

Parish Newsletter - July 23rd 2017

Telephone: Parish Office: 5348 2026 / Presbytery: 5348 3911

Email: daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Priest – Fr Gary Jones gary.jones@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Administration: Mrs Leah Monaghan

St Michael's Parish Primary School- Principal: Mr Ethan Corfee

St. Joseph's Church Blampied

No Masses at St Joseph's- at the moment

Diocesan Website: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

RECENT DEATHS:

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH: June Rodier, Annie Graham, Klara Rugonyi, Frank Heron, Zac Burns,

Bridget Siebel, Maximillian Richards

Prayers for Sick: Gary Eyles



REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

Today's reading features three parables about the kingdom: the weeds in the field; the mustard seed; and yeast in the flour. They are three fascinating parables about something undesirable or unwanted being mixed in with something that is apparently good – and Jesus presents them as descriptions of what the kingdom of heaven is like.



Let's look at the imagery of these parables. Darnel is a weed that looks exactly like wheat while it is growing. Only once the ears have formed can it be distinguished from the wheat. It is a malicious prank to sow darnel among wheat.

The mustard seed grows into such a large tree that birds come and nest in it. Why would any farmer want to deliberately plant a tree in the middle of his fields that attracts birds that will destroy his crops?

Three measures of flour is an enormous amount of flour; enough to make 50 or 60 loaves of bread! Yeast begins to ferment the dough mixture and if not baked the dough goes mouldy and goes bad. To leaven that much dough at one time is somewhat foolish. The Hebrew word used for leavening in scripture is Chametz, it literally means 'sour'. It is that essence by which things decay. Leavening is a fermentation process – a process of breaking down or corruption.

To describe the kingdom of God in these ways may seem a bit odd. Can the kingdom of God be a 'corrupting' or 'souring' or 'irritating' influence? The kingdom message of Jesus can be seen as a corrupting force in that it set about corrupting and destroying what was a flawed system. The parables also demonstrate that it only takes a tiny amount of this 'corrupting' influence to have a dramatic effect.



Scriptural context – Matthew's explanation

In the gospel passage, following the presentation of the three parables, Jesus explains the parable of the wheat and darnel to his disciples. It is explained in terms of a final judgment. (Compare it with Matthew 25: 31-46.) The parable of the weeds, or darnel, and its explanation only appear in the gospel of Matthew – although the parable does occur in the non-canonical gospel of Thomas. The interpretation belongs to Matthew more than it belongs to Jesus. It is an unapologetic direction to his community that living a righteous life in the midst of wickedness will be rewarded.



Last Week's Collections: Two collections are presented after the Prayers of the Faithful. The 1st Collection is cash toward the Presbytery for the sustenance of our Priest with a contribution of 13% to provide support for our retired priests and the Diocese. The 2nd Collection is the Planned Giving (envelopes) or cash for the administration of the Parish & general running costs:

> 1st Collection \$312.50 2nd Collection \$ 118.00



<u>Celebration of Baptism:</u> Baptism are celebrated during Sunday Mass– with the welcome Rite. Baptisms are celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month and can be booked through the Parish Office on 5348 2026. All Baptisms are to be arranged with Fr Gary Jones - Parish Priest or Name of Tesus Parish Office—Leah Monaghan

NEW OFFICE hours as of this coming WEEK: Office hours: Tuesday Creswick from 9.30am – 11.00am, Wednesday Daylesford from 9.30am until 3.00pm,Thursday 9.00am – 11.30am. **Daylesford Parish office is closed on** Fridays.



St Vincent de Paul Conference

The St Vincent de Paul Conference will meet in the Parish Centre on Tuesday July 25th from 7pm.

Anyone who may be Interested is encouraged to attend.



2019 Year 7 Enrolment at St Patrick's College Applications close on Friday December 1, 2017

If you are considering a Catholic education for your son, St Patrick's College offers an education delivering academic excellence, a strong focus on social justice, sports, and the arts. Enrolments for 2019 Year 7 are now open and you are invited to submit your sons application by Friday December 1, 2017.

A College prospectus can be downloaded from http:// www.stpats.vic.edu.au/en/prospective-families/prospectus/

Applications for 2019 close on Friday December 1 with interviews to take place in early March, 2018.

Please contact the Registrar, Ms Caitlin Bennett for further information on 5331 1688.

Parish Centre

After some consideration and discussion with the Pastoral Leadership and Finance Team, we have looked closely at the use that the Parish Centre gets.

The plan at this early stage is for the Parish Centre to be available for groups of our local community.





Sunday July 30th

Reader: G Kirby **Commentator:** S Whiffin **Offertory:** Walker Family **Minis**ters: R Thannhauser, M Yanner, N Chamberlain Sacristan:

Counters: July 23 (Team 1) L & M Righetti

July 30 (Team 2) J Egan, C Collins

Weekday Masses: 10am Friday—Daylesford

No masses at Creswick till September