

# 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: Tuesday** 10.00 am — 2.00 pm  
**Friday** 10.00 am — 2.00 pm



**4th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Year C**

**31st January 2016**

**Presbytery:** 62 Splatt Street Swan Hill 3585

**Phone:** 50324144 **Fax:** 50324989

**Email:** swanhill@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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: 5.30 pm

Wednesday: 10.00 am

Thursday: 10.00 am

Friday: 12.00 Noon

11.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

**Anniversaries: We remember** Henry Loporati, Jan Storer, Murray Drummond, Maria Peluso, Dorothy Patching, Francis Foott, Jack & Kath Curran, Peter O'Connor, Laura McNamara, Marianna Costa.

**Prayers for the Sick:** Monica Nolen, Moira Higgins, Erin Coburn, Brooke Kennedy, Brian Mulcahy, Ronald Duryea, Dorothy Burgess, Jarrod Crimmins, Theresa Sydes. Jude Lewis. Eugene Aiello, Betty Burns.

**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 prophet Jeremiah

In the days of Josiah, the word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying,

'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you came to birth I consecrated you; I have appointed you as prophet to the nations. So now brace yourself for action. Stand up and tell them all I command you. Do not be dismayed at their presence, or in their presence I will make you dismayed. I, for my part, today will make you into a fortified city, a pillar of iron, and a wall of bronze to confront all this land: the kings of Judah, its princes, its priests and the country people. They will fight against you but shall not overcome you, for I am with you to deliver you – it is the Lord who speaks.'

*The Word of the Lord*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 70:1-6. 15. 17. R. v.15

I will sing of your salvation.

In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame. In your justice rescue me, free me: pay heed to me and save me.

Be a rock where I can take refuge, a mighty stronghold to save me; for you are my rock, my stronghold. Free me from the hand of the wicked.

It is you, O Lord, who are my hope, my trust, O Lord, since my youth. On you I have leaned from my birth, from my mother's womb you have been my help.

My lips will tell of your justice and day by day of your help. O God, you have taught me from my youth and I proclaim your wonders still.

I will sing of your salvation.

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

Be ambitious for the higher gifts. And I am going to show you a way that is better than any of them.

If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything, and if I have faith in all its fullness, to move mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my body to burn it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever.

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes.

Love does not come to an end. But if there are gifts of prophecy, the time will come when they must fail; or the gift of languages, it will not continue for ever; and knowledge – for this, too, the time will come when it must fail. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophesying is imperfect; but once perfection comes, all imperfect things will disappear. When I was a child, I used to talk like a child, and think like a child, and argue like a child, but now I am a man, all childish ways are put behind me. Now we are seeing a dim reflection in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as fully as I am known.

In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

*The Word of the Lord*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Lk 4:18

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

**READINGS NEXT WEEK 7th February 2016**

Isaiah 6:1-8 ; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 ; Luke 5:1-11

**STATE OF THE NATION**

<b>Presbytery Account:</b> (1st Basket)	<b>\$ 886.20</b>
<i>(Support of Priests &amp; Bishop)</i>	
<b>Parish Account:</b> (2nd Basket)	<b>\$ 1,889.00</b>
<i>(Support of the Parish)</i>	
<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$ 1,889.00</b>
<b>Credit Card</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
<b>Direct Debit</b>	<b>\$ 130.00</b>
<b>Loose Plate</b>	<b>\$ 76.25</b>
	<b>\$ 2,095.25</b>

Thank-You!

**MINISTRIES for Next Weekend 7th February 2016**

**Ministers of the Word:**

**Vigil:** Kerry Hoare, John Hoare

**10.30am.** Frank Fogarty, Raelene O'Halloran

**Ministers of Communion:**

**Vigil:** Josh Klabbbers, Mary Kennedy, Kerry Hoare, Kath Hogan.

**10.30am.** Ken Smith, Jocelyn Ingram, Damien Kelly, Dorothy Bishop, Brenda Ford.

**Music: Vigil:** Joe Taverna

**10.30am** Felicity and Greg Lane

**Presentation of Gifts:**

**Vigil:** Bev McCartney, Claire Billing.

**10.30am** Maureen Morris, Barbara Patterson.

**Counters** Brenda Ford, Pina Rosaia

**Through Baptism** we welcome into our faith community Tom Ransley, son of Simon and Janine.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Joseph Taverna for being honoured as Swan Hill's Australia Day Citizen of the Year for 2015 in recognition of his tireless and seamless efforts in numerous ways caring for the people and community of Swan Hill. Well done Joe! A most worthy recipient.

**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

**Divine Mercy** Devotions this Monday 1.45 pm –3.00 pm.

**CWL** meeting this Tuesday 2nd February at 1.30pm in the small parish meeting room. New members welcome.

**Finance Committee** meeting this Thursday at 5.00 pm.

**Cuppa after Mass NEXT Sunday**

**ASH WEDNESDAY** is next week the 10th February. Mass times will be Swan Hill, 12.00 noon and 5.45 pm

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

**'Rule breaking' Jesus is too much for mob to handle**

Poor Jesus didn't have a chance! He broke all of the rules. When he began to preach he had just come in from a long fast in the desert looking like a starved animal. He addressed his own people and told them the truth about themselves. They answered "Who does this fellow think he is?" He challenged them to change their ways and to become responsible for themselves. So what did the people do? They eventually took him out and crucified him. But even in death Jesus did not keep the rules...When it comes to prayer, there are lots of methods and devotions that promise health and wealth and freedom from suffering in this life as well as everlasting happiness in the next. Are these feeding into our needs and promising us illusionary redemption? The story of Jesus is of a man whose prayer for an easy escape was not answered. "Would that this chalice could pass from me." It did not. It was through facing the reality of suffering that he came to Resurrection.

*This is an extract from a reflection on the Gospel by Father Gerry Pierse, CSsR.*

**Misericordiae Vultus – The Face of Mercy**

Pope Francis officially began the Jubilee Year of Mercy on December 8, 2015. It also was the Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception and coincided with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council. In par 4 of the Bull of Indiction (a letter to the Church, explaining the rationale for the special, year-long celebration), he explained why he chose this date:

"The Church feels a great need to keep this event alive...The walls which too long had made the Church a kind of fortress were torn down and the time had come to proclaim the Gospel in a new way...We recall the poignant words of St John XXIII when, opening the Council, he indicated the path to follow: 'Now the Bride of Christ wishes to use the medicine of mercy rather than taking up the arms of severity...' (Par 4)

**Words of Wisdom**

Speaking at the opening of a Holy Door in a homeless shelter before Christmas, Pope Francis said: "*The way of salvation is not to be found through luxury, vanity, riches, or power.*"

*We are all sinners, but God heals us with an abundance of grace, mercy and tenderness,*

Paul Miki, a member of a noble Japanese family, was educated by Jesuits and joined the order as a scholastic in 1580.

However, the acting governor of Japan feared the influx and proliferation of Christian missionaries, as part of a conquest ploy by Spain and Portugal.

He had Paul and 25 of his companions taken to a hill overlooking Nagasaki Bay, bound to crosses and executed Feb. 6, 1597, in front of several thousand witnesses. The place was named Hill of the Martyrs and is marked with a stone cross and 26 trees.

The Church now celebrates the feast day of these martyrs on February 6.

**NB OFFICE HOURS for February and March will be Tuesday 10.00am –2.00pm and Friday 10.00am - 2.00pm**