

## Parish Newsletter - July 10th 2016

Telephone: Parish Office: 5348 2026 / Presbytery: 5348 3911

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Parish Priest – Fr Gary Jones [gary.jones@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:gary.jones@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

Parish Administration: Leah Monaghan

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

### St. Joseph's Church Blampied

Lay Led Assembly (2nd Sunday of the Month) 9.00am

Vigil Mass Sat 6.00pm (4th Sunday of the Month)

Diocesan Website: [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)



#### RECENT DEATH:

**ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH:** Ang Courtot, Elizabeth Carman, Stephen Sallai, Val Sealey



#### Sick List:

Pat Rixon,  
Clare Dixon

### REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSS

It was not enough to want to follow Jesus and to be committed to him. Discipleship also demanded the ability to make shifts in understanding in order to recognise what following Jesus required. He did not merely repeat the religious tradition, he re-interpreted it. We too are called to understand the words and deeds of Jesus, but we must understand what they mean for us today. Today we need to make comparable shifts of understanding in order to bring the message of Jesus into conversation with the contemporary world.

Perhaps one of the most exciting and, at the same time, unnerving aspects of our religious tradition is its nonconforming nature. We think that we finally understand the way God is working in our lives and then something happens that seems to turn our understanding inside out. We are told to love our neighbour and when we ask who that might be we are told a story that turns the question around. 'Who is my neighbor?' or 'Whom should I love?' becomes 'Who acts as a neighbour?' or 'Who shows love?'

The same Sunday that we reflect on the paradoxical nature of the ways of God, we are told that the law of God, which appears to be so lofty, is really very close to us, in our mouths and in our hearts. This too is an unusual claim. Following the law results in a way of living that is inspired and informed by love, love of God and love of others, even, and perhaps especially, those whom we are not inclined to love.

### *God of the Holy Dreaming*

*God of Holy Dreaming*

*Great Creator Spirit*

*From the dawn of creation you have given your children*

*The good things of Mother Earth*

*You spoke and the gum tree grew*

*In the vast deserts and dense forests, in the cities,*

*At the water's edge, creation sings your praise.*

*Your presence endures as the rock at the heart of our land.*

*When Jesus hung on the tree*

*You heard the cries of all Your people*

*And became one with Your wounded ones*

*The convicts, the hunted and the dispossessed.*

*The sunrise of Your Son*

*Coloured the earth anew*

*And bathed it in glorious hope.*

*In Jesus we have been reconciled to You,*

*To each other and to Your whole creation.*

*Lead us on great Spirit*

*As we gather at this special place*

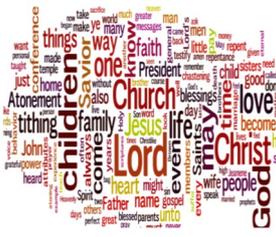
*Located on land where ancestors of long ago*

*Gathered for work, play and praise*

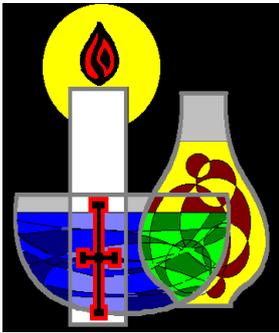
*Enable us to walk together in trust from the hurt of the past*

*Into the full day which has dawned in Jesus Christ.*

*Amen.*



**Last Week's Collections:** *Two collections are taken up after the Prayers of the Faithful. The 1<sup>st</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection is the Planned Giving (envelopes) for the support of Parish endeavours and structures.*  
1st Collection (Presbytery – supporting our Priest) \$251.50  
2nd Collection (Planned Giving): \$95.00



**Liturgy Formation 2016 / Launch of Let the Children Come**  
The Diocesan Liturgical Commission will be presenting Liturgy Formation sessions in the diocese in 2016 on **Funeral Ministry**, Formation for Lectors and the launch of the sacramental program, “Let the Children Come” - July 24 at Birchip Parish, August 7 at Ararat Parish and August 21 at Hamilton Parish. As this day includes the launch of “Let the Children Come”, all involved in the Parish Sacramental Programs are encouraged to attend.

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND**

*Invest in your most precious asset..... Your Marriage!*

Forget life’s tensions and interruptions and rekindle the closeness, intimacy, love and romance that brought you together. Recharge your relationship batteries and explore the precious nature of your marriage, allowing you both to share your feelings, hopes and dreams with each other in ways that normal, daily living tends to inhibit.

*There is no group sharing. Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.*

**2016 Melbourne weekend dates : 19-21 Aug, 11-13 Nov**

*Starts 7pm on Friday. Ends 5pm Sunday. Accommodation and all meals provided.*

Information/Bookings: PH: Marianne & Marcel (03) 9733 0997

Email: [vicbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:vicbookings@wwme.org.au) Website: [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au)



**St Michael's School Fete Sunday October 30th.**

Trash and Treasure stall donations welcome—next time you are having a clean out. Please note we can not accept electrical items.

Second hand books and clothes also welcome.

**Roster - Sunday 17th July**

**Reader:** U Kroeger **Comm:** M Yanner **Ministers:** C Bartholomew, L Mulraney, M Bruce

**Offertory:** Leonard Family **Counters July 10 (team 3)** D Leonard, M Bolton, V & L Hayes, C & P Jenkins **July 17 (Team 4)** D & P Doherty

**A reminder that Fr Gary will be away from June 26th— July 22nd. There will be Mass on Friday July 22 on his return.**

