

ST MARY'S PARISH SWAN HILL BULLETIN

Priest: Fr. Marcello Colasante PP

Parish Secretary: Glenda Klabbers

Presbytery: Nola O'Bree

Parish Council Chair: Michelle Haeusler

St Mary's School Principal: Greg Lane

St Mary MacKillop Principal: Michelle Haeusler

Parish Office: Thursday 10.00 am — 2.00 pm

Friday 10.00 am — 2.00 pm



19th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Year B

9th August 2015

Presbytery: 62 Splatt Street Swan Hill 3585

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The Parish of Swan Hill comprises the Church Communities of:

St Marys Swan Hill,

St Joseph's Nyah West,

St Joseph's Lake Boga

Mass Next Weekend:

Saturday **6.30 pm Vigil** Swan Hill
Sunday 10.30 am Swan Hill

Mass this Week:

Tuesday: 5.30 pm
Wed: 10.00 am
Thursday: 10.00 am
Friday: 12.00 noon
11am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

SATURDAY 10.00am

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
(Holy Day of Obligation)



FIRST READING *1 Kgs 19:4-8*

A reading from the first book of Kings

Elijah went into the wilderness, a day's journey, and sitting under a furze bush wished he were dead. 'Lord', he said 'I have had enough. Take my life: I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down and went to sleep. But an angel touched him and said, 'Get up and eat.' He looked round, and there at his head was a scone baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. But the angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat, or the journey will be too long for you.' So he got up and ate and drank, and strengthened by that food he walked for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM. *Ps 33:2-9. R. v.9*

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad.

Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us praise his name. I sought the Lord and he answered me; from all my terrors he set me free.

Look towards him and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed. This poor man called; the Lord heard him and rescued him from all his distress.

Anniversaries: We remember: Jack McMahon, Pat Wait, Hanna Pace O'Shea, Jim Shepherd, Fr Roger Shepherd, Tom Nolan, Luigi Dutto, John Joseph Bell, Bryan Grumley,

Prayers for the Sick: Moira Higgins, Lorna Kennedy, Erin Coburn, Rosa Milazzo, Brooke Kennedy, Brian Mulcahy, Ronald Duryea, Margaret Sinclair.

If you would like a sick person prayed for, please ask for their permission. After one month names will be deleted from the list unless otherwise advised.

The angel of the Lord is encamped around those who revere him, to rescue them. Taste and see that the Lord is good. He is happy who seeks refuge in him.

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING *Eph 4:30-5:2*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God who has marked you with his seal for you to be set free when the day comes. Never have grudges against others, or lose your temper, or raise your voice to anybody, or call each other names, or allow any sort of spitefulness. Be friends with one another, and kind, forgiving each other as readily as God forgave you in Christ.

Try, then, to imitate God, as children of his that he loves, and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up in our place as a fragrant offering and a sacrifice to God.

The Word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Jn 6:51*

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Jn 6:41-51

A reading from the gospel according to John.

The Jews were complaining to each other about Jesus, because he had said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' 'Surely this is Jesus son of Joseph' they said. 'We know his father and mother. How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus said in reply, 'Stop complaining to each other.'

'No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me, and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets: They will all be taught by God, and to hear the teaching of the Father, and learn from it, is to come to me.'

Not that anybody has seen the Father, except the one who comes from God: he has seen the Father. I tell you most solemnly, everybody who believes has eternal life.

I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the desert and they are dead; but this is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that a man may eat it and not die. I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

The Gospel of the Lord

READINGS NEXT WEEK 16th August

Proverbs 9:1-6; Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:56

GOSPEL REFLECTION: How do we live the Paschal mystery as we face the demands of our endangered planet? Sister Veronica Lawson rsm leads us into a reflection of the eucharist.

Jesus was a Jew, as was John, the author of the gospel. It may seem strange, therefore, that John has the "Jews" complaining about Jesus. It is indeed strange, and it has caused many a reader to wonder. John seems to use the designation "Jew" as a code word for the opponents of Jesus. These opponents are almost exclusively Jewish leaders rather than the ordinary people who followed Jesus. The designation does not include all the Jewish leaders of course: Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea stand out as leaders who came to believe in Jesus as the Christ and to take risks on account of their faith.

