



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.

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time *12th / 13th September 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

Frances Kernaghan Friday

Phone: 02 6025 1516

Email: 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/>

Safeguarding Officer for Sacred Heart Parish:

Adrian Mitchelhill

Email: nasafeguarding@wagga.catholic.org.au



This Sunday's readings focus on forgiveness, reminding us that there is no limit to God's mercy and unconditional love. We cannot repay God's forgiveness, but we can imitate God's free, unearned mercy by forgiving others with patience and compassion.

The **First Reading** warns against anger, telling us to not keep a record of grudges. Letting go of anger restores peace to ourselves. We are to live by the commandments, overlooking errors and forgiving our neighbour. The **Psalmist** praises the depth of the Lord's compassion and mercy, telling of God's care for us. There is no end to his forgiveness nor love.

St Paul (**Second Reading**) explains that we belong to the Lord both in life and death. Christ died and rose because of his great love for us. We, too, are called to live not for ourselves but for others, showing love and mercy.

Jesus (**Gospel**) teaches about forgiveness through the parable of a servant forgiven a large debt by a merciful king; the servant then refuses to forgive a much smaller debt. Jesus warns that people should not expect mercy from God if they do not show mercy to others. We are called always to forgive others wholeheartedly.

This week, we pray for one another and ask for the grace to forgive, welcoming the healing and reconciliation forgiveness brings. We remember too those who are unable to forgive, and all who are affected by war, violence and unrest throughout the world.

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.

Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Terry Cruickshank, Margaret Phillips, Judith Williams, Trevor Quayle, Dennis Ritchie, Kenneth Murray, Gevevieve Govers, Shaun Dwyer, Nancy White, Paula McColl.

ANNIVERSARIES: Denise Geraghty, Jenny O'Flaherty, Teresa Dynan, Jan McNamee, Anne Twomey, Allan Wessen, Norm McLaurin, Judith Taylor, Mary Egan, Mario Fabbro, Brad Carrick, Terry McCabe, Irene Shanahan, Bill Ditchfield, Emily Clark, John Austin, Geoffrey Loulson, Fr Brian McEwan, Harold Hopp, Dora Drennan, Frances Slater, Jack Weber, Jim Newman, Paul O'Loughlin, Mary-Rose Tynan, Les Ryan, John Gordon Lindner.

Gather our loved ones into your arms. Quiet our doubt and anger and send us your healing grace. Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer for the Sick

We pray for all those who are sick. May they draw strength and healing from God's presence with them and from our prayers and thoughts for them. May they have peace in their hearts and know they are greatly loved by all. We offer our prayers believing that God's presence and power can do more than we can ever know. Amen

ROSTERS

Sat / Sun: 12 / 13 September 2026

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Nicole Morton	Ed Brown
Lector 1	Ben Clancy	Narelle Naughton
Lector 2	Mary-Jayne Boyd	Samuel Serbinek
Eucharistic Ministers	Adrian Mitchelhill Anna Farrell	Mercedes Goss Volunteers
Cantor Musicians	Judy Lindsay Judy Foley	Damian Parkinson Brigita Serbinek
Counters: Brian Fealy & Bernie Seaton		

Sat / Sun: 19 / 20 September 2026

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Justin Clancy	Cathy Nyhan
Lector 1	Xavier Clancy	Roy Thompson
Lector 2	Kaye Deanshaw	Bethany Carey
Eucharistic Ministers	Pauline Mulquiney Volunteer	Belinda Shelton Trish Parkinson Sue McLaurin
Cantor Musicians	Ann McIntyre Judy Foley	Wendy & Bernadette
Counters: Ellen Devine & Bethany Carey		

FORGIVENESS PRAYER

*Heavenly Father,
I come before you with a heavy heart,
burdened by my own failures and shortcomings.
I acknowledge the ways in which I
have fallen short and hurt others
including myself.
Lord, I seek your forgiveness and healing.
Help me to release the weight of guilt
and shame that I carry.
Grant me the strength to learn that
my mistakes do not define me and
help me to continue to grow into a
better person.
May your boundless love and grace
wash over me, renewing my spirit and
granting me the peace that comes
from knowing I am forgiven.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen*

Thought for the week Pope Leo XIV

Holding onto bitterness and refusing to pardon others blocks us from receiving God's grace, as the unforgiving servant was punished for withholding the mercy he himself received.



Parish News

TO PONDER:

God's mercy is extravagant and inconceivable by human standards. Both the Gospel and today's psalm underscore this reality. The psalmist describes the greatness of God's mercy using natural imagery, and the Gospel parable depicts the forgiveness of an absurdly high debt to describe God's immeasurable love for us. According to Paul, as people of faith, our call is to live according to God's immeasurable love and grace, placing these gifts at the centre of our lives so as to give everything we have—our lives and even our deaths—back to God.

