



Parish Newsletter 12th MARCH 2017

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Gary A. Jones Email: gary.jones@ballarat.catholic.org.au

CRESWICK OFFICE Hours: *Tuesdays 10am - 11am. (*when Tuesday Mass during school term)

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

(Administering ST THOMAS AQUINAS' Church, 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

DAYLESFORD OFFICE Hours: Fridays 9.30am - 1.00pm. Ph: 5348 2026 (Leah)

Email: daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au St Peter's PRESBYTERY: 5348 3911

DIOCESE online: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (to access **PARISH NEWSLETTER**)

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 **TUESDAY**, Mar 14

St Peter's Daylesford: 10am Thu & Fri, Mar 16/17

WEEKEND SERVICES -

MASSES

St Augustine's, Creswick: 8.45am Sun, Mar 19

St Peter's, Daylesford: 10.30am Sun, Mar 19

PLEASE
PRAY
FOR



Ken Preston
(anniversaries of death Thurs - Wed)
James Stacey, Pat Prendergast,
Mary Bell
(unwell at this time)

Nb. If you wish your name or a family/friend's 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 Month) @ 6pm

ROSTER for NEXT Sunday, 19th MAR

CLEANER/S (THIS week, BEFORE Sun 12th):

Mick & Carmel G

WELCOMERS/OFFERTORY:

McMahon Family

REMOTE: **Neil D**

COMMENTATOR: **David P**

READER: **Lois K**

EXT. EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Angeline T-Margie G-Aileen P

COUNTERS: **Kieran & Loretta**

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL & FINANCE TEAM

NEXT MEETING
TUESDAY MARCH 21 @ 7.30pm

MASS of the OILS

@ St Patrick's Cathedral
Monday, April 10 @ 6.30pm
This Mass has special significance for those who will use the blessed oils in 2017 - the ordained, the sick, those to be baptized and confirmed.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE



MASS of the OILS: St Pat's Cathedral, Ballarat
Monday, April 10 @ 6.30pm

HOLY THURSDAY: St Augustine's, Creswick
April 13 @ 7pm

GOOD FRIDAY: LAY-LED PRAYER SERVICES
St Peter's, Daylesford & St Augustine's, Creswick
April 14 @ 3pm

HOLY SATURDAY EASTER VIGIL

St Augustine's, Creswick
April 15 @ 7.30pm

EASTER SUNDAY MASS: April 16

St Augustine's, Creswick @ 8.45am
St Peter's, Daylesford @ 10.30am

PROJECT COMPASSION

2017 Theme: "Love your neighbour"

Each year, Project Compassion runs during Lent, the six weeks leading up to Easter.

Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal is an extraordinary, ongoing demonstration of the faith, love & generosity of the Catholic congregation and caring supporters throughout Australia to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.



'PALM CROSS' CRAFT WORKSHOP

LEARN A NEW CRAFT from ANGELINE TREACY
AND HELP PREPARE FOR PALM SUNDAY

Straight after 10am Mass (cuppa & nibbles)
@ the presbytery on **TUESDAY March 21**

St A's MONTHLY PARISH SOCIAL NEXT SUNDAY: March 19



Smokeytown Café
CRESWICK: ALL welcome!
straight after Mass
Kindly hosted by our Parish Family Group

COLLECTIONS

TWO COLLECTIONS ARE TAKEN UP AFTER THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL/GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

The 1st 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 2nd Collection is the Planned Giving (envelopes) for the support of Parish endeavours and structures.

Collections from last week (with thanks)

1st (Priest Support) - \$284.80; 2nd (Planned Giving/Parish) - NC

CRESWICK's **COMBINED CHURCH LENTEN STUDY GROUP** is at **St ANDREW's Uniting Church Hall** this year, led by the lovely **Rev Rosemary Carter** in 2017. This is always a very pleasant and sociable evening, where all attending feel free of denominational concerns...indeed, feel humanly connected as ONE Christian family! **WHEN? SUNDAY EVENINGS @ 6pm** (from Sunday, **March 19**). Please see Sue if you need a copy of the **study book** and/or to find out who else from St A's will be attending.



Reflection *Dianne Bergant CSS*

The blessings upon which we meditate today are undeserved gifts from God. They were not earned. The graciousness of God transforms us in such a way as to effect new beginnings. It can be seen in the promises made to Abram. He leaves the past behind and moves into a new future. It can be seen in the psalm response. The Lord delivers us from death and inspires us to look to the future. It can be seen in the reading from 2 Timothy. Through Christ Jesus we are called to a new life of holiness; we escape the fetters of death and are brought into the freedom of the resurrection. We see it in the gospel, a glimpse into the future glory of Jesus which, through grace, we will be able to share. Lent is a time of new beginnings which find their origin in the abundant blessings of God.

The ultimate blessing of God is Jesus himself. As Abram was called to be the source of blessing for all others, as Peter, James and John were chosen to witness the transfiguration of Jesus, so today we too are invited to look to Jesus for inspiration during this holy season. Paul speaks of the salvation that Jesus brings as having come, not because of any works of righteousness that we might have performed, but because of the grace of God. Once again the Lenten readings focus on the merciful action of God in our lives, and in the end they point to Jesus.

PROJECT COMPASSION 2017: Week 2

Martina from Timor-Leste, Short Story

For Martina, an East Timorese mother of eight, escaping domestic violence was the first step in her journey to a new life. But at first, her future seemed very uncertain. Timor-Leste is one of the least developed countries in the world, with extremely low levels of basic health, literacy and income. Most East Timorese live in rural areas, with very limited access to basic services or livelihood training, and many households don't have enough food year round.

The shelter where Martina sought refuge, Uma PAS, offered her many ways to transcend these challenges. Uma PAS is a partner in Caritas Australia's Protection Program, a holistic community-wide program in Timor-Leste that offers women like Martina economic empowerment and a life of safety in a supportive community.

Through the program, she was linked with a network of support services, and this enabled her to undertake livelihood training and start a small business to support her children. The program also linked her with a supportive community.

"Martina is a person who did not want to give up, but wanted to be able to support her family," her counsellor at the shelter says. Through the Protection Program, Martina says, "I have learnt how to change my life to support myself, and my children."

