

ST MARY'S PARISH SWAN HILL BULLETIN

Priest: Fr. Marcello Colasante PP

Parish Secretary: Glenda Klabbers

Presbytery: Nola O'Bree

Parish Council Chair: Michelle Haeusler

St Mary's School Principal: Greg Lane

St Mary MacKillop Principal: Michelle Haeusler

Parish Office: Thursday 10.00 am — 2.00 pm

Friday 10.00 am — 2.00 pm



18th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Year B

2nd August 2015

Presbytery: 62 Splatt Street Swan Hill 3585

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The Parish of Swan Hill comprises the Church Communities of: St Marys Swan Hill, St Joseph's Nyah West, St Joseph's Lake Boga

Mass Next Weekend:

Vigil	6.30 pm	Swan Hill
Sunday	10.30 am	Swan Hill

Mass This Week

Tuesday:	5.30 pm	
Wednesday	10.00 am	
Thursday:	10.00 am	
Friday:	11.00 am	Feast of Mary MacKillop Mass with MacKillop College
	1.30 pm	Funeral: Gavin Polinelli

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Gavin Polinelli

Anniversaries: We remember: Jack McMahon, Bruno Carlo, Concetta Castelli, Mary Lamaro, Frank Capone, Silvia & Paulo Sudano, Jack Foott, Emily Downes, Victoria & Rosario Columbro

Prayers for the Sick: Lorna Kennedy, Erin Coburn, Rosa Milazzo, Brooke Kennedy, Brian Mulcahy, Ronald Duryea, Margaret Sinclair.

If you would like a sick person prayed for, please ask for their permission. After one month names will be deleted from the list unless otherwise advised.

FIRST READING *Ex 16:2-4, 12-15*

A reading from the book of Exodus

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, 'Why did we not die at the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our hearts content! As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day's portion; I propose to test them this way to see whether they will follow my law or not.'

'I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, "Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your hearts content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God.'" And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, 'What is that?' not knowing what it was. 'That' said Moses to them 'is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.'

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 77:3-4, 23-25, 54. R. v.24*

The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

The things we have heard and understood, the things our fathers have told us, we will tell to the next generation: the glories of the Lord and his might.

He commanded the clouds above and opened the gates of heaven. He rained down manna for their food, and gave them bread from heaven.

Mere men ate the bread of angels. He sent them abundance of food. He brought them to his holy land, to the mountain which his right hand had won.

The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

SECOND READING *Eph 4:17, 20-24*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

The Word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Mt 4:4*

Alleluia, alleluia! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Alleluia!

Pope Francis' Encyclical *Laudato Si'*: *On the Care for Our Common Home* is a call for global action as well as an appeal for deep inner conversion.

"Slash pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions. Transition to cleaner and renewable energies and replace fossil fuels 'without delay'." Paragraphs 26, 165

CUPPA AFTER MASS TODAY

Whoso keepeth his mouth and keepeth his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles *Proverbs 21:23*

GOSPEL REFLECTION: We have become so familiar with the sayings of Jesus that we can easily fail to notice the earth elements in the text or the constructed environment and treat them simply as backdrop for human activity rather than as having value in themselves. Jesus' claim "I am the bread of life" invites us to consider bread as matter essential to life as well as a metaphor for the God's Word become flesh. It invites us to consider what both material and symbolic dimensions of the statement might mean for living a gospel way of life.

We might note the close attention in this passage to the material and social context of Jesus' words. Boats, a town (Capernaum), the sea (of Galilee), the land on the "other side" all feature in this text. For those who have visited Galilee and seen the first century boat preserved in Kibbutz Ginnosar, reference to boats might evoke the diversity of wooden materials used in boat construction, in this case mostly oak and cedar. It might also alert us to the human communities that interacted with the material world to build the boats so integral to the life of the lake communities.