The complaint of the "Jews" relates to Jesus' claim, "I am the bread that came down from heaven". Jesus shares the world view or cosmology of his contemporaries: God is in the heavens above, so that anything or anyone coming from God in that view comes down from heaven. The problem for his adversaries is that Jesus is one of them: they know his father Joseph and his grandparents, so how can he be making such a claim? They make the mistake of thinking that is all there is to know about his origins. "Don't complain" is

Jesus' response to them. He proceeds to tell them that there are dimensions of his being of which they know nothing. Yet they need to know, as do we. It is God who draws us to Jesus. Like the opponents of Jesus, we need to listen and to learn, to be taught by God. We need bread in order to live and we also need the bread of God's teaching. Jesus makes a future promise: the bread he offers is different from the bread the Israelites ate in the desert, in that those who eat of it will live forever. Furthermore, the bread that he will give for the life of the world is his flesh. This leads to further misunderstanding and the opportunity for Jesus to teach at another level. The eucharistic overtones in today's reading are subtle but nonetheless present, as they were in the feeding story.

John is writing some seventy years after the death of Jesus for communities that gathered every week for the breaking of the bread-in memory of him and of all that he enacted. Like the early Christians, we reflect on the meaning of eucharist. We recognise and honour the materiality of the bread and of the flesh that Jesus shares with all living creatures. At the same time we are invited to reflect on the symbolic or metaphorical resonances of both bread and flesh in the context of the claims of the Johannine Jesus. The question for us then becomes: "How do we live into this extraordinary mystery as we face the demands of our endangered planet?" Sr Veronica Lawson

ST MARY'S MINISTRIES 16th August 2015

Ministers of the Word:

7pm. Marilyn Foley. Glenda Klabbers

10.30. Doreen Greenham. Bernice Murray

Ministers of Communion:

7pm. Josh Klabbers, Mary Kennedy, Kerry Hoare, Kath Hogan.

10.30am. Yvonne Richardson, Rona Bookham, Dorothy Bishop, Raelene O'Halloran, Margaret Foott.

Music: **7pm.** Felicity & Greg Lane

10.30am. John Farrell

Offertory Procession:

7pm Shane & Julie Noonan.

10.30am Scott & Carolyn Zambelli

Counters: Pat & Cathy Livingston.

STATE OF THE NATION

Presbytery Account: (1st Basket) \$ 695.40
(Support of Priests & Bishop)

Parish Account: (2nd Basket) Envelopes \$ 1,392.00
(Support of the Parish) Credit Card \$ 0.00
Direct Debit \$ 100.00
Loose Plate \$ 67.55
\$ 1,559.55

THANK YOU!

Financial Performance from 1st July to 30th June

	2015	2014
RECEIPTS:		
Stewardship Receipts – Credit Cards	9,685.00	4,090.00
- Direct Debits	10,457.00	6,658.00
- Envelopes	79,554.35	60,422.05
- Loose Plate	7,744.25	9,349.30
Bequests	0.00	20,000.00
Church Usage	5,490.00	5,320.00
Function Centre Hire	1,036.37	4,397.74
Festa	1,175.00	1,025.00
Donations	20.00	13,028.01
Interest	2,103.56	549.71
Sale of Piangil Church Contents & Other Items	10,042.27	0.00
Sale of Water	2,600.00	1,872.40
Other / Sundry	<u>390.85</u>	<u>530.55</u>
	130,298.65	127,247.56
EXPENSES:		
Administrative	5,922.79	4,898.97
Cleaning / Other Property Costs	4,675.05	5,625.10
Diocesan Levies	20,859.53	20,816.35
Heat / Light / Power	3,999.87	2,675.72
Fire Services Property Levy	1,286.49	2,830.92
Insurance	6,754.91	6,905.66
Liturgical	2,769.61	3,703.85
Photocopying	3,776.98	3,749.94
Rates - Council	4,840.92	8,052.58
- Water & Sewage	5,519.47	5,307.93
Repairs & Maintenance	22,703.61	4,936.38
Loan Interest (Refurbishment)	2,014.68	2,604.16
Loan Repayments (Refurbishment)	12,000.00	12,000.00
Salaries & Associated Costs	9,178.95	9,254.52
Stewardship Program Expenses	<u>16,940.06</u>	<u>0.00</u>
	<u>127,034.99</u>	<u>94,691.45</u>
RECURRENT SURPLUS	3,263.66	32,556.11
Financial Position as at 30th June		
	2015	2014
ASSETS:		
CBA Working Account	(3.93)	256.19
CDF At Call	12,519.68	47,375.64
CDF Term Deposit	40,000.00	
CDF Term Deposit Fr. Lyle Young Bequest	<u>20,750.00</u>	<u>20,000.00</u>
	73,265.75	67,631.83
LIABILITIES:		
CDF Loan (Church Refurbishment)	25,979.78	35,965.10

