

**ST MARY'S PARISH SWAN HILL  
BULLETIN**

**Priest:** Fr. Marcello Colasante PP

**Parish Secretary:** Glenda Klabbers

**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



**21st Sunday in Ordinary time**

**Year C**

**21st August 2016**

**Presbytery:** 62 Splatt Street Swan Hill 3585

**Phone:** 50324144 **Fax:** 50324989

**Email:** swanhill@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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

**NB:** No Mass at Lake Boga next Sunday

**Mass this Week:**

Tuesday: 5.30 pm

Wednesday: 10.00 am

Thursday: 10.00 am

Friday: 12.00 Noon

**Intentions:**

Tuesday: Nancy Salerno Anniversary

Wednesday: Frank Bonanno Anniversary

Thursday: Rosa DeGregorio Anniversary

Friday: Vince Morris Anniversary

**Anniversaries:** Vince Morris, John Curran, Salva Marotta, Julie Foott, Barry Kelly, George Egan, Doss Pearson, Bryan Grumley, Alice McTaggart, Rosa DeGregorio, Frank Bonanno, Concetto Carpinteri

**One Month Remembrance:** Antonino Carpinteri

**Prayers for the Sick:** Donna Murchie, Rita Tuohey, Margaret Sinclair, Monica Nolen, Erin Coburn, Jude Lewis, Ronald Duryea, Brian Mulcahy, Brooke Kennedy, Jarrod Crimmins, Lourdes Stanislaus {Fr. Neville's mother}

**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

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Go out to all the world and tell the Good News. Alleluia!

O praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!

Strong is his love for us; he is faithful for ever.

Go out to all the world and tell the Good News. Alleluia!

**SECOND READING** from the letter to the Hebrews

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the

path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

The Word of the Lord

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *Jn 14:6*

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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**NEXT** Sunday 28th August the children of the Parish will be receiving the Sacrament of First Eucharist at the 10.30 am Mass

STATE OF THE NATION

<b>Presbytery Account:</b> (1st Basket) (Support of Priests & Bishop)		<b>\$ 694.00</b>
<b>Parish Account:</b> (2nd Basket) (Support of the Parish)	<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$ 1,613.50</b>
	<b>Credit Card</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
	<b>Direct Debit</b>	<b>\$ 20.00</b>
	<b>Loose Plate</b>	<b>\$ 67.80</b>
		<b>\$ 1,701.30</b>

Thank-You!

MINISTRIES for Next Weekend 28th August 2016

**Ministers of the Word:**

**Vigil** John & Kaye Farrell

**10.30 am First Eucharist**

**Ministers of Communion:**

**Vigil** Josh Klabbers, Mary Kennedy, Kerry Hoare, Kath Hogan

**10.30 am** Dorothy Bishop, Raelene O'Halloran, Damien Kelly, Brenda Ford, Graeme Learmonth, Jim Meehan

**Music Ministry: Vigil** Joe Taverna

**10.30am** St Mary's School Yr 4 Eucharist

**Presentation of Gifts:**

**Vigil** Shane & Julie Noonan.

**10.30am First Eucharist**

**Counters:** Ken Smith Peter Coady

**Congratulations to the children receiving the Sacrament of First Eucharist this weekend:**



Remi Alderuccio, Taneisha Aston, Amalie Bell, Bailey Brigante, Evita Caruso, Otto Conlan, Eliza Everett, Ethan Fitzpatrick, William Gilchrist, Mia Garner, Wil Hawkins, Tess Meney, Wentworth Mitton, Lara Noble, Harry Scott, Xavier Sherlock, Olivia Stead, Brooke Thomson, Ella Vroljiks, Anna Whiting, Tyson Zucco.



**We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism:** Millie Steicke daughter of Kyle and Anne. May she grow in faith in her loving family and our Catholic Community

**Fr Shane Mackinlay's Silver Jubilee** Fr Shane Mackinlay will celebrate his 25th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood on 6 September this year. The Bungaree and Gordon parishes will celebrate this event with Fr Shane at 10.30am Mass on Sunday 11 September, at St Michael's, Bungaree, followed by lunch in the Parish Centre; and at 10.30am Mass on Sunday 18 September, at St Brigid's, Ballan. All welcome .

**Stewardship Program:** Thank you to all those who collected their Weekly Stewardship Envelope Sets last weekend. Should you contribute on a Monthly, Quarterly, Half-Yearly or Yearly basis then your envelopes will be included with the Annual Statements of Giving which will be generated next month.

**GOSPEL REFLECTION:** Jesus and Satan have an argument as to who is the better computer programmer. This goes on for a few hours until they agree to hold a contest with God as the judge.

They set themselves before their computers and begin. They type furiously for several hours, lines of code streaming up and down the screen. Seconds before the end of the competition, a bolt of lightning strikes, taking out the electricity. Moments later, the power is restored, and God announces that the contest is over. He asks Satan to show what he has come up with.

Satan is visibly upset, and cries, 'I have nothing! I lost it all when the power went out.' 'Very well, then,' says God, 'let us see if Jesus fared any better.' Jesus enters a command, and the screen comes to life in vivid display, the voices of an angelic choir pour forth from the speakers.

Satan is astonished. He stutters, 'But how? I lost everything, yet Jesus' program is intact! How did he do it?' God looks up over his glasses and chuckles, 'Ah you see, Jesus saves.'

Salvation has, rightly, always been the big issue. Who was going to make it, how it was going to happen and when would Christ return in glory have captured the imagination of each generation of believers. The roots of this thinking can be found in today's Gospel. The earliest Christians, especially the Gentiles, saw that the Jews had been given every opportunity for salvation. They were the Chosen people. They had the Law and the Prophets. They were looking for the Messiah. Jesus, however, did not come as they expected or act as they hoped, so they rejected him and his followers. Within a generation after Jesus' death the Jews were persecuting the Christians and expelling them from the synagogues. The Christians took comfort from saying that in the salvation race the Jews might have started as the favourites, but they had missed the start and were now coming last.

This way of thinking had a strong effect on the Church. While we have always believed in the mercy and love of God, at different times we have been hostile to other religions, other denominations and the secular world. We have often needed to express this in absolute terms about who was going to be saved and, more importantly, who was not!

The Second Vatican Council, however, reflected on the Church's experience of working side by side with religious people and secular humanists throughout the world who were as committed as we are to justice, love and freedom. In the 'Declaration on the relationship of the Church to non-Christian religions', the bishops thought more generously about how God has a relationship with all people who in turn relate to God, even if they do not name it in the same way we are able to. The Council did not resile from believing that Jesus is the way to the Father, but they also affirmed that God can work in an infinite number of ways to assist people to salvation. It is Church teaching now that our relationship to all people who share the best of our values must be characterised by acceptance, collaboration, dialogue and charity.

This does not make salvation any less important. It just clarifies for us that it is God, not us, who does the saving and the judging. Christian salvation marks us out as people who know who we are following, where we are going, how we are getting there and why this world, and the next, matters to us. Salvation gives our lives meaning, direction and purpose.

The way we live out this salvation should be irresistible to others. As the folk hymn sings, 'They will know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.' *Richard Leonard SJ*