



# Parish Newsletter December 4, 2016

**CRESWICK OFFICE** Hours: \*Wednesdays 10am - 11am. (\*If Wednesday Mass )

Ph: **5345 2160 (Leah)** Email: [creswick@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto: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](http://www.sacreswick.catholic.edu.au)

**DAYLESFORD OFFICE** Hours: Fridays 9.30am - 1.00pm.

Ph: **5348 2026 (Leah)** Email: [daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

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

**DIOCESE online:** [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) (inc [ONLINE PARISH BULLETIN](#))

## 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 Wed, Dec 7

St Peter's, Daylesford: 10am Fri, Dec 9

### WEEKEND MASSES -

St Augustine's, Creswick: 8.45am Sunday, Dec 11

St Peter's, Daylesford: 10.30am Sunday, Dec 11

### LAY LED ASSEMBLY -

St Joseph's, Blampied: 9am Sunday, Dec 11

**IN NEED  
OF YOUR  
PRAYERS**



Ron Morgan, Eileen Murphy,  
Martin Power, Bill Meyer  
(anniversaries of death Thurs - Wed)

John Ryan, Ben Lockyer,  
Mary Bell, Kevin Preston,  
Jeanette Morris, Sandra Kenyon,  
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



### CHRISTMAS MASSES

Creswick: Christmas Eve 9pm  
Christmas Day 8.45am

Daylesford: Christmas Eve 7pm  
Christmas Day 10.30am

### AVAILABLE STRAIGHT AFTER MASS

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL

- Cards (50c each)

- beautiful Calendars (\$7)

(in back room of church)

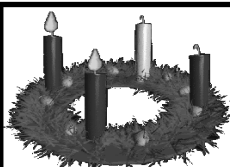
### ROSTERS for NEXT Sunday, Dec 11

Reader: Lois  
Leaders: n/a  
Comm'tor: Neil  
Sp Minister/s: Angeline - Margie - Aileen  
Welc'/Offer'y: Brian RS - Pat McK  
Remote: Jesse & Steve (a swap)  
Counters: Josie & Brian  
Cleaning THIS week: Griffins

### CHRISTMAS ROSTERS

Please add your name  
to list on back table  
if you can help

- Singers who will be available
- Welcomers / Offertory
- Remote Operators
- Commentators
- Eucharistic Ministers
- Readers



### LAST DAY TODAY 10am - 3pm: Dec 4

Please support our fellow parishioner,

**Pat Prendergast**, resident at

**John Curtin Aged Care**,

by attending the display she has  
organised there of over 100

### CHRISTMAS NATIVITIES

from more than 30 countries.

**ALL WELCOME! SURE TO DELIGHT!**

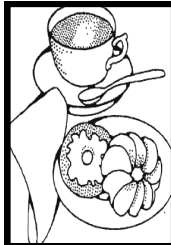
**ENTRY: gold coin donation**

### REMEMBRANCE THANK YOU

The Funeral Ministry Team would like to express their gratitude to all who attended and contributed to the success of our Remembrance Mass last Sunday; especially Fr Gary for his support and liturgical guidance.

A special thank you to the volunteers who helped prepare, setup, serve and clean up after the very enjoyable morning tea. A big thank you to Stan for making sure the Church grounds were in pristine condition.

Margie Goates



## THIS MORNING LAST COFFEE & CATCH UP for 2016

**CLUNES'** parishioners  
at **WIDOW TWANKY CAFÉ,**  
**CLUNES**  
Sunday, 4th DECEMBER  
@ 10.30am

### St A's SCHOOL AWARDS

Principal's Award: Declan O'Kelly

Kindness Award: Annabella Miller  
& Zahra Winduss

Available on back table: *Statement by the  
Catholic Bishops of Victoria*



**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:** Committing  
to prevention and response

*"...we must always say 'no' to  
violence in the home" Pope Francis*

*In  
2  
weeks*

### PARISH CHRISTMAS CHEER

Port, Cuppa  
& Fruitcake

Straight after Mass  
on Sunday, December 18

*Kindly hosted by our Parish Family Group*



*Too Blessed  
to be  
Stressed*

### ADVENT STUDY/PRAYER GROUP

Belated invitation to join Creswick's joint  
(ecumenical) Advent Study Group - this year  
hosted by **St John's Anglican Community.**

1st Thursday occurred in the last week, Dec 1.

**2 Thursdays to go - Dec 8 & 16**

(no need to have come on the first week)

**6pm bring and share meal, then**

**6.30 - 7.30 study** RSVP: (Fr) Ryan Bennett

Ph: 5345 2060 email: bennett1978@gmail.com

### From BACH to BING

David Hobson and Georgia Wilkinson will be  
performing all your Christmas favourites in  
St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat (December 14) 7pm.

For bookings please call **5333 5888**. Tickets are  
\$55 per adult, \$45 per child, \$45 group bookings.

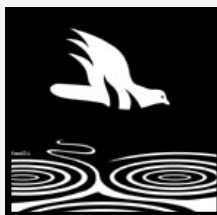
### COLLECTIONS

*Two collections are taken up after the Prayers of the Faithful.  
The 1<sup>st</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection is the Planned Giving (envelopes) for the  
support of Parish endeavours and structures.*

**Collections from last week** (with thanks)

1st (Priest Support) - \$258.20; 2nd (Planned Giving/Parish) - \$311.00



## Gospel Reflection

*Greg Sunter*

When John the Baptist performed baptism it was for the forgiveness of sin. The baptism he gave was a mark of the desire to enter into a new life of right action. It was not a baptism of initiation into community that is the case today. John had two key words that he is recorded as preaching: repent and prepare. His call for repentance was a call to turn away from sin; a call to have a change of heart; a call to turn one's life around and make a fresh start. His call for preparation is in the long line of prophets that includes the great prophet Isaiah from whom we take today's first reading. All of the prophets urged the people towards hope in the future. Isaiah and others spoke specifically of a person – a Messiah – who would bring that hope to reality. But the tradition demanded a readiness for the Messiah and that was the call to preparation that John the Baptist echoed at the beginning of the public life of Jesus.

John's taunting of the Pharisees and Sadducees is an indication of this need for preparation and readiness. He accuses them of being too confident of their own rightness. He demands proof from them of their honest repentance: 'but if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit'. Rather, he suspects that they think that salvation is assured for them by virtue of being a Jew; a son of Abraham.

He warns them that an axe hangs poised to cut down any part of the Jewish tradition that is failing to produce good fruit. This is a theme that is picked up later by Jesus himself; you can't be complacent about your own position, you have to welcome the new truth revealed by Jesus and give yourself wholeheartedly to God.

**THIS COMING SATURDAY,** 10 December @ 7.30  
(followed by supper - please bring a plate to share if you can)

**Ecumenical Service of Nine Lessons and Carols**

**St John's Anglican Church, Creswick**

**CHRISTMAS CRAFTS AND GIFTS WILL BE  
AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE AFTER THE SERVICE**