

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading **Is 56:1.6-7**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest. Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4**

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help.

2. Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth.

3. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

Second Reading **Rom 11:13-15. 29-32**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans  
Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Gospel Acclamation **Mt 4:23**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.  
Alleluia!

Gospel **Mt 15:21-28**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew  
Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

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### FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

Why do you think Jesus first responded to the woman in the way he did?

What turned Jesus' attitude around?

What do you think the woman was thinking/feeling as she approached Jesus?

What message would the followers of Jesus have taken from this event?

What is the message of this Gospel passage for us today?

Historical Context ... Who were the Canaanites?  
When Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, the 'Promised Land' they sought was the land of Canaan (approximately the area of modern Israel, TransJordan, Syria and Lebanon). Here they were commanded to utterly destroy the Canaanites and to subdue the land. (Exodus 23:23-24) The Israelites never successfully removed all the Canaanites from the Palestine region. By the time of Jesus, the Israelites had established themselves in the region between Judea in the south and Galilee in the north, while the original inhabitants of the area had been 'squeezed out' – predominantly to the north. The Canaanites were dispossessed of their land by the Israelites and it is easy to see why there was tension between them.

## ST MARY'S PARISH SWAN HILL BULLETIN

**Priest:** Fr. Matthew Thomas PP

**Parish Secretary:** Glenda Klabbers

**Parish Council Chair:** Michelle Haeusler

**Parish Safeguarding Officers:**  
Karen & Damien Kelly

**St Mary's School Principal:** Greg Lane

**St Mary MacKillop Principal:** Michelle Haeusler

**Parish Office:** Tuesday 10.00am - 2.00pm  
Friday 10.00am - 2.00pm



20th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Year A

20th August 2017

**Presbytery:** 62 Splatt Street Swan Hill 3585

**Phone:** 03 50324144

**Email:** swanhill@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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

### Mass Next Weekend:

Saturday 6.30 pm Vigil Swan Hill  
Sunday 10.30 am Swan Hill

### Mass this Week:

Tues: No Mass Fr Matt in Melbourne  
Wed: No Mass Fr Matt in Melbourne  
Thursday: No Mass Fr Matt in Melbourne  
Friday: 11am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
12.00 noon

### Mass Intentions:

Sunday: Amedeo Silverii, Marietta Silverii, Alfredo Pichno,  
Friday: Frank Bonanno

### Recently Deceased: We commend to God

**Anniversaries:** We remember:

**Prayers for the Sick:** Erin Coburn, Jude Lewis, Ronald Duryea, Brian Mulcahy, Brooke Kennedy, Jarrod Crimmins,

**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.**



### DATES TO REMEMBER IN AUGUST

21st August: Baptism Preparation. 7.00pm

22nd August: Distribution Meeting; Stewardship Program 10.00am

27th August: Lake Boga Mass 8.30am

### September

4th September CWL 1.30pm

12th September: Logan Lodge Prayer Service 2pm

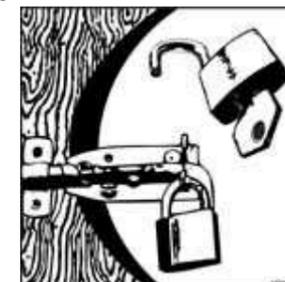
13th September: Alcheringa 2pm

### CWL Cake Stall

On Sunday 3rd September the CWL ladies will be holding a cake stall and raffle. CWL are also looking for new members, if number continue to decline then the branch will have to close at the end of the year.

### Letter from Bishop Paul

Bishop Paul has written a letter to all the within the Diocese about the current situation with the Child Sexual Abuse, a copy of the letter is in the foyer if you wish to take a copy home.



### Sea Lake Community

I met with the people of the Sea Lake community and spoke to them about the partnering of the parishes. I asked them to consider and respond to later on the following:

- J What was their expectations of Me (Fr Matt)
- J What are their concerns?
- J What are some positives?
- J What are some negatives?

This could be something that we too could think about.

### ACYF 2017

Registrations for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival are already over 80% capacity and Early Bird Registrations close on 18 August. The Festival is 7-9 December 2017, for Year 9-30 yo. Ballarat Diocese Youth and Young Adult Ministry has secured accommodation in Sydney and bus transport there and back. Please contact Amanda soon to 'book in' your group. If you are not yet part of a group, we can help – contact Amanda youth@ballarat.catholic.org.au or 0427 748 867. More information on [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) / Youth and Young Adult pages.

