



## Parish Newsletter January 3, 2016

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

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

DAYLESFORD OFFICE *Hours:* Friday 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

### ST THOMAS AQUINAS', Bailey Street, CLUNES

MASS: Saturday 6.30pm (on the eve of each 2nd & 4th Sunday in the month)

LAY LED ASSEMBLY: Sunday 10.30am (1st Sunday ONLY in the month)

Nb. NO service on weekends when a 3rd Sunday or when a 5th Sunday in the month

ST. AUGUSTINE'S PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL: Mr. Terry Brennan, Principal.

SCHOOL OFFICE *Ph:* 5345 2106 (Mandy) *Website:* www.sacreswick.catholic.edu.au

DIOCESAN *Website:* www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (inc ONLINE PARISH BULLETIN)

## JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

### 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.

N W  
E E  
X E  
T K

**During the WEEK:** NO WEEKDAY SERVICES  
THROUGHOUT JANUARY

### Next WEEKEND:

#### MASSES

St Thomas Aquinas', Clunes: 6.30pm Sat Jan 9

St Augustine's, Creswick: 8.45am Sun Jan 10

St Peter's, Daylesford: 10.30am Sun Jan 10

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

May your year ahead be filled  
with Goodness and Blessings!



Nancy Nugent, Paul Cassar, Jan Scopel (**died recently**)

Kyrle Young, Charlotte Rhodes, Jack Murphy,  
Aileen Williams (**anniversaries of death**)

Steven Treacy, Sandra Kenyon (**unwell**)

### Please Note:

There will be **NO Weekday MASS**  
on **WEDNESDAYS @ St A's**  
throughout JANUARY

## Gospel Refection

by Dianne Bergant CSS

The Christmas season reaches an apex with the Epiphany. In some liturgical traditions, it is the central celebration of Christmas. It commemorates not only the birth of Christ and the visit of the Magi, but also his baptism in the Jordan and the manifestation of his glory at the wedding feast of Cana. In the Roman Catholic tradition, the focus is on the visit of the Magi and the implications of that visit for the glorious manifestation of God to all the peoples of the world.

There is a wonderful summons to alertness and presence of mind and heart, a call for all the nations to witness the marvellous works of God that shine as light in the midst of the surrounding darkness. The light of God is known in the ways in which the most vulnerable in the city are cared for and acknowledged. In just action and righteousness, the city becomes the beacon of God, and all the nations are attracted by this light. The quality of the light leads the way through the darkness and sustains the world in goodness and peace.

The manifestation of God among us changes the ways in which we perceive each other. Christ's birth provides us with the light by which we see a new criterion for relating. The Magi represent the multi-ethnic and cultural diversity in civic and parish situations, as well as the many religions of the world. All people, regardless of race or ethnic origin, can be co-heirs with Christ.

**JAN 9/10: CLUNES****CRESWICK****Reader:** Stevens

Brian Rowe

**Leaders:** n/a

n/a

**Comm'tor:** n/a

Angeline T

**Sp Minister/s:** Richardson

Margie-Judy-Brian

**Welc'/Offer'y:** n/a

Aileen &amp; Dave P

**Remote:** n/a

Lois K

**Counters:** n/a

Josie &amp; Brian R

**Cleaning:** DURING THIS COMING WEEK – before NEXT Sunday  
Leneghan Mick & Carmel G**Collections:** Both weekly collections occur after the General Intercessions.  
Last week: 1st (Priest Support) - \$239.30; 2nd (PG/Parish) \$217.00  
Christmas: 1.Special Collection - \$263.95; 2.Masses Collections - \$521.00

## Look for the presence of God in your life, Pope says on New Year's

**Pope Francis** gave a brief homily during his celebration of Vespers on the eve of the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, and the start of the new year.

We are challenged, he said, to see if the world's events have been done according to God's will, or "if we have primarily harkened to the projects of men, which are often characterized by private interests, of unquenchable thirst for power and of senseless violence."

Francis also urged attendees to focus in a special way on the "the signs" that God has given us, saying they are a means of touching "with our own hands" the strength of his merciful love.

Many days of the past year, he noted, were marked by "violence, death, the unspeakable suffering of many innocent people, of refugees forced to leave their homeland (and) of men, women and children without a stable home, food or sustenance."

However, the Pope also pointed to the many acts of love and solidarity that were shown and which filled each day, "even if they didn't make the news!"

Such acts of love and goodness "cannot and must not be obscured by the arrogance of evil. Good always wins, even if in some moments it appears weak and hidden," he said.

A small section from the following online news article: <http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/look-for-the-presence-of-god-in-your-life-pope-says-on-new-years-64329/>

**MASS @ St TA, CLUNES**  
next **Saturday, January 9 @ 6.30pm**  
(2nd Sunday in the month)

St A's New Year's Morning MASS  
was so very well attended.

Thank you all  
for helping to ring in  
the New Year  
so meaningfully  
as a faith-filled parish community!

**Check out our Parish Bulletin  
for reading  
on the new Diocesan website  
- usually uploaded on Saturdays -  
[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)**

On the homepage select the  
Parish of 'CRESWICK', then click the  
button 'Read More' next to  
'Latest Parish Bulletin'.

*Very handy if you are away on holidays  
and wish to keep up with Parish News!*

### St Vincent de Paul:

Straight after Mass, **Columbian Calendars** will be available for purchase at half price ~ \$3.50  
*Sales of these beautiful Calendars support St Vinnie's mission to help the poor.*

### DIOCESAN NEWS and EVENTS

**ADVANCE NOTICE:**

- (a) Rite of Election: Saturday, February 13 at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat.
- (b) Mass of the Oils: Monday, March 21 at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat.

**MARY MacKILLOP:** From Portland to the Sisters of St Joseph and Sainthood. Events are planned on the weekend of Saturday 30 and Sunday 31 January, 2016 to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Mary MacKillop departing Portland in January 1866. *Flyer on Notice Board at back of St A's Church.*