

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



**Third Sunday in Lent
Year C
28th February 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

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



Anniversaries: We remember: Daniel Wright, Dot Francis, Frank Salvo, Mitchell Donohue, Vincent and Danny Lavey, Antonio & Vincenza Fazzalori, Irene Hoare

Prayers for the Sick: Monica Nolen, Erin Coburn, Jude Lewis, Dorothy Burgess, Brooke Kennedy, Brian Mulcahy, Ronald Duryea, Jarrod Crimmins, 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 Exodus

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am' he answered. 'Come no nearer' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.' *The Word of the Lord*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 102:1-4, 6-8, 11. R. v.8

The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his

holy name. My soul give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.

The Lord does deeds of justice, gives judgement for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses and his deeds to Israel's sons.

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. The Lord is kind and merciful.

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

I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert.

These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer.

All this happened to them as a warning and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

The Word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt 4:17

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

READINGS NEXT WEEK 6th March 2016

Jos 5:9-12 ; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

STATE OF THE NATION

Presbytery Account: (1st Basket) (Support of Priests & Bishop)		\$ 838.60
Parish Account: (2nd Basket) (Support of the Parish)	Envelopes	\$ 1,399.00
	Credit Card	\$ 0.00
	Direct Debit	\$ 100.00
	Loose Plate	\$ 104.10
		\$ 1,603.10
Project Compassion: to date		\$ 298.80

Thank-You!

MINISTRIES for Next Weekend 6th March 2016

Ministers of the Word:

Vigil: Bill Moar & Kaye Farrell

10.30am. Jordan Wong and Elizabeth Milazzo

Ministers of Communion:

Vigil: Ursula Phyland, Josh Klabbers, Michelle Haeusler, Marilyn Foley

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

Music: Vigil: Joe Taverna

10.30am John Farrell

Presentation of Gifts:

Vigil: Helen Lewis, Margaret Magee

10.30am Frank & Margaret Fogarty

Counters Ken Smith & Peter Coady

Wedding Bells: Congratulations to Kelly Pheng and Rocco Infantino married this weekend.

Through Baptism we welcome into our faith family Lenny Coleman, son of Leigh and Jacinta.

Father Marcello will be on retreat this week with the Bishop and priests of the diocese.

CWL meeting this Tuesday 1st March at 1.30 pm in the Parish Meeting Room. All welcome

World Day of Prayer this Friday 4th March at the Uniting Church, 10.00 am – 11.00 am followed by morning tea. All welcome.

Stations of the Cross during Lent: Friday nights at 7.00pm

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 section 6 of the *Bull of Indiction*, Pope Francis quotes several extracts from the Psalms, which focus on the quality of mercy. This is the final extract from the Psalms that he includes, in this section.

"He heals the broken-hearted, and binds up their wounds...the Lord lifts up the down-trodden, he casts the wicked to the ground." (Psalm 147:3, 6)

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION – As we settle into our Lenten journey, the first two readings of today's liturgy remind us of our destination. And the gospel reading brings us the advice of Jesus to be alert, ready to enjoy the blessings that can be ours at the end of the journey.

Another Lent! How many Lenten journeys have we made – and with what profit to show? How many Lents will we see in the future? Luke - sensitive to the fullness of the Good News brought by the Saviour – links Jesus' call to conversion with the parable of the barren fig tree. As we ponder Lent's call to a more generous Christian commitment, we do so in the presence of the compassionate and patient God revealed to us in Jesus Christ: 'Leave it; it may bear fruit'.

From a homily on the Gospel by Fr John Thornhill sm



Dominic (36) lives with his wife and four children in the Jiwaka Province of Papua New Guinea (PNG), where generational poverty has led to many challenges, including inequality, alcohol abuse and violence.

Dominic admits that he too faced some of these challenges. But when Caritas Australia and local partner, the Sisters of Notre Dame, established the Community Conversations program, he saw an opportunity to create change. "I was inspired to hear of the different issues highlighted and processes used to come up with solutions" Dominic explains.

Through regular Community Conversations training sessions, Dominic learnt communication and problem-solving skills that helped him lead open, respectful community discussions in his village. By empowering everyone to voice concerns and play a role in community decisions, Dominic's village has achieved greater peace and increased respect, as well as reduced violence and alcohol abuse. Now, Dominic's community has a chance to thrive and create a better future for themselves.

"When we start to realise we have power to stand independent to change ourselves and help ourselves, we feel liberated." says Dominic. "I am most proud of the positive changes I am witnessing. I pass my big thanks and pray God will bless our supporters in Australia."

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help empower communities in Papua New Guinea to lead their own development and create more harmonious futures.

"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." Hebrews 13:16