

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



22nd Sunday in Ordinary time

Year C

28th 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: 8.30 am Nyah West 10.30 am Swan Hill

Mass this Week:

Wednesday: 10.00 am

Thursday: 10.00 am

Friday: 12.00 Noon
11.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Intentions:

Wednesday: Cathy Charleson (Anniversary)

Thursday: Rosa DeGregorio (Anniversary)

Friday: Vince Morris (Anniversary)

Recently Deceased: We commend to God Donna Murchie, Amedeo Silverii, Paolo Castelli.

Anniversaries: We remember Chase Power, Cathy Charleson, John Walsh, Salvatore Castelli, Juliet Meehan, Joan Willox, Les O'Halloran, Alice Ross, Mary Maher, Vincenzo Berlinger, Jack Cleary, Vi Power, Thomas & Margaret Nolan, Bernie Magee, Kathleen Magee, Lila Moar, Andrina Moar.

Prayers for the Sick: Rita Tuohy, Margaret Sinclair, Monica Nolan, 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 book of Ecclesiasticus

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver. The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble. There is no cure for the proud man's malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him. The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 67:4-7. 10-11. R. v.11

God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

The just shall rejoice at the presence of God, they shall exult and dance for joy. O sing to the Lord, make music to his name; rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence.

Father of the orphan, defender of the widow, such is God in his holy place. God gives the lonely a home to live in; he leads the prisoners forth into freedom.

You poured down, O God, a generous rain: when your people were starved you gave them new life. It was there that your people found a home, prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor.

God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

SECOND READING from the letter to the Hebrews

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the

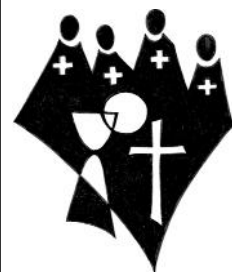
heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

The Word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt 11:29

Alleluia, alleluia! Take my yoke upon you; learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart. Alleluia!
repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND Collection for Sick and Retired Priests – next weekend



Creating a secure retirement future for the priests of the diocese is a duty and care in which we can all participate. Eighteen retired priests are currently supported by this Fund. Some live privately, some are retired in units in Ballarat or elsewhere, others live in supported accommodation. The funding required for these

commitments is ongoing. Thanks to your generosity, this collection has raised nearly 1.7 million dollars since it began in 1991, including nearly \$54,000 last year. Along with the priests' own contribution of approximately \$38,000 per year, this annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our sick and retired clergy.

A credit card facility is available for your convenience, and contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible.

**CARING FOR THOSE WHO CARED FOR US –
THE CHURCH COMMUNITY'S RESPONSIBILITY**

READINGS NEXT WEEK 4th September 2016

Wis 9:13-18; Phlm 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33

STATE OF THE NATION

Presbytery Account: (1st Basket) (Support of Priests & Bishop)		\$ 1,127.55
Parish Account: (2nd Basket) (Support of the Parish)	Envelopes	\$ 1,331.00
	Credit Card	\$ 0.00
	Direct Debit	\$ 0.00
	Loose Plate	\$ 151.10
		\$ 1,482.10

Thank-You!

MINISTRIES for Next Weekend 4th Sept 2016

Ministers of the Word:

Vigil Margaret Hoare, Mary Nolan

10.30 am St Mary's School

Ministers of Communion:

Vigil Ursula Phyland, Josh Klabbers, Marilyn Foley, Michelle Haeusler

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

Music Ministry: Vigil Brenda Grace
10.30am St Mary's School

Presentation of Gifts:

Vigil Kerry Hoare & Family

10.30am St Mary's School

Counters: Vin & Kerry Dullard, Kieran Brennan



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

Bridie Curran, Francesco Orlando, Parker Condely, Charlotte Perry, Rebecca Mullan, Georgie Cameron, Christian Anderson, Dakota Meehan, William Rush, Keian Curthoy-Davies,

Luke Pastore, Tyson Zucco, Alexa Neill, Rhys Neill, Colby Elford, Anthony Caccaviello.

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.

CUPPA AFTER MASS NEXT SUNDAY

YEAR OF MERCY PRAYER

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. 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, proclaim liberty to the captives and the oppressed, and re-store sight to the blind. We ask this through the Intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit forever and ever

GOSPEL REFLECTION One of the most basic human responses to anything new is to ask, 'What's in it for me?' We would like to think our motives are pure and our interests are for others, but there is often a nagging voice reminding us that selfish desires are never far from the surface. That said, we all know heroic individuals who care for sick spouses or children, who go to faraway places to give those in need their time and talent or who stay at home and do the same in their local neighbourhood. That's what makes them heroic. There is nothing in it for them; they are drawn by bonds of love, faith or by a desire to create a better world.

There are at least two ways we can hear Jesus' words in today's gospel. The first is as a strong challenge about social justice.

National boundaries mean nothing to God. All people are equal in God's sight, so the banquet Jesus refers to has implications for how we share the riches with which we have been blessed with others in the world. The poor, crippled, lame and blind of our world are the majority of God's children who mainly live in the Third World. They are our brothers and sisters. At the banquet of life Christians are called to give priority to the needs of these people, not only because they have a just claim on our resources, but also because they can't do anything for us in return. They purify our motives. When we link our concern, time, talent, career, and money with these children of God, we tame that nagging question, 'What's in it for me?' with a firm reply, 'Very little – except God's justice.'

A somewhat comforting angle to take on this gospel is more psychological. Many of us, when we come to God at any time, try to dress ourselves up to look better than we are! This gospel reminds us that at Christ's banquet, however, it's not the poised and perfect who are most welcome, but the vulnerable. What does this mean for us who pray and celebrate the Eucharist? That God embraces those parts of us that are in greatest need of his love and healing – where we are poor, crippled, blind and lame.

We know this it is true because if Jesus is telling us to host the poor and broken at our tables, then as the perfect host he must do exactly the same with us at this Eucharistic meal as well.

When I was a child we referred to our finest clothes as our 'Sunday best' and we wore them proudly to Mass. Not only did we look good, we acted the part as well. Everyone was on best behaviour for the entire parish to see. Now, I have nothing against dressing with care and behaving well at Mass; it can be a sign of our self-respect, our courtesy toward others and our devotion to God. But God cares more about what's going on inside us. We can never hide from God, especially at the Eucharist because we have been invited to be here, not as we would like to be, but as we are.

May this Eucharist – this taste of heaven's justice – give us renewed courage to think beyond our self and national interests, and show to others the hospitality of God that has been lavished on us. May we discover that where faith is concerned, the answer to 'What's in it for me?' is 'More than we can ever hope or imagine.' by Richard Leonard SJ