

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



22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time
Year B
30th 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:

Vigil	6.30 pm	Swan Hill
Sunday	8.30am	Nyah West
	10.30 am	Swan Hill

Mass This Week

Wednesday	10.00 am
Thursday:	10.00 am
Friday:	11.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 12.00 noon

Mass Intentions

Wednesday: Emmett & Jean Lanigan

Recently Deceased: We commend to God:

Rosa Milazzo
Anniversaries: We remember: Juliet Meehan, Joan Willox, Les O'Halloran, Alice Ross, Frank Fitzpatrick, Marco Conidi, Mary Maher, Vincenzo Berlinger, Jack Cleary, Vince Higgins, Vi Power, Thomas & Margaret Nolan, Marianne Murray,

Prayers for the Sick: Moira Higgins, Loma Kennedy, Erin Coburn, 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.

FIRST READING from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.
Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain? He who walks without fault; he who acts with justice and speaks the truth from his heart.

He who does no wrong to his brother, who casts no slur on his neighbour, who holds the godless in disdain, but honours those who fear the Lord.

He who keeps his pledge, come what may; who takes no interest on a loan and accepts no bribes against the innocent. Such a man will stand firm for ever.
The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

SECOND READING from the letter of St James

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his

children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created. Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves. Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world. *The Word of the Lord*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation. Alleluia!

READINGS NEXT WEEK 6th September

Is 35:4-7 ; James 2:1-5 ; Mark 7:31-37

BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND

Collection for Sick and Retired Priests – next weekend



Creating a secure retirement future for the priests of the diocese is a duty and care in which we can all participate. Eighteen retired priests are currently supported by this Fund. Some live privately, some are retired in units in Ballarat or elsewhere, others live in supported accommodation. The funding required for these commitments is ongoing. Thanks to your generosity, this collection has raised nearly 1.7 million dollars since it began in 1991, including nearly \$67,000 last year. Along with the priests' own contribution of approximately \$40,000 per year, this annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our sick and retired clergy.

A credit card facility is available for your convenience, and contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible.
CARING FOR THOSE WHO CARED FOR US – THE CHURCH COMMUNITY'S RESPONSIBILITY

GOSPEL REFLECTION: Add nothing, take nothing

We resume our readings from Mark's gospel. Life in a human community is governed by "laws and customs," as Moses reminds the people of old Israel in the first reading. These regulations and their interpretation can give rise to confusion; so Moses urges the people to "add nothing" and "take nothing from" the law which he gives them in the name of God. We meet the same issue in today's gospel reading: Jesus is being hounded by antagonists – some of whom have come from Jerusalem for the purpose. They resent the fact that the disciples of Jesus "do not respect the traditions of the elders" and observe ritual purifications. The response of Jesus has an important lesson for every age, as we endeavour to make Church regulations that are truly life-giving.

The words of Jesus, in this and similar exchanges, are surprisingly sharp. The issue is far more important than a detail of ritual observance. Those who were leaders in Israel should have been helping the people to live according to the ways of God – so that they would be "a light to the nations," as the prophets had taught. Instead they had lost sight of Israel's great destiny, and worked against it, in fact, by elaborating a system of self-serving regulations. They have no real concern for the ways of God, Jesus tells them, and he quotes against them the words of Isaiah: "This people honours me only with lip service, while their hearts are far from me." Jesus shows himself a true interpreter of Israel's faith as he urges his followers to find integrity through the motives of the heart rather than in the observance of external rituals of purification. No wonder the people followed him so eagerly.

Jesus goes on to talk about the importance of the heart. What is important is not what goes into a person but what comes out of them - their behaviour. Our behaviour shows what is inside us. "It is from within, from people's hearts, that evil intentions emerge; fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly."

The precise difference between Jesus and the Pharisees was that they looked at the external activity whereas Jesus looked at the heart, the source of activity. They looked to the fulfilment of law and tradition while he looked to love and commitment. They looked at the letter of the law while he looked at its spirit.

From a homily on the Gospel by Fr John Thornhill sm and Sundays into Silence website

STATE OF THE NATION

Presbytery Account: (1st Basket)		\$ 608.65
<i>(Support of Priests & Bishop)</i>		
Parish Account: (2nd Basket)	Envelopes	\$ 2,579.00
<i>(Support of the Parish)</i>		
	Credit Card	\$ 0.00
	Direct Debit	\$ 100.00
	Loose Plate	\$ 145.50
		\$ 2,824.50

THANK YOU!

St Mary's Bereavement Hospitality Group gathering this Wednesday **2nd September** at **2.00pm** in the Parish Function Centre. All welcome.

CWL meeting this Tuesday 1st Sept at 1.30 pm.

ST MARY'S MINISTRIES 6th September 2015

Ministers of the Word:

Vigil. Marilyn Foley, Glenda Klabbers

10.30am. Deanne Dacey

Ministers of Communion:

Vigil. Margaret Hoare, Bev McCartney, Helen Lewis, Cathy Page.

10.30am. Sam Colombo, Robert Jager, Jim Meehan, Connie Alderuccio, Frank Fogarty.

Music: Vigil. Felicity & Greg Lane.

10.30am. Brian Safe & Alison Wright

Presentation of Gifts:

Vigil. Josh & Glenda Klabbers

10.30am Ken & Glenys Smith

Counters: Gavin & Teresa O'Brien

Congratulations to the children receiving the Sacrament of First Eucharist this weekend :



Emma Ayson, Arlee Bennett, Jye Hogan-Rose Crowe, Cal Croskery, Emily Kearns, Lara Mancinelli, Joshua Rogers, Milla Scott, Amy Simpson, Henry Smith, Emily Free, Arabella Elliott, Elizabeth Faiazi, Tyson Hayes, Danika Meehan, Jack Russo, Thirimadura 'Methul' Mendis, Bridie O'Halloran, Benjamin Pastore, Millie Rohde, Ned Ryan, Chloe O'Reilly, Sahra Summerfield, Dakota Wilckens,

Charlotte Angus, Sarah Girdwood, Lachie Martin, Harry McGregor, Nikita Rogers, Edward Schifferle, Scarlett Sheldrick, Angelica Watson, Nicholas Webb.

CWL Cake and Produce Stall, Fathers Day, next Sunday 6th September after the 10.00 am Mass.

Baptism Preparation evening Monday September 7th, 7.00pm. Parish Function Centre.

LOOKING FURTHER FORWARD: These gatherings 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. **Tuesday 15th Sept 7.00pm-9.00pm** Attendance is not limited to leadership groups. Other parishioners including the staff of both St Mary's Primary School and St Mary MacKillop College as well as parents are welcome to come.

LAUNCH OF THE NEW DIOCESAN WEBSITE Tuesday 15th Sept from **5.30 pm** to precede the Looking Further Forward Gathering. Hospitality will be supplied.

DANGEROUS FAITH What is it like to be a Christian in the Middle East? THIS Wednesday 2nd September at 7.30pm. Swan Hill Church of Christ, The Grain Shed.

Stewardship News: Weekly and Monthly envelope sets for the following year are available for collection as you enter the church. Annual contribution statements for the previous year ie: **07 Sep 2014 to 31 Aug 2015** will be generated in September and will also include envelopes for contributions that made on a quarterly, half yearly or yearly basis. *If you would like to participate in contributing to the "State of the Nation" via the Stewardship Program and are not currently doing so kindly contact the Parish Office.*

CUPPA AFTER MASS NEXT SUNDAY