



Parish Newsletter - May 7, 2017

Parish Administration: Mrs Leah Monaghan
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Parish Priest – Fr Gary Jones gary.jones@ballarat.catholic.org.au
 Daylesford Presbytery: 5348 3911

St Augustine's Parish Primary School - Principal: Mr Terry Brennan
Administration Officer: Ph 5345 2106

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

St. Joseph's Church, Blampied

Lay Led Assembly: 9.00am (2nd Sunday of the Month)

Vigil Mass: Sat 6.00pm (4th Sunday of the Month)

Diocesan Website: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (online parish newsletter)



Recent died: Elizabeth Lenaghan, Br Kevin Tuck

Anniversaries of Death (Thurs - Weds): Bernard Flynn,
 William Stevens, Tony Barrett

Unwell at this time: Brad Simpson (son of Mandy, St A's school
 admin officer) James Stacey, Pat Prendergast, Mary Bell

YES, 10am
TUESDAY MASS
in CRESWICK
this week
 (10am Thurs & Friday
 in Daylesford)

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 and 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: \$221.20

2nd Collection: \$166.00



St TA, CLUNES
MONTHLY
CATCHUP

TODAY, May 5
Widow Twanky Café,
Clunes @ 10.30 am

COFFEE PARTY MORNING on Tuesday 16 May

The **Rev Rosemary Carter** and parishioners at **St Andrew's Uniting Church, Creswick**,
 have invited us to attend a Coffee Party and **Danny Blume Fashions** morning in their church hall
 on **Tuesday 16 May, at 10.00am. \$6.00** donation. No need to RSVP.

*St Andrew's recently hosted this year's Lenten Study classes and it would be good if we could
 support them and have a very enjoyable morning tea at the same time.*

Prayer for Vocations

O God, Father of all Mercies, Provider of a
 bountiful Harvest, send Your Graces upon those
 You have called to gather the fruits of Your
 labour; preserve and strengthen them in their
 lifelong service of you.

Open the hearts of Your children that they may
 discern Your Holy Will; inspire in them a love
 and desire to surrender themselves to serving
 others in the name of Your son, Jesus Christ.

Teach all Your faithful to follow their respective
 paths in life guided by Your Divine Word and
 Truth. Through the intercession of the Most
 Blessed Virgin Mary, all the Angels, and Saints,
 humbly hear our prayers and grant Your
 Church's needs, through Christ, our Lord.

Amen

"Lessons from the Long Paddock" **econference**

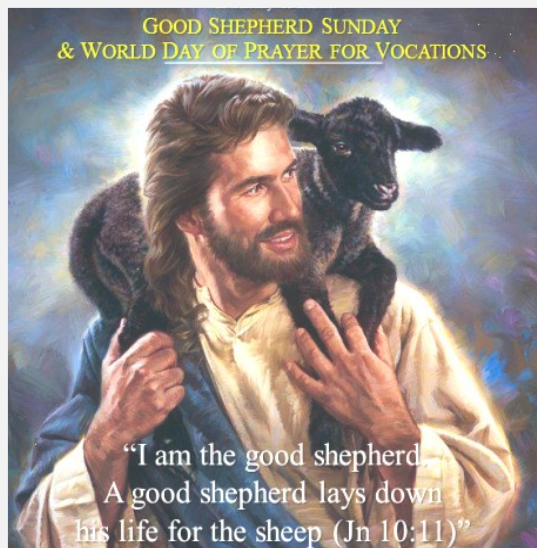
The Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes is offering an
 econference online event called "Lessons from the
 Long Paddock" on Tuesday, June 6, 2017.

This econference draws participants to seek Christ at
 the heart of human experience and nurtures a
 capacity to trust that individuals have all they need to
 begin the journey into constant conversion.

The econference has two keynote speakers, Bishop
 Columba Macbeth Green OSPPE and Fr Frank
 Brennan SJ, who will discuss **Australian and**
Outback Spirituality.

The workshops will be facilitated by Kate Englebrecht,
 Diocesan Director of Mission. For more information
 please contact Kate on, ph. 0420 309 689 or [http://](http://www.wf.catholic.org.au/)
www.wf.catholic.org.au/

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY
& WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS



GOSPEL REFLECTION

by Greg Sunter

The fourth Sunday of Easter is sometimes known as Good Shepherd Sunday. In the three different cycles of the liturgical year, the gospel on this Sunday comes from John, chapter 10 – an extended discourse by Jesus on the image of himself as the good shepherd. This year the reading is the beginning of the chapter and stops just immediately before the words, 'I am the good shepherd'.

Our understanding of this whole image and the scene that is set in today's passage is very dependent upon a contextual understanding of the times. Whilst shepherds were generally regarded as being little better than criminals, they often put their lives in danger to tend to their flocks. Of a night time, several flocks of sheep would be penned in a communal sheepfold, usually made of stone walls. There was only one entrance to the sheepfold and one of the shepherds would effectively become the gate by sleeping across the entranceway. This was to keep the sheep in but also to guard against thieves. Thieves might climb over the wall into the sheepfold but the sheep were trained to respond to their shepherd's voice alone so thieves could only steal what sheep they could carry off or those that were not sufficiently trained to their shepherd's commands.

When Jesus described himself as the gate of the sheepfold, his audience would have immediately understood the analogy. For a shepherd to become the gate to the sheepfold of a night was to risk his life for not only his own sheep but all the sheep in the fold overnight. It took courage and demonstrated utter commitment.



World Day of Prayer will be observed TODAY, **Sunday May 7th**, also known as "**Good Shepherd Sunday**." The purpose of this day is to publically fulfil the Lord's instruction to, "**Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest**" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2).

Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life.

First Eucharist – For Grade 4 Students

Dismissal Sundays: May 21st ; May 28th ; June 4th
(Dismissal Sundays: If any child does not attend the Dismissal Sundays, then Celebration of First Eucharist will be deferred until the next year 2018)

Sacrament of First Eucharist: **Sunday June 18th**
St A's, Creswick @ 8.45am ; St P's, D'ford @ 10.30am

Confirmation – For Grade 3 Students

Parent Meeting: **Tues Oct 24th** @ St A's Creswick 4pm
Weds October 25th @ St M's, D'ford 4pm

Dismissal Sundays: Nov 5th, Nov 12th, Nov 19th
(Each child must attend Dismissal Sundays)

Sacrament of Confirmation: **Sunday Nov 26th**
St A's, Creswick @ 8.45am ; St P's, D'ford @ 10.30am

NEW ROSTERS

available for collection on back table
If yours is missing, Sue has spare copies

Rosters for NEXT weekend **Sunday, 14th May**

Cleaners (before next Sunday): Csorba family;
Welcomers/Offertory: Phoebe, Jess & Steve S;
Remote: Neil D;
Commentator: Alastair H; **Reader:** Roland K;
Special Eucharistic Ministers:
Aileen P; Josie R; Brian RW
Counters: Josie & Brian RE