

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



The Ascension of the Lord

Year C

8th May 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: **6.30 pm** Swan Hill Sunday: **10.30 am** Swan Hill

Mass this Week

Wednesday 10.00 am
2.00 pm Alcheringa Anointing of the Sick & Elderly
Thursday 10.00 am
Friday 12.00 Noon
11.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Anniversaries: We remember: Salvatore Mangiameli, Haydee Phyland, Ignatius & Patrick Willocks, Domenico & Antonetta Di Nicola, Pat Lange, Jeff Learmonth.

Prayers for the Sick: Pat Chisholm, Monica Nolen, Erin Coburn, Jude Lewis, Brian Mulcahy, Brooke Kennedy, Ronald Duryea, Jarrod Crimmins.

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 Acts of the Apostles

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is,' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.' *The Word of the Lord*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 46:2-3, 6-7, 8-9. R. v.6

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord. Alleluia.

All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth.

God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with

trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise.

God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne.

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord. Alleluia.

SECOND READING from the letter to the Hebrews

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

In other words, brothers, through the blood of Jesus we have the right to enter the sanctuary, by a new way which he has opened for us, a living opening through the curtain, that is to say, his body. And we have the supreme high priest over all the house of God. So as we go in, let us be sincere in heart and filled with faith, our minds sprinkled and free from any trace of bad conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us keep firm in the hope we profess, because the one who made the promise is faithful. *The Word of the Lord*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt 28:19, 20

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

READINGS NEXT WEEK 15th May 2016

Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

STATE OF THE NATION

Presbytery Account: (1st Basket)	\$ 895.15
Easter Offerings: (to date)	\$ 1,786.15
<i>(Support of Priests & Bishop)</i>	
Parish Account: (2nd Basket)	Envelopes \$ 1,243.00
<i>(Support of the Parish)</i>	Credit Card \$ 0.00
	Direct Debit \$ 120.00
	Loose Plate \$ 109.95
	\$ 1,472.95

Thank-You!

MINISTRIES for Next Weekend 15th May 2016

Ministers of the Word:

Vigil: Margaret Hoare . Mary Nolen

10.30am. Confirmation

Ministers of Communion:

Vigil: Josh Klabbers, Mary Kennedy, Kerry Hoare, Kath Hoga.

10.30am. Frank Fogarty, Connie Alderuccio, Rona Bookham, Elma Balsarini, Ken Smith , Jocelyn Ingram

Music: Vigil: Joe Taverna

10.30am Confirmation– St Mary's School

Presentation of Gifts:

Vigil: Confirmation

10.30am Confirmation

Counters Claire Billing, Joe Taverna

TO ALL MOTHERS MAY YOU HAVE A BLESSED AND HAPPY MOTHERS DAY.

A Prayer for Mothers

Gracious God, you chose Mary to be the mother of your son Jesus Christ.

As you blessed her through her Son, bless all mothers. Grant them patience, wisdom, strength and joy, so that they may care for and love the children you have given to them and placed in their care.

Loving Father in heaven, we thank you for the mothers you have given us, whose commitment is so precious that it can never be measured. May we see your loving hand behind them and guiding them.

We pray for those mothers who fear or who are in broken relationships, and ask you to bless them with your own special love and the gifts.

We pray for children and fathers, that they may appreciate, love and support their mothers and wives.

CWL will be holding a **cake and produce stall** after the 10.30 am Mass **TODAY**. Please support our fundraising, thank you. Anyone interested in learning more about the CWL organization, please check the website— www.cwlvicww.org

NEXT SUNDAY AT THE 10.30am MASS, CHILDREN FROM THE PARISH WILL BE CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION. Please remember the children in your prayers.

Over 60's meet this Monday at 1.30pm

Rosary In the Park, this Saturday 14th May. 10.00 am at the Rotunda, BYO chair.

Josephite Associate meeting, Thursday 12th May at 2.00 pm in the parish centre. Thank you to all the knitters for their contributions for our recent knit in. \$400 has been raised and sent to the Fred Hollows Foundation.

Memorial Mass for Bishop Mulkearns Bishop Paul Bird invites priests and people to join him at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat on Monday, May 16 at 12.05 pm to celebrate a Memorial Mass for Bishop Ronald Mulkearns.

Annual Mass Count: The Mass Count for 2016 will be conducted at all Masses celebrated over 4 weeks beginning with this weekend of **30th April /1st May** and concluding on the weekend of **21st/22nd May**. Collectors as the collections are taken up kindly take a count and let John O'Sullivan or Rob Jager know so that a total can be collated for each Mass each weekend.

Results last weekend:	Vigil	125	
	8.30 am	20	(Nyah West)
	10.30 am	<u>284</u>	
	Total	429	

Mens Weekend St Mary's Parish Hamilton, 30th/31st July 2016. The purpose of menALIVE is to bring men together, to renew their faith in God, and to encourage them to become an active force within the Church. See Flyer on notice board at back of church.

GOSPEL REFLECTION The Feast of the Ascension is really a kind of liminal moment in the Easter season. It is a time between times; a moment when we have left one place, but have not yet arrived at a second. While the narratives that describe the Ascension fit well into the unfolding story of redemption, the feast celebrates the exaltation of Jesus. The readings allow us to focus on this theological point while we commemorate a turning point in the life of the church. We do this by considering the enthronement of Christ in the heavens and the new body of Christ on earth.

Many of the Easter accounts have directed our attention to the appearances of Jesus which were intended to strengthen the Christians' belief in his bodily resurrection.

Today we stand awestruck, watching Jesus ascend into the clouds of heaven, there to be enthroned at the right hand of God. Today is a day to be overwhelmed by the reality of the divinity of the one whom we have known in his humanity.

Christ who ascended into heaven in his body carries on what he began on earth through his new body, the community of believers. He teaches through its apostles and evangelists. He ministers through its prophets and pastors. We have not been left alone; we have his power, the same power with which he performed marvels when he walked the earth. We have not been left alone; we have each other. Together we make up the new body of Christ. *Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSS*