



Parish Newsletter December 27, 2015

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: www3.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.

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| N E X T | W E E K | WEEKDAYS: NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICES ONLY |
| | | Next WEEKEND: |
| | | LAY LED ASSEMBLY |
| | | St Thomas Aquinas', Clunes: 10.30pm Sun Jan 3 |
| | | MASSES |
| | | St Augustine's, Creswick: 8.45am Sun Jan 3 |
| | | St Peter's, Daylesford: 10.30am Sun Jan 3 |

NEW YEARS DAY MASSES

(Friday, January 1)

Creswick: **8.45am** Daylesford: **10.30am**



Elly de Jong, Paul Cassar (**died recently**)
Catherine Brennan, Daniel Moore, Dominic Camenzuli,
Kevin Loyer, William Fox (**anniversaries of death**)
Steven Treacy, Sandra Kenyon (**unwell**)



Gospel Reflection *by Greg Sunter*

We live in an era when we are constantly hearing about the demise of the family and the demise of family values. It seems that the family is under constant attack. Divorce rates are at an all-time high and a huge number of young people are raised in single-parent families, divided families or blended families. To talk about a 'typical' family is increasingly irrelevant. What we are learning to appreciate more and more is the diversity of family experience. Despite all this, there is no disputing the value of the family unit. Family is at the heart of our society; at the heart of our development; and at the heart of our Church. When we stop and think about it, the Holy Family that we honour today wasn't exactly what we might describe as a 'typical' family and yet they provide a model for all families.

In today's gospel, we get a snapshot of family life for Jesus, Mary and Joseph at a time when Jesus was 12 years old. We're reminded that the family was a faithful Jewish family, attending the Passover celebrations in Jerusalem every year. We're also reminded that it is at the Passover celebrations some 20 or so years later that Jesus will be tried and crucified. When Mary chastises the boy Jesus, he reminds her that he needs to be busy with his Father's affairs. Mary and Joseph are confused by this, perhaps forgetting momentarily that Jesus is referring to his heavenly Father. This incident, so often dismissed as background 'colour' to the gospel narrative, conveys the significant truth that Jesus shared a family relationship with Mary and Joseph, but also shared a family relationship with God, his Father. It reminds us that Jesus called all of us to enter into the relationship he shared with his Father.

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| JAN 3: | CLUNES | CRESWICK |
| Reader: | Culvenor | Jeanette M |
| Leaders: | Leneghan/Dooley | n/a |
| Comm'tor: | n/a | David P |
| Sp Minister/s: | Rinaldi | Aileen-Roland-Barb |
| Welc'/Offer'y: | n/a | Flynns |
| Remote: | n/a | Alastair H |
| Counters: | n/a | Pat & Bernie T |
| Cleaning: | <i>DURING THIS COMING WEEK – before NEXT Sunday</i> | |
| | Dooley | Elly Van O & Sue C |

Collections: Both weekly collections occur after the General Intercessions.
Last week: 1st (Priest Support) - \$313.60 2nd (PG/Parish) \$185.00

Lay Led Assembly @ St TA, CLUNES
 next Sunday, January 3 @ 10.30am
(1st Sunday in the month)

Thank you to all who contributed
 to our Christmas Services in 2015.
 All the unseen, behind the scenes
 work is especially acknowledged.

**Check out our Parish Bulletin
 for reading
 on the new Diocesan website**
 - usually uploaded on Saturdays -
www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Go to the Parish of CRESWICK
 & click on "Latest Bulletin".

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

PRAYER OF POPE FRANCIS for the Jubilee Year of Mercy

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved. Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief. Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman:
 "If you knew the gift of God!"

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified. You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with His anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.

Amen.

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.*

May peace fill all the empty
 spaces around you...
 May happiness answer
 all your wishes in this New Year!
 2016
 Happy New Year