

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: Wednesday 10.00 am — 2.00 pm
Friday 10.00 am — 2.00 pm



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

24th January 2016

Presbytery: 62 Splatt Street Swan Hill 3585

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The Parish of Swan Hill comprises the faith Communities of: St Marys Swan Hill, St Joseph's Nyah West, St Joseph's Lake Boga

Mass Next Weekend:

Vigil: **7.00 pm** Swan Hill

Sunday: **8.30 am** Nyah West **10.30 am** Swan Hill

Mass This Week:

Tuesday: 10.00 am Australia Day

Wednesday: 9.00 am

Thursday: 10.00 am

Friday: 12.00 Noon

11.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Intentions:

Wednesday: Staff of St Mary's Primary School and St Mary MacKillop College as a new school year begins

Thursday: Richardson Family

Recently Deceased: We commend to God: Bill Magee, Frank Godfrey {Wendouree}

Anniversaries: We remember Carmelo Carpenteri, Marianna Costa, Dominic Costa, Patrick Shepherd, Eda Whiting, Beatrice Curran, Margaret Foott, Maria Rantino, Lance Learmonth, Felicia Foott.

Prayers for the Sick: Monica Nolen, Moira Higgins, Erin Coburn, Brooke Kennedy, Brian Mulcahy, Ronald Duryea, Dorothy Burgess, Jarrod Crimmins, Margaret Sinclair, Theresa Sydes.

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 Nehemiah

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people – since he stood higher than all the people – Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered Amen! Amen!; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah – His Excellency – and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep'. For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 18:8-10. 15. R. See Jn 6:63

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul. The rule of the Lord is to be trusted it gives wisdom to the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the

heart. The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever. The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just.

May the spoken words of my mouth, the thoughts of my heart, win favour in your sight, O Lord, my rescuer, my rock!

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

SECOND READING from the 1st letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. If the foot were to say, 'I am not a hand and so I do not belong to the body', would that mean that it stopped being part of the body? If the ear were to say, 'I am not an eye, and so I do not belong to the body,' would that mean that it is not a part of the body? If your whole body was just one eye, how would you hear anything? If it was just one ear, how would you smell anything?

Instead of that, God put all the separate parts into the body on purpose. If all the parts were the same, how could it be a body? As it is, the parts are many but the body is one. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I do not need you,' nor can the head say to the feet, 'I do not need you.'

What is more, it is precisely the parts of the body that seem to be the weakest which are the indispensable ones; and it is the least honourable parts of the body that we clothe with the greatest care. So our more improper parts get decorated in a way that our more

proper parts do not need. God has arranged the body so that more dignity is given to the parts which are without it, and so that there may not be disagreements inside the body, but that each part may be equally concerned for all the others. If one part is hurt, all parts are hurt with it. If one part is given special honour, all parts enjoy it.

Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it. In the Church, God has given the first place to apostles, the second to prophets, the third to teachers; after them, miracles, and after them the gift of healing; helpers, good leaders, those with many languages. Are all of them apostles, or all of them prophets, or all of them teachers? Do they all have the gift of miracles, or all have the gift of healing? Do all speak strange languages, and all interpret them?

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION See Lk 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners. Alleluia!

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READINGS NEXT WEEK 31st January 2016

Jer 1:4-5. 17-19 ; 1 Cor 12:31-13:13 ; Luke 4:21-30

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STATE OF THE NATION

Presbytery Account: (1st Basket) (Support of Priests & Bishop)		\$ 767.70
Parish Account: (2nd Basket) (Support of the Parish)	Envelopes	\$ 959.00
	Credit Card	\$ 0.00
	Direct Debit	\$ 20.00
	Loose Plate	\$ 135.35
		\$ 1,114.35

Thank-You!

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MINISTRIES for Next Weekend 31st January 2016

Ministers of the Word:

Vigil: Bill Moar, Kaye Farrell

10.30am. Ken Smith, Lorraine Hogan.

Ministers of Communion:

Vigil: Claire Billing, Chris Hoare, Gladys Bryant, Lyn Stutley

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

Music: Vigil: John Farrell & Brenda Grace

10.30am Brian Wood

Presentation of Gifts:

Vigil: Howison Family

10.30am Bernice Murray & Bill Croft

Counters Pat & Cathy Livingston.

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Through Baptism we welcome into our faith community River Purtill, son of Shaun and Rebecca and Shelby O'Shea, daughter of Robert and Jessica.

URGENTLY WANTED More helpers with Ministries at weekend Mass. We need more parishioners to assist with Reading, Eucharistic Ministry, Offertory Procession, counters and running the over heads during Mass. Our number of volunteers has dwindled due to age, health and parishioners leaving the area. Please contact the office on Wednesday or Friday between 10.30am and 1.30pm on 50324144

Musicians for Mass We are in need of musicians who play the piano or Guitar or the playing Cd's at Mass. Can you help? Please contact Joy Parsons on 50321286

Mass of the Oils will be celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 6.30pm on Monday, March 21, 2016.

Misericordiae Vultus – The Face of Mercy In paragraph 3, Pope Francis provides the reason for why he has proclaimed an "Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy."

"At times, we are called to gaze even more attentively on mercy so that we may become a more effective sign of the Father's action in our lives...a time when the witness of believers might grow stronger and more effective."

GOSPEL REFLECTION: "What would Christ do if he were in my place?" Thus did St Vincent de Paul ask himself and recommend too that others likewise ask themselves, holding up Jesus Christ as "the true model and the great invisible picture on whom we should model all our actions" (cf. Sister Juana Elizondo, *Vincentian Charism and Spirit*).

St Vincent de Paul also urged people to "depend greatly on the guidance of the Son of God."

"Whenever there is a question of doing a good work, say to the Son of God, 'O Lord, if you were in my place, what would you have done? How would you instruct the people? How would you console this person with illness of body or mind?'"

The presumption, of course, is that one who reflects in this manner and tries to follow the teaching of Christ and not that of the worldly-wise is likewise ready and willing to listen very attentively to God's word.

From a reflection on the Gospel on the FamVin website

A Prayer for our Country

Father, you reached out by the power of the Holy Spirit through Jesus your Son to show your love for all creation. You invite everyone to share in your life made available to us in Jesus.

You established the Church to bring your good news to all people.

Let your Holy Spirit help us to be the presence of your saving love to all.

May that same Spirit help us to proclaim your good news in a way that is meaningful to people and touches their hearts.

May we, like Mary, Help of Christians, have the courage of the cross, to fulfill the mission you gave us no matter what the cost.

Sharing in his confidence and trust in you, we ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, Australia Day 2011



australia day

Celebrate what's great