This week, our readings invite us to mediate on God's grace and capacity for forgiveness and to pray that our hearts might be broken open to understand this great and unearned gift. Only then will we begin to comprehend—truly—what human forgiveness is about.

Our world is in such need of healing—in our distorted relationships, our deep societal fractures, our wounded earth. Forgiveness is our ultimate act of defiance in the face of disharmony that seems insurmountable, our ultimate challenge to evil, our ultimate act of love.

May we all seek to follow this path, which heals all of us and draws us back to God.

St Lorenzo Ruiz Commemoration Mass

Mass in commemoration of St Lorenzo Ruiz, Martyr to be held 26 September, Holy Spirit, Lavington, 6pm Vigil Mass. Bring a plate to share for supper at the Meeting room. Contact: MACE Sisters—0402 090 438

Murray Concert Choir—Paths of Light

A musical Journey across Continents and Centuries—Saturday 12 September at St Matthew's Albury at 7.30pm
Sunday 13 September at St John's Wodonga at 2.30pm
Tickets: \$25 (\$20 concession) under 18 Free. Available at Try Booking, Regent Cinema Centre Albury or at the door.

Sacred Heart Church Family Group

Sacred Heart Family Group will be enjoying lunch at The Albury golf Club, North Street on Sunday 20 September at 12 midday. If you wish to join us please contact Judy Warren on 0403 030 567 by Monday 14 September. The Club is very popular and is usually booked out so they require definite numbers.

Murray River Fine Music-The Art of Wonder & Consolation

This special music festival brings together some of the finest musicians from around Australia, including Lior, in collaboration with regional performers and the Flying Fruit Fly Circus in an outstanding program for all ages at The Cube Wodonga, from September 11—13. For more information go to: thecubewodonga.com.au or phone (02)6022 9311.

2026 Footy Tipping Final Scores

1st: 154 Roo Boy (Ed Brown) \$500.

2nd: 153 Nanna Lil (Liz Phegan) & Ray Trebilcock \$170each.

3rd: 152 Bomber (John Grigg), Liz Jones & Cathy Nyhan \$80each.

From Fr Martin

Thanks to all those who helped out in any way so that I was able to spend last week in Adelaide preparing for and attending my brother's funeral. In a particular way I thank Fr Sean Byrnes from Holy Spirit for covering Saturday night's mass so that I could safely make the long sojourn home.

I am most grateful for those who have offered words and gestures of condolence and comfort. Please remember my brother Terry, his wife Fay, their children Karen, Erica and Holly and their families in your prayers.

Nepal Floods

Caritas teams are on the ground assessing the scale of the disastrous Nepalese floods and how to respond. It is expected that the needs will most likely include: emergency shelter and essential items, access to clean water and sanitation, access to food and immediate and long-term recovery. If you are able to support Caritas Australia's Nepal Floods Appeal, visit: www.caritas.org.au/nepal.

Loving God,

Be close to all those caught in the devastation of the floods in Nepal and Tibet.

*Comfort those who have lost loved ones,
strengthen those waiting anxiously for news,
and guide rescuers and emergency workers as they search for survivors.*

*Give courage to displaced families
and compassion to communities offering shelter, food and care.
May those who are missing be found,
and may those who mourn know they are not alone.
God of mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.*

Australian Catholics—Spring Edition

The Spring Edition comprises articles chosen from the over 500 participants in the Jesuit Young Voices Awards. Entrants highlighted how people and communities continue to work to ensure fairness and justice for those around them. Each entry was an antidote to a world where sometimes we can feel enmeshed in negativity and selfishness. They pose the question, where are you going to go boldly? Please take and distribute your free copies.

Parish Pastoral Council

The next meeting of the Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council will take place on Thursday 15 October at 6.00pm in our parish hall. Agenda items need to reach the Secretary, Marjorie Serbinek: m4serbinek@gmail.com by Monday 12 October.

Diocesan Social Media Post

Caritas Australia is seeking to recruit a Diocesan Director for the Diocese of Wagga Wagga. Make a meaningful impact in a role that connects faith, justice and community. This opportunity offers the chance to bring Caritas Australia's vision to life across the diocese. If you're committed to social and ecological justice, we'd love to hear from you! Scan the QR code to learn more.



Liturgy of the Word

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus 27:30—28:7

Resentment and anger, these are foul things and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things and stop hating, remember dissolution and death and live by the commandments. Remember the commandment and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High and overlook the offence. The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 102

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

Response: *The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.*

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. **R**

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. **R**

His wrath will come to an end;
he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. **R**

For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins. **R**

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans 14:7—9

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment;

Love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 18:21—35

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. 'Give me time,' he said, 'and I will pay the whole sum.' And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. 'Pay what you owe me,' he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, 'Give me time and I will pay you'. But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?' And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord.