

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



Fifth Sunday in Lent
Year C
13th 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

Thursday 10.30 am Anointing of the Sick and Elderly
Friday 11.00 am Exposition
1.00 pm Funeral (Liturgy) Robert Bradley



Recently deceased : We commend to God Mary Hall, Barry Ridsdale (Ballarat East), Robert Bradley, Antonio Bulzom

Anniversaries: We remember: Francesco Fazzalori, Sr Kathleen Nolan, Frank Dillon, John Thomas Anderson, Harry Morris, Mary Nolen, Mary Safe, Guisepppe Leonardi, Roy Marsolino.

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 unless otherwise advised.

FIRST READING from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army, which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick: No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before.

See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it? Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds. The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink. The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 125. R. v.3

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs.

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap.

They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing; they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves.

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

SECOND READING from St Paul to the Philippians

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus. *The Word of the Lord*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jl 2:12-13

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

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Anointing Mass Thursday 17th March at **10.30 am. (Kindly note the change in time from afternoon to morning)** A plate with something to share afterwards in the Parish Function Centre will be appreciated.

Communal Celebration of Reconciliation Tuesday 22nd March at 7.00 pm

ROSTERS FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER ARE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH. IF YOU CAN ASSIST PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME DOWN.

READINGS NEXT WEEK 20th March 2016

Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11 ; Lk 22:14 – 23:56

STATE OF THE NATION

Presbytery Account: (1st Basket) <i>(Support of Priests & Bishop)</i>		\$ 784.40
Parish Account: (2nd Basket) <i>(Support of the Parish)</i>	Envelopes	\$ 1,143.00
	Credit Card	\$ 0.00
	Direct Debit	\$ 80.00
	Loose Plate	\$ 65.55
		\$ 1,288.55
Project Compassion: to date		\$ 742.25

Thank-You!

MINISTRIES for Next Weekend 20 March 2016

Ministers of the Word:

Vigil: Michelle Haeusler, Glenda Klabbers

10.30am. Deanne Dacey

Ministers of Communion:

Vigil: Margaret Hoare, Bev McCartney, Helen Lewis, Cathy Page.

10.30am. Sam Colombo, Robert Jager, Margaret Foott, Elizabeth Milazzo, Yvonne Richardson, Josie Renda

Music: Vigil: Felicity And Greg Lane

10.30am The Choir and Alison Wright

Presentation of Gifts:

Vigil: Valma Barry & Nola Grant.

10.30am Margaret Learmonth and Helen Tuntar

Counters Ralph Hoare & Felicity Power

Through Baptism we welcome into our faith family William Saxby and his parents Eddie and Bonnie Jo , for Aaliyah McCallum and her parents Jackson and Georgia and for Emma Cox and her parents Phillip and Carla

More than a cuppa meets this Monday 14th March at 1.30 pm.

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.

AMENDED ROSTER for SUNDAY Special Ministers of the Eucharist , Vigil Mass was correct on last weeks.

Before enrolling in the Mondulkiri Community Health Program, supported by Caritas Australia, young midwife Sreymom lacked the practical experience necessary to safely assist childbirth. Now, with the skills and knowledge gained through the program, Sreymom is a trusted midwife who is helping to improve the health of indigenous women and children in her region.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help healthcare workers in isolated areas of Cambodia gain vital training to improve the health and wellbeing of the region's indigenous women and children. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.



GOSPEL REFLECTION On Ash Wednesday, we were reminded to turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel. Turning away from sin means different things for

different people. Some are sinners like the woman in today's gospel who finds forgiveness. Others are like her critics: not even recognising that they are sinners, they seem less inclined to turn away from sin. Every woman in first century Palestine was the possession of a man: of her father initially; and then of her husband or successive husbands. Slaves, both men and women, were the property of the head of the patriarchal household and were expected to be sexually available to the master who was also husband and father. Even free women had fewer choices than men in regard to such matters as choice of life partners and social contact outside the family. In the context of Second Temple Judaism, a woman's sexual liaison with another man was a sin against her husband. Her shame was of less consequence than her husband's loss of status and honour.

We are told nothing of the circumstances of the woman "taken in adultery". We do not even know her name. We know that she could not have been alone in her adultery: there is a man involved who is at least as guilty as the woman. But only the woman is "brought" to Jesus in the public arena, as a spectacle for the assembled crowd. Ironically, the lawyers have little interest in the woman or in her fate. Their interest is in Jesus. They want to test him and catch him out on his attitude to the Law of Moses. They objectify the woman in the interests of their legal debate. In other words, Jesus is the one on trial in this public setting, and the woman is no more than a dispensable object in the process, a means to a sinister end. Her life is of little concern to her accusers who ask Jesus for a legal opinion on her case. Should the full force of the law be exercised? Should she be stoned to death? Jesus does not dignify their manipulation with a response. Rather, he takes away their power over the woman by bending down and writing with his finger on the ground. What does he write? We can never have an answer to that question. Her accusers keep asking Jesus to provide a ruling. He subverts their ploy by confronting them with their own sinfulness: let the one without sin cast the first stone. They move off one by one and the woman is finally accorded the dignity of responding for herself. She is freed from the burden of condemnation. She can move forward with a strong sense of her worth and the realisation that she has encountered the mercy of God in the person of Jesus. *Sr Veronica Lawson*

Misericordiae Vultus -The Face of Mercy from Pope Francis

The Church is commissioned to announce the mercy of God, the beating heart of the Gospel, which in its own way must penetrate the heart and mind of every person. The Spouse of Christ must pattern her behaviour after the Son of God who went out to everyone without exception. In the present day, as the Church is charged with the task of the new evangelization, the theme of mercy needs to be proposed again and again with new enthusiasm and renewed pastoral action. It is absolutely essential for the Church and for the credibility of her message that she herself live and testify to mercy. Her language and her gestures must transmit mercy, so as to touch the hearts of all people and inspire them once more to find the road that leads to the Father. The Church's first truth is the love of Christ. The Church makes herself a servant of this love and mediates it to all people: a love that forgives and expresses itself in the gift of one's self.

Consequently, wherever the Church is present, the mercy of the Father must be evident. In our parishes, communities, associations and movements, in a word, wherever there are Christians, everyone should find an oasis of mercy. *[Misericordiae Vultus, No. 12]*