 'Australian Catholics' has arrived. This edition looks at the centrality of the mass to our Catholic faith—what happens, where and how we worship and why we attend.

*'The Lord Jesus took some bread, and thanked God for it and broke it, and he said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me.'* 1 Cor 11:23-26 (From the second reading for Holy Thursday, 2 April 2026).

Among the many interesting and informative articles are those written by Fr Andrew Hamilton, 'Missing the Magic of the Mass' P31-34 and 'Something to live for: Eight Breads of Life' by Michael McGirr P42.

Please take and distribute your free copies.

## Bonsai Under Lights

Come Join us for a beautiful, unique display of Albury's largest and oldest **Bonsai**, accompanied by the soothing sounds of the Murray Concert Choir and a Botanic Art Exhibition. \$20 entry - Choir performance, with complimentary wine and cheese. 7.00pm—10.00pm. 27 March 2026 Valibo Nurseries, 534 Urana Rd, Lavington. All proceeds to the Murray Concert Choir. All welcome.

## TO PONDER:

Resurrection is an intimate experience of union with God. It is a call and response, a physical and spiritual drawing out from death into new life. In Ezekiel, God calls the exiled community out of the grave through the loving refrain "O my people" and clothes them with flesh, sinew, and breath. In our responsorial psalm, it is the psalmist who cries out from the depths, trusting in God's redemption. And finally, Jesus calls Lazarus to "come out" from the tomb, and Lazarus responds.

Jesus both calls us and hears our cries for help. He embraces us in our suffering, lifts our burdens, and beckons us to come out from the areas of death and sin in our own lives.

Spend time in prayer with Jesus this week. Call to him, be honest about what burdens you, and listen for his call to "come out" and be set free.

## MORNING TEA

As the first Sunday of April falls on Easter Sunday, our monthly morning tea will be held next Sunday 29 March (Palm Sunday) at the conclusion of our celebration of Eucharist.

If possible please bring something to share.

## LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUP

Our Lenten discussion group concludes this Tuesday 31 March in the Parish Hall at 7.00pm, with a reflection on the upcoming events of Palm (Passion) Sunday.

All welcome to participate.

## PLANNED GIVING

We have 4 direct depositors who have a description of 'Sacred Heart 2nd', 'Sacred Heart 2', and two are not supplied.

These are weekly deposits. If these are yours please phone Parish Office Monday or Wednesday to obtain a number for your deposit so we can be sure they come to our account. Thank you.

## FOOTY TIPPING MONEY

For those who have not yet paid for the footy tipping competition, please place the \$25 cash in an envelope marked 'Footy Tipping' and your name and place in one of the collection bags at mass. Thank you.

## LITURGY MEETING

The next Liturgy Meeting to organize the music and readings for Holy Week and Easter will be held on Tuesday 24 March at 4.00pm in the Parish house.



# Liturgy of the Word

## A reading from the prophet Ezekiel 37:12—14

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you and you will live and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this—it is the Lord who speaks. The word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm 129

(When the Psalm is sung, the words will vary slightly but the meaning remains the same.)

**Response:** With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;  
Lord, hear my voice!  
O let your ears be attentive  
to the voice of my pleading. **R**

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,  
Lord, who would survive?  
But with you is found forgiveness;  
for this we revere you. **R**

My soul is waiting for the Lord,  
I count on his word.  
My soul is longing for the Lord  
more than watchman count on the daybreak  
(Let the watchman count on daybreak  
and Israel on the Lord.) **R**

Because with the Lord there is mercy  
and fullness of redemption.  
Israel indeed he will redeem  
from all its iniquity **R**

## A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 11:1—45

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will not end in death but in God's glory and through it the Son of God will be glorified.' Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he learned that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea.' On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother will rise again,' said Jesus. Martha said 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God that one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said. 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb; it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.' When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.' Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and has seen what he did believed in him. The Gospel of the Lord.

## A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 8:8-11

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you. The word of the Lord

### Gospel Acclamation:

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;  
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**