



## Parish Newsletter - August 27, 2017

**Parish Administration:** Mrs Leah Monaghan

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**Parish Priest** – Fr Gary Jones [gary.jones@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:gary.jones@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
Daylesford Presbytery: 5348 3911

**St Augustine's Parish Primary School - Principal:** Mr Terry Brennan

**Administration Officer/Receptionist:** Ph 5345 2106

**St Thomas Aquinas, Clunes**  
(no longer a Sunday Mass Centre)

► **St. Joseph's Church, Blampied**

**Note: No Mass until further notice ◀**

**Diocesan Website:** [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) (online parish newsletter)

**Recent Death:** Alan Hall

**Anniversaries of Death** (Thurs - Weds): Pat Rutledge,  
Ivy Willmott, Nancy Hill.



**Unwell at this time:** Chris Jones,  
Luke Taylor, Mary Bell, Pat Prendergast,  
Walter Streckfuss, Brad Simpson.

### **WEEKDAY MASSES this Coming Week**

**CRESWICK:** will be the Requiem Mass  
for Alan Hall at 10.30am, Tues, Aug 29

**DAYLESFORD: 10am Thurs** (Dining Room)  
**10am Friday** (Parish Centre)

## **WELCOME BACK FROM HOLIDAYS, FR GARY!**

### **GOSPEL REFLECTION** by Greg Sunter

Like last week's gospel, this week's story takes place in a region that was outside predominantly Jewish territory. Caesarea Philippi (north of Galilee and in the region of modern day Syria) had long been a centre of pagan worship. It was used originally by the Canaanites as a site of worship; the Greeks built a temple to one of their gods there; in 20 BCE Herod the Great built a temple to Caesar Augustus; and after his death, Herod's son, Phillip, renamed the city Caesarea Philippi after Tiberius Caesar and himself. It is intriguing that Matthew's gospel chooses such a site as the location for such a significant revelation of faith.

Jesus asks the disciples who people say he is. They report that people associate Jesus with one of the great prophets of Jewish tradition. By people identifying Jesus with other great prophets they were projecting Jesus into the same mould as that prophet. What they were saying was that Jesus will be a great leader in the style of John the Baptist, or Elijah or even Jeremiah. The expectation of a messiah was running very high at the time of Jesus and everyone had their own idea about what that messiah would be like – usually aligned with some previous leader. They didn't seem to understand that Jesus was breaking the mould and was not going to fit in with any of those expectations. To see him as one of the great prophets come again is always going to be an inadequate understanding of Jesus as messiah.

When Jesus pushes the disciples for their own ideas, it is Simon Peter who speaks up and identifies Jesus as being the Son of the living God. Making a play on Peter's name (in Greek, petros = Peter and petra = rock), Jesus states that hereafter, Simon Peter will be known as Peter and upon the rock of his profession of faith the church will be built.

#### **Have you thought? What's in a name?**

On many occasions in the Bible a character is given, or takes on, a new name when they take on a new role or move to a new level in their faith and relationship with God. Abram became Abraham; Sarai became Sarah; Jacob became Israel; and Saul became Paul. In all of these circumstances the person took on a new name to reflect their new relationship with God. This tradition has continued right to this day. Men and women entering religious life have traditionally taken on a new name to indicate the new life they are entering. When Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger became pope he took on the name Benedict to indicate the new role and the new life he was beginning.

#### **Living the Gospel ... Who do YOU say I am?**

The question that Jesus asks the disciples is a question he asks of all of us. How we answer that question reflects our relationship with Jesus. But more importantly, how we answer that question reflects the way we live our life in response to who we believe Jesus to be. If we truly say that we believe in Jesus as the son of God, then how do we live our lives in such a way that we act on that belief? The gospel shows us that an inadequate answer to that question leads to missing the point of all that Jesus is.

**St Thomas Aquinas'  
Monthly Parish Catchup**

**WIDOW TWANKY Café  
in CLUNES**



**NEXT Sunday**  
3rd September  
**10.30am**

**TWO COLLECTIONS** *are taken up and 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 of the Diocese.  
The 2nd COLLECTION is the Planned Giving (envelopes) or cash  
for the administration of the Parish & general running costs.*

**Last Week's Collections** *(with thanks)*

*1st Collection: \$260.00; 2nd Collection: 100.00*

**103rd World Day of Migrants and Refugees** (21 - 27 August 2017)

**Pope Francis issues a vibrant call in favour of Child migrants and several Bishops  
conferences in Europe have launched statements and initiatives to encourage  
Christians and political leaders to act.**

More and more children are crossing borders on their own. Child migrants travelling alone are among  
those at the highest risk of exploitation and abuse, including by smugglers and traffickers. **"Everyone  
should take care of the young, who in a threefold way are defenceless: they are  
children, they are foreigners, and they have no means to protect themselves".**

*This is the Message of Pope Francis for the 2017 World Day of Migrants and Refugees.*

In his Message, Pope Francis invites to work **"towards protection, integration and long-term  
solutions,"** and also, **"to deal with the causes which trigger migrations in the  
countries of origin".**

**NEXT SUNDAY: BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND**

**Collection for Sick and Retired Priests**

Creating a secure retirement future for the priests of the diocese is a duty and care in which we  
can all participate. Eighteen retired priests are currently supported by this Fund.

Some live privately, some are retired in units in Ballarat or elsewhere, others live  
in supported accommodation.

The funding required for these commitments is ongoing. Thanks to your generosity, this  
collection has raised nearly 1.8 million dollars since it began in 1991, including nearly \$60,000  
last year. Along with the priests' own contribution of approximately \$37,000 per year, this  
annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our sick and retired clergy.

A credit card facility will be available for your convenience, and contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible.

**CARING FOR THOSE WHO CARED FOR US - THE CHURCH COMMUNITY'S RESPONSIBILITY**



Are you a former student of  
**Assumption College,  
Kilmore?**

If so, Alumni Development Officer  
Maria Cleve would like to hear from you.

Assumption College will celebrate its  
**125th Anniversary in 2018**  
and there are many events being planned  
for former students.

Please phone Maria on **5783 5343** or  
email: [maria.cleave@assumption.vic.edu.au](mailto:maria.cleave@assumption.vic.edu.au)

**Coming up in SEPTEMBER/October**

Child Protection Sunday (Sept 10)  
Social Justice Sunday (Sept 24)  
Fr Gary's 30th Anniversary of Ordination (Oct 15)

**NEW PARISH OFFICE opening hours:**

TUESDAY Creswick: 9.30am – 11am (**NOT** when  
school holidays or NO Tuesday Mass),  
WEDNESDAY Daylesford: 9.30am – 3pm,  
THURSDAY Daylesford: 9am – 11.30am.

**Daylesford office NO LONGER open on Fridays**

**ROSTERS for Sunday, 3rd Sept**

*(with thanks)*

**Cleaners (for this week):** Kath, Don, Darren M  
**Welcomers/Offertory:** Brian RE & ?

**Remote:** Jesse & Steve S

**Commentator:** Alastair H; **Reader:** Lois K

**Special Eucharistic Ministers:**

**#Judy S, Barb H, Josie R (likely only one needed)**

**Counters:** Pat & Bernie T

**"Deësis: Prayer and Image" Exhibition:-** This exhibition is dedicated to the role of icons as agents  
of intercession. **Art Gallery of Ballarat UNTIL Sunday, September 10, 2017. Flyer on back table.**