



Parish Newsletter - March 6th 2016

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Email: daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Priest – Fr Gary Jones gary.jones@ballarat.catholic.org.au

St Michael's Parish Primary School- Principal: Mr Chris Pollard.

St. Joseph's Blampied

Mass Celebrated first & third Saturday (Sat vigil 6.30pm)

Diocesan Website: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au



Anniversaries of Death: Alma Dwyer, Mary Barden,

5th Sunday Lent - March 13th

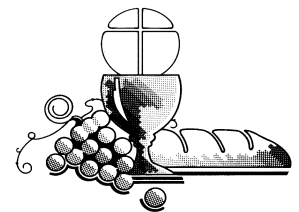
Welcome: B Daghish, J Egan **Reader:** U Kroeger **Commentator:** M Yanner

Ministers: C Jenkins, C Bartholomew, L Mulraney **Offertory:** Leonard Family

Counters: Mar 6 (team 1) L & M Righetti

Mar 13 (team 2) J Egan, C Collins

Sacristy: R Thannhauser



Prayer of Pope Francis for the Jubilee

Lord Jesus Christ,

you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father,
and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.
Show us your face and we will be saved.

You are the visible face of the invisible Father,
of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy:
let the Church be your visible face in the world.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing,
so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord,
and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor,

We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of
Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and
ever.
Amen.

Last Week's Collections: Two collections are taken up after the Prayers of the Faithful. The 1st Collection is the Presbytery Collection – this collection is for the support of the local priest, with 13% going towards the support of the retired priests and the Bishop. The 2nd Collection is the Planned Giving (envelopes) for the support of Parish endeavours and structures. 1st Collection (Presbytery – supporting our Priest) \$380.10

2nd Collection (Planned Giving): \$146.00

Gospel Reflection

Today's gospel is perhaps the most famous of the parables that are unique to the Gospel of Luke. Sadly, what is often overlooked is the accusation aimed at Jesus that leads into the telling of this and two other shorter parables (the Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin – Lk 15:4-10). The Pharisees and scribes accuse Jesus of what they regard to be abhorrent behaviour in relation to the purity code that dominated 1st Century life: not only does Jesus welcome sinners, he actually shares meals with them. This would be absolutely scandalous behaviour. Who you ate with was a reflection of who you were. To eat with sinners and the unclean effectively made you a sinner and unclean.

The three parables Jesus tells in response to this accusation are all about the lost being found and great rejoicing over the finding of the lost sheep, lost coin, or lost son. The Gospel of Luke – more so than any of the others – has a very strong focus on the message of Jesus being addressed to and welcomed by the outcasts and marginalised; in other words, the 'lost' of his society. Rather than being embarrassed by the accusation that he ate with sinners, Jesus would have worn those words like a badge of honour. It was exactly what his mission and ministry was all about – being one with the poor; the outcast; the sinful; the lost. The three parables, and particularly the parable of the lost son, demonstrate the joy of a loving God when one who was lost returns. The extravagant welcome the prodigal son receives from his father is symbolic of the extravagance of God's love that will be poured out for any 'sinner' who returns to God.

Sacrament of Forgiveness - Communal Rite of Reconciliation

St Peter's Daylesford, 7pm on Wednesday March 16th.

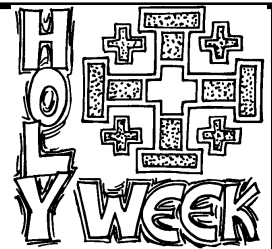
St Augustine's Creswick, 7pm on Tuesday March 15th.

Anointing Masses

St Augustine's Creswick, 11am, Wednesday March 9th, Followed by lunch—all welcome.

St Peter's Daylesford, 11am, Thursday March 10th, Followed by lunch—all welcome.

Celebration of the Sacrament of First Reconciliation will held on – March 23rd Wednesday 4.00pm St Peter's Church. This Sacrament will be received by Grade 4 students who are currently preparing for this.



Diocesan News: *Mass of the Oils: Monday, March 21, 2016* The Mass of the Oils will be celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 6.30pm on Monday, March 21, 2016. This Mass is a celebration of the whole Church of the Diocese of Ballarat. We celebrate the unity and ministry of the ordained priests in the midst of the entire priestly people of God of the Diocese. This Mass also has special significance for those who will use the blessed oils in 2016 – the sick, those to be baptised and confirmed.

Walk for Justice for Refugees 2016 Palm Sunday, March 20, 2016 at 2.00pm at the State Library, cnr Swanston and La Trobe Streets, Melbourne.

Anyone who is able to assist with the Easter Ministries, particularly Easter Saturday, please let Leah know so that Rosters can be put together. Thank you

Easter Masses:

Holy Thursday - 7.00pm March 24

Good Friday - 3.00pm March 25

Easter Saturday - 8.00pm March 26

Easter Sunday - 10.30am March 27