Comment: Once again it is pleasing to report that the "**State of the Nation**" has improved considerably when compared to the previous year. This is due to the generous response to the Stewardship Program conducted in August 2014. Such a result enabled Parish to undertake some significant items of maintenance including:

- Refurbishment including repainting of the front and side verandahs of St Mary's church.
- Internal repainting of church foyer and sanctuary canopy.
- Termite prevention treatment to church flooring and floor substructure.
- Driveway remediation work to the entrance of 62 Splatt Street.

At the same time the Parish met all its recurrent financial commitments whilst reducing its debt as scheduled. Well done! Your continued financial support over the last 12 months is sincerely appreciated.

SATURDAY 10.00am Mass for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. (Holy Day of Obligation)

The Feast of the Assumption celebrates the belief that the body and soul of the Blessed Virgin Mary was taken into heaven after the end of her earthly life. Mary's assumption into heaven is seen by many as a fulfilment of Jesus' promise to all faithful servants; that they too will be received into the kingdom of God. Mary is seen as the first disciple of Jesus and a model for all disciples; it is fitting that she receive the gift of discipleship first of all. Belief in the Assumption of Mary had become widespread by the end of the seventh century and was eventually defined in an infallible statement by Pope Pius XII in 1950



LOOKING FURTHER
Following the Looking Forward gatherings held around the Diocese in 2014, the next series is about to commence.

Parishes have all been invited to prepare for these gatherings which

provide an opportunity for Parish Councils, Leadership Groups and Coordinating Teams to review their progress in relation to the goals set in Evangelisation and Improvement following the 2014 gatherings.

August

Tuesday 18th Horsham 7.00pm -9.00pm

Tuesday 25th Colac 7.00pm - 9.00pm

September

Tuesday 8th Birchip 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Tuesday 15th Swan Hill 7.00pm-9.00pm

Saint of the Week – St Jane Frances de Chantal

(Aug 12) St Jane Frances was born in Dijon, France on 28 January 1572. The mother of six children (three died shortly after they were born), she was widowed at the age of 28. She met St Francis de Sales when he preached at the Sainte Chapelle in Dijon and was inspired to start a religious order for women, the Order of the Visitation of Holy Mary.



More than a Cuppa - Over 60's group meet this Monday 10th August at 1.30pm in the Parish Function Centre. All welcome



Josephite Associates Knitting Day Monday 17th August at the Parish Function Centre from 10.00 am. A raffle will be held and lunch will be provided. All welcome to come and knit squares for "Wrapped with Love Rugs".



Please keep the children preparing to receive the Body and Blood of Christ on the weekend of 29th/30th August, in your prayers.

Emma Ayson, Arlee Bennett, Cal Croskery, Rose Crowe, Jye Hogan, Emily Kearns,

Joshua Rogers, Milla Scott, Amy Simpson, Henry Smith, Arabella Elliott, Elizabeth Faiazi, Emily Free , Tyson Haye, Danika Meehan Thirimadura 'Methul' Mendis, Bridie O'Halloran , Benjamin Pastore, Millie Rohde, Jack Russo, Ned Ryan, Sahra Summerfield, Dakota Wilckens ,Charlotte Angus, Sarah Girdwood, Lachie Marton, Harry McGregor, Zac O'Brien, Chloe O'Reilly, Nikita Rogers, Edward Schifferle, Scarlett Sheldrick, Angelica Watson, Nicholas Webb.

Laudato Si': On the Care of Our Common Home

Pope Francis' Encyclical Laudato Si': On the Care for Our Common Home is a call for global action as well as an appeal for deep inner conversion. He points to numerous ways world organisations, nations and communities must move forward and the way individuals -- believers and people of good will -- should see, think, feel and act.

"Promote green construction with energy efficient homes and buildings." Paragraphs 26, 180

"Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we are imperishable." – 1 Corinthians 9:25