**ST MARY'S MINISTRIES for 27th August 2017**

**Ministers of the Word:**

**Vigil:** Eucharist Mass

**10.30am:** Eucharist Mass

**Ministers of Communion:**

**Vigil:** M Hoare, B McCartney, H Lewis, C Page

**10.30 am:** S Colombo, R Jager, M Foott, E Milazzo,

Y Richardson, J Renda

**Presentation of Gifts:**

**Vigil:** Eucharist Mass

**10.30am :** Eucharist Mass

**Music Ministry:**

**Vigil:** Eucharist Mass

**10.30am:** Eucharist Mass

**Counters:** P Livingston, A Dean

**STATE OF THE NATION**

<b>Presbytery Account:</b> (1st Basket)		<b>\$ 703.35</b>
<i>(Support of Priests &amp; Bishop)</i>		
<b>Parish Account:</b> (2nd Basket)	<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$ 946.00</b>
<i>(Support of the Parish)</i>		
	<b>Credit Card</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
	<b>Direct Debit</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
	<b>Loose Plate</b>	<b>\$ 113.70</b>
		<b>\$</b>

Thank-You!

**READINGS NEXT WEEK 27th August Year A**

1st Reading : Is 22:19-23

2nd Reading: Rom: 11: 33-36

Gospel: Mt 16: 13-20

From the perspective of ...

A disciple.

As we passed through a little village near Sidon this Canaanite woman suddenly started calling on the master to help her daughter. We all expected the master to help her out as usual but he really put her in her place! He told her that his ministry was not for pagans like her. That should have stopped her, but she kept on and on, even turning the master's words back on him! She was so rude. We were about to push her out of the way so that the master could move on when he suddenly told her that her faith was great and that her daughter was better. Great faith? A Canaanite? He never ceases to surprise us!



**Palms Australia Ballarat Information Sessions**

Communities in Asia, the Pacific and Africa are looking to provide mentoring opportunities for local personnel and improve processes and procedures for organisations vital to reducing poverty. To ensure sustainable development they prefer those willing to come for two years, but accept that some are only available for 12 months. If you are an experienced professional, business or trades person, in any area, but especially education, please consider volunteering with Palms Australia. An information session will be held on Thursday, September 14, 2017 from 5.30pm-7.00pm at the Australian Catholic University, Building 100 Torney Room, 1200 Mair St, Ballarat. RSVP [joey@palms.org.au](mailto:joey@palms.org.au) or call 02 9560 5333. Can't make it? Call now about applying for positions currently available or look first via Palms' [two-week Encounter](http://palms.org.au/encounters/) (palms.org.au/encounters/)

**MGL Sisters Consecrated Life Weekend**

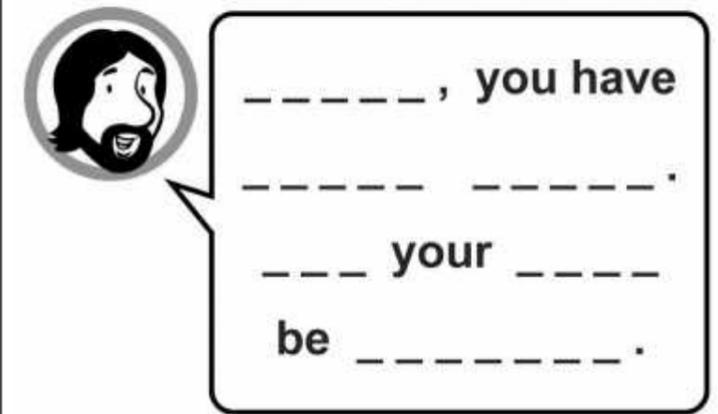
Curious about Consecrated Life?? Wondering what God is calling you to in your life?? Seeking some space to listen to God?? The Missionaries of God's Love Sisters (MGL) would like to invite young women to their Consecrated Life Weekend from September 15-17. The weekend will include talks, opportunity for prayer, sharing, sisterhood and more. Friday night will begin at the Sisters house at 6pm, and the following days will be at St Benedict's Parish in Burwood. Cost is by donation. For more information or to RSVP, call us on 03 9857 8177 or email [mgl sisters.melb@gmail.com](mailto:mgl sisters.melb@gmail.com). We look forward to sharing the gift of our life with you.

**Family Matters - Strengthening Respectful Relationships Forum**

All are welcome to attend this Forum with Fr Frank Brennan SJ as the guest speaker which will be held in Ballarat on June 24, Warrnambool July 22, and Mildura August 26. These free events are being hosted by the Social Justice Commission of the Diocese of Ballarat together with many workshops provided by Centacare. Please register your attendance at one of the venues listed: <http://2017familymatters.weebly.com/> Details about workshops will be released soon. Alternatively, contact Danielle Peters or Tony Haintz - [social.justice@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:social.justice@ballarat.catholic.org.au).



The Canaanite woman persisted because of her strong belief that Jesus would cure her daughter. Use the words below to find out what Jesus said.



granted wish  
faith Woman  
Let great



Draw the Canaanite woman asking Jesus for help. Write down what the apostles and the woman each said to Jesus.

