

Parish Newsletter - July 2nd 2017

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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: Kevin O'Brien (Kanga)

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH: Lorraine Carty, William Morrison, Aileen Baker, Sheila Tori, Fred Woods, John Shea, Alfred Vanzetta



Prayers for Sick: Gary Eyles



DIOCESAN BULLETIN NOTICES

Liturgy Formation 2017 The Diocesan Liturgical Commission is offering Liturgy Formation Sessions again in 2017 at Colac on June 25, Ballarat Cathedral on July 9 and Warrnambool on July 23. Bishop Paul will celebrate Mass in parishes on these days. Workshops on offer are Funeral Ministry, the Diocesan Sacraments of Initiation Program, "Let the Children Come" and Formation for Lectors. Attached is a

flyer and registration form for distribution in your parish. Registration is also available via the diocesan website .

Uniting Church 40th Anniversary Combined Churches Service Will be held on Thursday, July 22, 2017, 7.00pm at the Ballarat Central Uniting Church preceded by a street party BBQ at 5.00pm. There are also other events throughout the week. For more information ph. 5333 1361 Tuesday-Thursday from 8.30am- 2.20pm.

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

The gospel for today can be a difficult one to hear. It calls us to place our discipleship before our loyalty to family and even before our own life. It is important to place this passage in the broader context of not only the chapter in which it sits, but also within the gospel as a whole.

Today's passage appears at the conclusion of Chapter 10 in the Gospel of Matthew. The entire chapter deals with the commissioning and sending out of the disciples to 'proclaim the gospel, heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy and drive out demons.' (Mt 10:8) The previous chapter concludes with the words, 'The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.' (Mt 9:37-38) Chapter 10 is a response to this call. Jesus sends the disciples to 'work the harvest' through proclamation, healing and exorcism.

At the end of the chapter, having spelt out all the difficulties a disciple must face, Jesus assures them that even the smallest act of welcoming the disciple will be rewarded.

It's also important to understand that the Jewish audience of the Gospel of Matthew found themselves under increasing persecution and there was often division within families between those holding to orthodox Jewish beliefs and those following the new Christian way. For some early Christians, there was the very real choice

to be made between following their faith and remaining loyal to family. The Gospel of Matthew repeatedly affirms Jesus as the promised Jewish messiah; as the fulfilment of Jewish prophecy. For early followers of the Christian way, this difficult message about being a follower was in the context of an affirmation that the message of Jesus was deeply grounded in their Jewish faith.





Last Week's Collections: Two collections are presented after the Prayers of the Faithful. The 1^{st} 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 2^{nd} Collection is the Planned Giving (envelopes) or cash for the administration of the Parish & general running costs:

1st Collection \$267.10

2nd Collection \$ 152.00

Shannon's Bridge

Shannon's Bridge is a new not for profit volunteer organisation to help connect patients and existing palliative care services and supports. We are here to support you with issues about illness, dying and loss. The aim is to remove the taboo and change attitudes about death and dying. The focus is on not just a "good death" but "better living". Shannon's Bridge is based on the "Compassionate Communities" international movement to help people to live well within our communities to the very end of our lives. A Compassionate Community is one that acknowledges that care for one another at times of crisis and loss is not simply a task solely for health and social services but is everyone's responsibility. Shannon's Bridge welcomes interest and questions from members of the public, other volunteer groups, faith or spiritual groups, community organisations, service providers, local government, health services and educational institutions. Contact Jeremy McKnight, ph. 0448 827956 or www.shannsonbridge.com.

Ordinary Season

Planned Giving 2017–2018 Renewal:

Thankyou to all those parishioners who are involved with the Planned Giving Program here at St Peter's Parish. As we reach the halfway point of the year, it is a good time to look at our Program for 2018 and beyond.

We are one of few parishes who do not offer a direct debit option for our givers, and hence we are looking to introduce this option from now.

The Direct debit would be run through the CDF, allowing givers to contribute regularly and without the worry of bringing an envelope each Sunday.

The account at the CDF will be able to process Debit/Credit cards and will be transferred to our Bendigo Account to assist in the day to day running of the Parish.

Forms have been provided from the CDF and are available at the rear of the Church. These can be returned to the Office and forwarded to the CDF for processing.



<u>Sunday July 9th</u>

Reader: N Chamberlain *Commentator:* M Yanner *Offertory:* K Callahan, D McMinn *Ministers:* L Righetti, C Bolton, T Tinetti *Sacristan:* Rose *Counters:* July 2 (Team 6) F & K Stephens, T Torpy, V & M Richards July 9 (Team 7) W Chamberlain, S Whiffin
Weekday Masses: 10am Thursday & Friday—Daylesford