

Parish Newsletter - July 31st 2016

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

Parish Administration: Leah Monaghan

St Michael's Parish Primary School- Principal: Chris Pollard

St. Joseph's Church Blampied

Lay Led Assembly (2nd Sunday of the Month) 9.00am Vigil Mass Sat 6.00pm (4th Sunday of the Month)

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



RECENT DEATH: Fr Jacques Hamel (France), John Fuller, Lynne Madden

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH: Mary Brislane, Miranda Jones, Mary Daly, Frank Mitlik, Mary French, Agnes McKay, Chaz & Sylvia Menz



Sick List: Clare Dixon



REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

One of the themes running through the gospels is that wealth can be an obstacle to entering fully into relationship with God. It is not wealth in itself that is problematic but rather valuing material riches above everything else and the constant desire to accumulate more and more. We have the story of the rich young man who asks Jesus what he must do to inherit the kingdom and Jesus tells him to sell everything he has and give away the proceeds. The young man goes away sad because he thought that with his great accumulation of wealth he'd be able to buy anything that he needed to gain the kingdom. We also have the saying of Je-

sus that it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than a rich man to enter the kingdom of God. The parable in today's gospel depicts a man who has so much grain that he decides to build bigger barns to store it all. The parable follows Jesus' teaching that 'a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.' The point is about having more than we need. What good is served by one person having more than they need while others do not have enough to meet their needs? The rich man who had the abundant harvest could have stored up all that he needed and still been able to share the abundance with others. Liberation theology introduced the catch phrase, 'live simply so that others may simply live'. The call was for those in wealthier countries to simplify their wasteful and indulgent lifestyles so that others may be able to meet their most basic of needs.

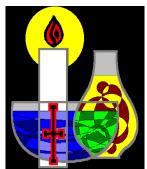
Scriptural context – Do not worry

This parable and teaching about the love of wealth is followed up by Jesus telling his disciples not to worry about what they will eat and what they will wear. He invites them to look to the birds of the air and flowers of the fields. God provides them with all that they need. Jesus tells his disciples to seek the kingdom, and all the other necessities of life will be given to them as well. Rather than focusing on accumulating wealth as the rich man in today's parable, Jesus reassures his disciples that if they focus their lives on the kingdom they will have all that they need.



Last Week's Collections: Two collections are taken up after the Prayers of the Faithful. The 1st Collection is the Presbytery Collection – this collection is for the support of the local priest, with 13% going towards the support of the retired priests and the Bishop. The 2nd Collection is the Planned Giving (envelopes) for the support of Parish endeavours and structures. 1st Collection (Presbytery – supporting our Priest) \$249.80

2nd Collection (Planned Giving): \$773



Liturgy Formation 2016 / Launch of Let the Children Come

The Diocesan Liturgical Commission will be presenting Liturgy Formation sessions in the diocese in 2016 on **Funeral Ministry**, Formation for Lectors and the launch of the sacramental program, "Let the Children Come" - at August 7th at Ararat Parish and August 21st at Hamilton Parish. As this day includes the launch of "Let the Children Come", all involved in the Parish Sacramental Programs are encouraged to attend.

St Michael's School Fete Sunday October 30th.

Trash and Treasure stall donations welcome—next time you are having a clean out. Please note we can not accept electrical items. Second hand books and clothes also welcome. Please deliver to St Michael's.

Anyone wishing to order a Columban Calender for 2017, please let Leah know.

They will be around \$10 each

Diocesan News:

New Catholic Primary School Named The new Catholic school to be built in Lucas now has a name – Siena Catholic Primary School. The name Siena met all the criteria and the name was chosen in consultation with the parish and school community.

Nazareth House Auxiliary Coffee Party Friday, August 5, 2016 at 1.30pm at Nazareth House, Mill Street, Ballarat. Entrance prize, spinning wheel, devonshire tea, fancy goods, produce stall. All welcome.



Prayer - St Mary MacKillop

Most loving God,
We thank for the example of
Mary MacKillop,
who in her living of the Gospel witnessed to the
human dignity of each person. She faced life's
challenges with Faith and
courage.

We pray through her intercession for our needs...
We make this prayer through Jesus the Lord. Amen

Feast of St Mary MacKillop—August 8th

Roster - Sunday 7th August

Reader: B Barlow Comm: J Dwyer Ministers: M Yanner, M Phypers, N Cahmberlain Offertory: K Callahan, D McMinn Counters July 31 (Team 6) F & K Stephens, T Torpy, V & M Richards August 7th (Team 7) W Chamberlain, S Whiffin

Weekday Mass - Wednesday Creswick 10am, Friday Daylesford 10am

