



Parish Newsletter - April 2, 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

Receptionist: Mrs Mandy Simpson Ph 5345 2106

St Thomas Aquinas, Clunes

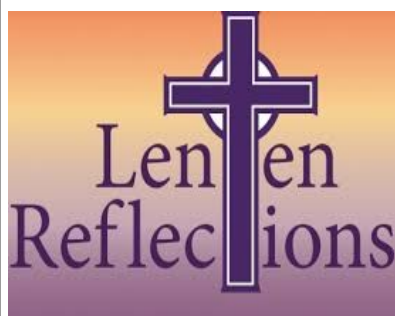
(no longer a Sunday Mass Centre)

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



SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY by Dianne Bergant CSS

Ezekiel uses bodily resurrection as a metaphor of the re-establishment of the nation after its exile in a foreign land. The restoration envisioned is likened to creation. In the beginning, the creature that had been formed from the dust of the ground became a living being when God breathed the breath of life into it. Here, those in the grave live again when they are raised from the dust of death and are given God's own spirit. Both original creation and this resurrection from the dead are unconditional

gifts from a magnanimous God. The passage testifies to God's absolute and unconditional control over the powers of life and death, destruction and restoration.

The psalm response comes from one of the Penitential Psalms. It opens with a cry for relief, which is followed by an acknowledgment of the helplessness of sinful human beings, a confession of faith and an acknowledgment of God's covenant love. The psalmist contrasts two ways of understanding God's manner of dealing with sinners: retributive justice and compassion. Were God ever to mete out the exact punishments that human sin deserves, no one would be able to endure it. Instead, God shows mercy to sinners and grants them forgiveness. God's willingness to redeem Israel from all its sins is the basis of the psalmist's own trust in God's graciousness.

Paul contrasts two ways of living: life in the flesh and life in the spirit. When Paul refers to the flesh, he is speaking of human nature in all of its limitations which sometimes incline one away from God and the things of God. On the other hand, life in the spirit is attuned to God. Paul's denunciation of life in the flesh is unqualified. Such a life-direction cannot please God. Life in the spirit, on the other hand, is a form of union with God. He assures the Christians that they are in the spirit, if the Spirit of God dwells within them. The real point of this passage is the resurrection of those who are in union with God. The Spirit of God who raised Jesus will raise those who here and now live in the Spirit of Christ.

Fr Gary is on holidays and returns on Friday, April 7th.

Should you need anything during this time, for both Creswick and Daylesford parish matters, please contact Mrs Leah Monaghan via the Daylesford Parish Office on 5348 2026.

Please note that your call will automatically divert to Leah's mobile, and she will help you as Parish Secretary of both Creswick & Daylesford.



NO WEEKDAY MASS in CRESWICK; Friday, Apr 7 @ 10am, DAYLESFORD