

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



**Fourth Sunday in Lent
Year C
6th March 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 **10.30 am** Swan Hill

Mass This Week

Monday: 10.00 am Funeral Liturgy Ted Corrie

Tuesday 5.30 pm

Wednesday 10.00 am

Alcheringa 2.00pm

Thursday 10.00 am

Friday Exposition 11.00 am

12.00 noon.

Recently deceased : We commend to God Ted Corrie , John (Jack) O'Connor , Helen Fleming, Maureen O'Toole .

Anniversaries: We remember: John O'Brien, Helen Harris, Peter Gaylor, Francesco Fazzalori, Giovanni & Sarina Edera, Libby Dunstone, Maria & Rosario Guastlegname, Kevin Mikes, Maria Basile, Jack Howley, Tony DeMaio, Jack O'Connor.

Prayers for the Sick: Monica Nolen, Erin Coburn, Jude Lewis, Brian Mulcahy, Dorothy Burgess, Brooke Kennedy, 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

FIRST READING from the book of Joshua

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 33:2-7. R. v.9

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad.

Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us praise his name. I sought the Lord and he answered me; from all my terrors he set me free.

Look towards him and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed. This poor man called; the Lord heard him and rescued him from all his distress.

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it

is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

The Word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Lk 15:18

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I will rise and go to my Father and tell him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Misericordiae Vultus -The Face of Mercy from Pope Francis

- St John Paul II pushed for a more urgent proclamation and witness to mercy in the contemporary world: "It is dictated by love for man, for all that is human and which, according to the intuitions of many of our contemporaries, is threatened by an immense danger. The mystery of Christ ... obliges me to proclaim mercy as God's merciful love, revealed in that same mystery of Christ. It likewise obliges me to have recourse to that mercy and to beg for it at this difficult, critical phase of the history of the Church and of the world." This teaching is more pertinent than ever and deserves to be taken up once again in this Holy Year. Let us listen to his words once more: "The Church lives an authentic life when she professes and proclaims mercy - the most stupendous attribute of the Creator and of the Redeemer - and when she brings people close to the sources of the Saviour's mercy, of which she is the trustee and dispenser." [Misericordiae Vultus, No.11

NO CUPPA AFTER MASS TODAY due to the heat

READINGS NEXT WEEK 13th March 2016

Is 43:16-21; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11

STATE OF THE NATION

Presbytery Account: (1st Basket) <i>(Support of Priests & Bishop)</i>		\$ 858.80
Parish Account: (2nd Basket) <i>(Support of the Parish)</i>	Envelopes	\$ 1,037.00
	Credit Card	\$ 0.00
	Direct Debit	\$ 110.00
	Loose Plate	\$ 165.55
		\$ 1,312.55
Project Compassion: to date		\$ 637.25

Thank-You!

MINISTRIES for Next Weekend 13th March 2016

Ministers of the Word:

Vigil: Margaret Hoare, Mary Nolen
10.30am. Frank Fogarty, Raelene O'Halloran.

Ministers of Communion:

Vigil: Margaret Derham, Teresa McRae, Dick & Rene Devereux
10.30am. Rona Bookham, Yvonne Richardson, Dorothy Bishop
Raelene O'Halloran, Margaret Foott

Music: Vigil: Joe Taverna
10.30am Brian Wood

Presentation of Gifts:

Vigil: Jim & Elaine Elliott
10.30am Joseph Chand

Counters Vin Dullard, Kieran Brennan

Through Baptism we welcome into our faith family Clara Knudsen daughter of Stefan and Natalie.

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.



First Australian Evangeline lives in a remote community that faces many ongoing challenges. She had a limited vision for her future until three years ago, when she started working at the Djilpin Arts Ghunmarn Culture Centre, a community-owned venture supported by Caritas Australia. Today Evangeline is flourishing, with new skills and a passion for the preservation and promotion of her Aboriginal culture.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help First Australians in remote communities of Australia gain new skills and renewed passion to preserve and celebrate traditional culture..

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

In Pope Francis' words, "Lent is a time for drawing near to Christ," You will be helping to empower the world's poorest children, women and men with vital learning and renewed hope.

GOSPEL REFLECTION - Parent-child conflict is part of life and every parent's dream is to be able to deal effectively and lovingly with children behaving badly, including adult or adolescent children. Unfailing forgiveness and arms open to welcome back wayward sons and daughters: that is the way proposed in today's gospel story.

There is no room in the hearts of Jesus' critics for such forgiveness: upright law-abiding people should exclude "sinners" from their company. In a first-century Jewish context, it was easy enough to be a sinner. Whole groups of people, depending on their occupation, fell into that category simply because they failed to observe one or more of the 618 prescriptions of the law. Jesus' response to critics is the story of a parent both of whose sons lose their way for a time. One son finds his way back to the centre of family life and the support of the wider community while the other more law-abiding son seems to place himself outside the family circle, holding on to the resentment he feels at his brother's return.

We need to fill in the gaps in the story: there may be daughters as well as sons; there is surely another parent, a mother who shares the heartache of her husband when their younger son requests his one-third share of the estate. To make such a request in this context is unthinkable: it is tantamount to wishing his parents were dead. To accede to such a request is likewise unthinkable, even shameful in that society. The head of a patriarchal household who acts thus stands to lose honour, status, and authority. [It is important to note that the older brother is not disadvantaged: he is assured of a two-thirds share according to the law as well as the ongoing love and support of his family, as his father makes clear].

When things turn out disastrously in the distant country, the younger man shows no real interest in a restored relationship with his family. Rather, he devises a plan that will put food in his empty belly-not a particularly lofty motive for returning home. He thinks up a speech about sharing the status of the family employees. Thanks to the expansive heart of an amazingly compassionate parent, he does not have to deliver the speech he has prepared, but is gathered into the heart of family and local community. That's how it needs to be with us. It is certainly how it is with our merciful God. We can abandon, even betray; our motives for returning home can be very mixed; we may even be like the unwelcoming older brother; but the God of mercy and compassion is always there for us. *Sr Veronica Lawson*

Variety Concert and afternoon tea, **TODAY** Anglican Church to raise funds for Hamlin Fistula Hospital, Ethiopia. Cost Adults \$5, students \$2

New Roster for all Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Offerory Procession and Counting available at back of church.

ROSARY in the PARK next Saturday 12th March, 10.00am at the rotunda, all welcome, BYO chair.

More than a cuppa meet on Monday 14th March at 1.30 pm.