



Parish Newsletter 15th JANUARY, 2017

CRESWICK OFFICE Hours: *Tuesdays 10am - 11am. (*if Tuesday Mass during school term)

Ph: 5345 2160 (Leah). Email: creswick@ballarat.catholic.org.au

(Administering ST THOMAS AQUINAS', Bailey Street, CLUNES)

ST. AUGUSTINE'S PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL: Mr. Terry Brennan, Principal.
SCHOOL OFFICE Ph: 5345 2106 (Mandy). Website: www.sacreswick.catholic.edu.au

DAYLESFORD OFFICE Hours: Fridays 9.30am -1.00pm.

Ph: 5348 2026 (Leah) Email: daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au

D'FORD PRESBYTERY Ph: 5348 3911 PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Gary A. Jones

DIOCESE online: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (including Creswick's **PARISH NEWSLETTER**)

PARISH VISION STATEMENT:

Our Parish is a welcoming and inclusive community, based on the Christian ethic where our lives are enhanced by worship that enriches, leadership that is shared and service that cares.

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WEEKDAY MASSES -

St Augustine's, Creswick: 10am **TUESDAY**, Jan 17
St Peter's, Daylesford: 10am Fri, Jan 20

WEEKEND MASSES -

St Joseph's, Blampied: 6pm Sat, Jan 21
St Augustine's, Creswick: 8.45am Sun, Jan 22
St Peter's, Daylesford: 10.30am Sun, Jan 22

PLEASE
PRAY
FOR



Margaret Nester
(anniversaries of death Thurs - Wed)

John Ryan, Ben Lockyer,
Mary Bell, Pat Prendergast
(unwell at this time)

*Nb. If you wish your name to be placed
ON or taken OFF the prayer request list,
get a message to Sue.*

St. Joseph's Church, Blampied

Lay Led Assembly (2nd Sunday of the Month) @ 9am
Vigil Mass Saturday (4th Sunday of the Month) @ 6pm

ASH WEDNESDAY

- March 1st -

**10am Creswick
12pm Daylesford**

A GREAT BIG THANKYOU

TO ALL WHO WERE ABLE TO STEP UP AND HELP DISMANTLE
AND PACK AWAY OUR CHRISTMAS NATIVITY SCENE
AND DECORATIONS LAST SUNDAY.

ALWAYS A WONDERFUL FEELING TO BE PART OF
SUCH A GREAT TEAM EFFORT!

"When Jesus stepped into the waters of the Jordan and was baptized by John the Baptist, he did so not because he was in need of repentance, or conversion: he did it to be among people who need forgiveness, among us sinners, and to take upon himself the burden of our sins."
Pope Francis



TODAY - Jan 15th
STRAIGHT AFTER MASS



**Our Monthly
COFFEE
& NATTER**

@

SMOKEYTOWN CAFÉ

*kindly hosted by the
Parish Family Group*
for ALL Parishioners and Visitors
to come along and get to know
each other that little bit more

**BALLARAT RURAL
AUSTRALIANS
for REFUGEES**

A fundraising music event
@ BUNINYONG BREWERY
Yuille St, overlooking the lake
Sunday, 29th January from 3pm
\$15 inc avo tea (children free)
Flyer on noticeboard



<http://www.catholicireland.net/sunday-homily/>

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.

Collections from last week (with thanks)

1st (Priest Support) - \$275.80; 2nd (Planned Giving/Parish) - \$117.00

NEW ROSTERS for the **NEXT 3 MONTHS** will be available in 2 weeks
▼ ▼ on Sunday, January 29 ... for beginning of Feb → end of April ▼ ▼

▶ ▶ ▶ **Please advise TODAY on list down the back** ◀ ◀ ◀
(or by NEXT SUNDAY, 22nd January at the latest)

- ▶ if you wish to go ON or OFF a roster ▶ of any phone or email UPDATES
- ▶ of dates you WON'T be available (a calendar to refer to, is next to the list)

ROSTERS for NEXT Sunday, 22nd JANUARY

CLEANER/S (THIS week, BEFORE Sun 22nd): **Bernie & Pat** WELCOMERS/OFFERTORY: **Kath, Don, Darren McM**

REMOTE: **Jesse & Steve SCH** COMMENTATOR: **Alastair H** READER: **Barb H**

EXT. EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS: **Roland K - Aileen P - Josie R** COUNTERS: **Pete G & Mick G**



Gospel Reflection *Greg Sunter*

Strangely, despite being in Ordinary Time again, the lectionary temporarily departs from the gospel of Matthew and today's reading is from the gospel of John. Given that last week's reading was the Matthean account of the baptism of Christ we must assume that there is a deliberate purpose in the choice of reading for today. Indeed, the

three readings for today give a very specific slant to the baptism and mission of Jesus. The readings from Isaiah and Paul's letter to the Corinthians emphasise that God's salvation is for all the world, not just the people of Israel. We find this also in the gospel when John the Baptist declares, 'there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world'. It is the sin 'of the world' that Jesus takes away; that is, all humankind. This was a tough concept for the Jews whose relationship with God was grounded in the concept of being the 'chosen people'; a people set apart. It continues to be a difficult concept for many Christian people today who struggle with the notion that God's love and mercy are so extravagant that they are poured out for absolutely anyone and everyone. Some Christians like to maintain an 'us and them' approach to their faith and think that if you're not one of 'us' then salvation will be denied by God.

The role of John the Baptist in this passage is to be a witness; to point to Jesus and say 'He is the one!' Lots of us need the affirmation and direction provided by another person before we are ready to commit to a new direction in our lives. John gives the crowd confidence and effectively hands over to Jesus the authority that the crowd had perceived in him.



Grief to Grace – Healing the Wounds of Abuse

A spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse.

The retreat will be held March 26 – 31, 2017 in Tasmania. To request an application contact Anne by emailing info@griegtograceaus.org.au or phone 0407704539.

For more information visit www.griegtograce.org

Dedication of Loreto Window at All Saints' Parish Church, Portland

Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Paul to give thanks for the presence and ministry of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Portland and the dedication of the Loreto Window in All Saints' Parish Church on Sunday, January 22, 2017 at 10.30am. Light lunch will follow at the Parish House. RSVP by January 13, 2017 to PO Box 210, Portland, 3305

or email portland@ballarat.catholic.org.au. **Flyer on noticeboard**