



Parish Newsletter January 24, 2016

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: www.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.

During the WEEK:

N E X T W E E K	W	St Augustine's, Creswick:	10.30am	Wed Jan 27
	E	St Peter's, Daylesford:	10.30am	Thu/Fri Jan 28/29

Next WEEKEND:

St Thomas Aquinas', Clunes: **NO SERVICE**

MASSSES:

St Augustine's, Creswick:	8.45am	Sun Jan 31
St Peter's, Daylesford:	10.30am	Sun Jan 31

Weekday Masses RESUME
 this coming **WEDNESDAY,**
January 27, 10am @ St A's

NO SERVICE @ CLUNES
NEXT WEEKEND
January 30/31
(5th Sunday in the month)

 Basil McKay (father of Fr Jim McKay) (**died recently**)
 Andrew Vlahek, Marie Whitfield, Henry Ferro,
 Peter Egan, Pat Scholten (**anniversary of death**)
 Steven Treacy, Sandra Kenyon (**unwell**)

Gospel Refection *by Greg Sunter*

This week marks the beginning of the liturgical use of the gospel of Luke that will feature throughout this year. The choice of passage to begin our journey with Luke is most appropriate.

We have the first four verses of the gospel in which the writer makes his purpose clear.

We then skip over all the infancy narrative and pick up again in chapter 4 of the gospel where Jesus makes his first public appearance.

Jesus returns to the synagogue in which he has worshipped all his life. He is given the scroll of Isaiah to read and reads the first two verses of Isaiah, chapter 61. But in the middle of this passage he flips back to chapter 58 of Isaiah and reads an additional line, 'to set the downtrodden (oppressed) free'. This event in Nazareth is sometimes referred to as Jesus' inauguration or declaration of mission. The inclusion of the additional verse from Isaiah signals very clearly the way in which Jesus will be portrayed throughout this particular gospel. The gospel of Luke is characterised by the focus of Jesus' mission on the outcast; the oppressed; the downtrodden.

The gospel of Luke is often described as a gospel of compassion. Throughout the gospel we see Jesus enact the verses from Isaiah - bringing good news to the lowliest of society; inviting the least to share in the reign of God. In fact, having read from the scripture, Jesus' very simple homily on the text is 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen'. Jesus declares himself to be acting out and fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah. This short extract from Isaiah that Jesus adopted as his own 'mission statement' is indeed a mission statement for all Christian people. This is what we too are called to do.

JAN 31:- **CRESWICK**
Reader: Carol V
Leaders: n/a
Comm'tor: Neil D
Sp Minister/s: Judy-Brian-Alastair
Welc'/Offer'y: Pat McK-Angeline T
Remote: Lois K
Counters: Mick G-Pete G
Cleaning this week: Doreen S

Collections: Both weekly collections occur after the General Intercessions.
 Last week: 1st (Priest Support) - \$259.90; 2nd (PG/Parish) \$150.00

THANK YOU!

Liana and Mark, parents of Isla Shaw, baptised last Sunday at St A's, wish to thank Fr Gary and St A's parishioners for "**what was the most beautiful, special baptism for Isla. It was really such a wonderful celebration!**"

Jubilee Year Of Mercy Parish Prayer

Lord Jesus You are loving and Your mercy endures forever. You are compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, overflowing with love and faithfulness. Turn to me and have mercy on me, forgive my sins and grant me the Grace to live the life worthy of Your praise, We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, Our Lord Amen.

MERCY CONNECT

Volunteer mentors needed for supporting refugee students in Ballarat schools. Approx 3 hrs per week. Ongoing support & training, beginning Feb 2016. Ph Pauline Barton (co-ordinator) on **0417 624 330** Applications close Feb 5, 2016

PRAYER FOR RAIN

God of compassion, we wait and watch for your gift of rain to water the soil and make the barren land come alive again. We wait and watch for the gift of salvation to free us from hatred, greed and fear so that we may live again as people of faith, hope and love. We make this prayer in the name of our Saviour who comes to be with us. **Amen.**

WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK

Official UN Week: 1st week of Feb
Ballarat Interfaith Network & Ballarat City Council have organised an INTERFAITH FLAG RAISING EVENT
Thursday, February 4, 11am, opposite Ballarat Town Hall - Victoria Square

IN AID of local ASYLUM SEEKERS and ASRC

LIVE, ACOUSTIC MUSIC @ The Brewery, \$15 adults, children FREE
 107 Yuille St, Buninyong. Sunday, JANUARY 31, from 2.30pm

The Funeral Ministry Team of our Parish exists to support parishioners and friends who lose loved ones through death. We seek to provide comfort, consolation and support to family members during these difficult times. Upon being informed of the death of a parishioner or former parishioner, the Funeral Ministry coordinator contacts the deceased's nearest of kin or family representative. The grieving family are assisted in the planning of the funeral liturgy, The Mass of Christian Burial. Appropriate Scripture readings and liturgical songs are suggested. Our goal is to help make this significant liturgy as personal as possible for the mourners. We work within the guidelines and directives of the Diocese of Ballarat concerning Funeral Liturgies. **Fr Gary Jones PP.**

If you are interested in helping out please contact Fr Gary or Leah in the Parish office.

Funerals and Lay Peoples' Role: The usual minister for funeral rites is the priest or deacon (obviously, if there is a requiem Mass, the priest must preside). However, if there is no priest or deacon, a lay person may lead the vigil and the rite of committal at the graveside or crematorium, and may also be deputed by the bishop to lead the funeral liturgy itself. Lay people may also be involved in preparing the rites with the bereaved and in the pastoral care surrounding the funeral. Lay leadership of funeral rites, in whole or in part, is a necessity in the Diocese of Ballarat because funerals commonly arise at short notice. The parish priest may not be available and a substitute priest sometimes cannot be found. One can imagine this occurring regularly in country parishes when the priest is away from town, but even in city parishes it may sometimes be necessary for lay people to assist with the vigil and committal rites. When the entire funeral is led by a lay person, it may be possible for the priest to celebrate a requiem Mass for the deceased and the family on the morning of the funeral or on another day before or after the funeral rites. **Fr Gary Jones PP**