Those who have seen images of Capernaum will be aware of the basalt building materials used in the construction of the houses and might be led to wonder at the extraordinary processes of rock formation. The Sea of Galilee has agency in so many gospel stories. Here it is mentioned in passing, but must not be ignored, especially as we become aware of how perilously endangered it is since its waters have been exploited for irrigation over several decades. The "other side" evokes the rich agricultural land generally referred to as the "bread-basket" of the region. Mention of the crowd introduces children as well as women and men searching for Jesus. In other words, the text invites us into the whole Galilean world encoded in the text.

The question, "Rabbi, when did you come here?", is about time and place Jesus is addressed as teacher, as one who can lead his questioners from one physical and metaphorical place to another. It is his response to this question that introduces the discussion about bread. This in turn opens up a whole world of earth activity, of sun and soil and seed and plant, a world of planting and harvesting, of processing and cooking. Ironically, the words of the Johannine Jesus with their focus on the symbolic meaning of the bread turn his questioners away from the physical, material Earth elements that constitute both bread and flesh. Pope Francis invites us in his recent encyclical, *Laudato Si*, to value and respect the material world. The more we do so, the more attuned we will be to the challenge of Jesus' claim for our living of the gospel. *Sr Veronica Lawson*

READINGS NEXT WEEK 9th August
1 Kings 19:4-8 ; Eph 4:30-5:2 ; John 6:41-51

Divine Mercy Devotions this Monday 1.45

CWL Meeting this Tuesday August 4th at 1.30pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

Rosary in the Park this Saturday 8th of August, 10.00 am BYO chair, all welcome

More than a Cuppa meet next Monday 10th August.

STATE OF THE NATION

Presbytery Account: (1st Basket) (Support of Priests & Bishop)		\$ 757.20
Parish Account: (2nd Basket) (Support of the Parish)	Envelopes	\$ 1,218.00
	Credit Card	\$ 1,595.00
	Direct Debit	\$ 1,266.00
	Loose Plate	\$ 64.65
		\$ 4,143.65

THANK YOU!

ST MARY'S MINISTRIES 9th August 2015

Ministers of the Word:

6.30pm. Glenda Klabbbers. Michelle Haeusler

10.30am. St Mary's School

Ministers of Communion:

6.30pm. Claire Billing, Chris Hoare, Glads Bryant, Lyn Stutley

10.30am. Sam Colombo, Jim Meehan, Robert Jager, Connie Alderuccio, Frank Fogarty.

Music: 6.30 pm. Joe Taverna.

10.30am. St Mary's School

Presentation of Gifts:

6.30pm Valma Barry , Nola Grant

10.30am St Mary's School

Counters: Ralph Hoare, Felicity Power

Saint of the Week - St Mary of the Cross MacKillop (August 8)

Mary MacKillop (1842 -1909), now known as St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, was an Australian woman of early Australian colonial times. On March 19, 1866 at Penola in South Australia she, with Father Julian Tenison-Woods, founded the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart (Josephites). Mother Mary of the Cross was its first Religious Sister and Superior.

In her lifetime, Mary MacKillop established a number of schools and welfare organisations throughout Australia and New Zealand with a focus on education of the poor, particularly in country regions. Conflict with Fr Tenison-Woods and other clergy resulted in Mary's ex-communication by Bishop Sheil on September 22, 1871 for her alleged insubordination. Consequently most of the schools were closed and the Josephites almost disbanded. On February 21, 1872, Bishop Sheil, as he lay dying, realised his mistake and lifted the ex-communication.

In 1873, Mary MacKillop successfully travelled to Rome and attained Papal approval for the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart. In 1875, after returning from Rome, she was formally elected Superior General.

Since her death in 1909, St Mary MacKillop has attracted much veneration in Australia and internationally. Following recognition of the required miracles, she became Australia's first saint on October 17, 2010.

Josephite Associates will hold a knitting day on Monday 17th August from 10.00 am in the Parish Centre. Raffles, lunch provided. All welcome