

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



26th Sunday in Ordinary time

Year C

25th September 2016

Presbytery: 62 Splatt Street Swan Hill 3585

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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

Weekday Prayer Opportunities.

Fri: 11.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament concluding with Prayer of the Church

This Sunday we welcome Fr Bill Melican to the Parish and thank him for filling in whilst Fr Marcello is away.

Recently Deceased: We commend to God Sr Sheila O'Callaghan FMA (Ireland), Sr Barbara May CSB

Anniversaries: We remember Roger Hogan, Emily Fletcher, Stephen Walsh, Lila Smith, Frances Mineo, Bill O'Loughlin, Lucy Amitrano, Dom Violi, Antonio & Carmela Pati, Mary Boulton, Margaret McLoughlan, Dominico Colombo, David Lewis, Leo Phyland, Leo Deola, Sara Massara.

Prayers for the Sick: Moira Higgins, Rita Tuohey, Monica Nolen, Erin Coburn, Jude Lewis, Ronald Duryea, Brian Mulcahy, Brooke Kennedy, 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

FIRST READING from the prophet Amos

The almighty Lord says this:

Woe to those ensconced so snugly in Zion and to those who feel so safe on the mountain of Samaria. Lying on ivory beds and sprawling on their divans, they dine on lambs from the flock, and stall-fattened veal; they bawl to the sound of the harp, they invent new instruments of music like David, they drink wine by the bowlful, and use the finest oil for anointing themselves, but about the ruin of Joseph they do not care at all. That is why they will be the first to be exiled; the sprawlers' revelry is over.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 145:6-10. R. v.2

Praise the Lord, my soul! Alleluia!

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free.

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down. It is the Lord who loves the just, the Lord, who protects the stranger.

He upholds the widow and orphan but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age.

Praise the Lord, my soul! Alleluia!

SECOND READING from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy

As a man dedicated to God, you must aim to be saintly and religious, filled with faith and love, patient and gentle. Fight the good fight of the faith and win for yourself the eternal life to which you were called when you made your profession and spoke up for the truth in front

of many witnesses. Now, before God the source of all life and before Jesus Christ, who spoke up as a witness for the truth in front of Pontius Pilate, I put to you the duty of doing all that you have been told, with no faults or failures, until the Appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,

who at the due time will be revealed by God, the blessed and only Ruler of all, the King of kings and the Lord of lords, who alone is immortal, whose home is in inaccessible light, whom no man has seen and no man is able to see: to him be honour and everlasting power. Amen. The Word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 2 Cor 8:9

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty. Alleluia!

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

READINGS NEXT WEEK 2nd October 2016

Hab 1:2-3; 2:2-4; 2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14; Lk 17:5-10

STATE OF THE NATION

| | | |
|--|---------------------|--------------------|
| Presbytery Account: (1st Basket) | | \$ 808.00 |
| <i>(Support of Priests & Bishop)</i> | | |
| Parish Account: (2nd Basket) | Envelopes | \$ 3,242.00 |
| <i>(Support of the Parish)</i> | | |
| | Credit Card | \$ 0.00 |
| | Direct Debit | \$ 50.00 |
| | Loose Plate | \$ 68.60 |
| | | \$ 3,360.60 |
| Ballarat Clergy Support Fund: (to date) | | \$ 1,427.00 |

Thank-You!

MINISTRIES for Next Weekend 2nd Oct 2016

Ministers of the Word:

Vigil Teresa McRae. Helen Hogan

10.30 am Ken Smith. Lorraine Hogan.

Ministers of Communion:

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

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

Music Ministry:

Vigil Joe Taverna

10.30am John Farrell

Presentation of Gifts:

Vigil Michelle Haeusler, Glenda Klabbers

10.30am Ken & Glenys Smith

Counters: Brenda Ford, Pina Rosaia

BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND

Collection for Sick and Retired Priests

Last year our parish contributed \$2002.50 to this collection, which raised nearly \$54,000 throughout the Diocese. The collection in our parish this year has raised **\$1,427.00** to date. The Ballarat Clergy Support Fund relies on your generosity to enable it to continue supporting our sick and retired priests. You are still able to contribute, by using the special envelope provided, or in an envelope marked "Ballarat Clergy Support Fund"..



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

This Sunday we celebrate **SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY**. This year the Australian Bishop's Social Justice Statement is titled: 'A Place at the Table: Social Justice in an ageing society'. The statement celebrates the value and dignity of older people in Australian life. It challenges us to recognise their significant contribution to society and emphasises that this contribution should not be valued in mere economic terms. The Statement calls for justice for those who are most vulnerable and warns about a view of older people as burdensome or dispensable.

For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website—www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au or call 02 83063499

Praise and Worship Evening Friday 30th September at 7.00 pm. All welcome. Ladies a plate please. Further details contact Leona Grant on 0417968902.

CUPPA AFTER MASS NEXT SUNDAY

Divine Mercy Monday 3rd October 1.45pm 3.00pm

CWL Meet Tuesday 4th October at 1.30pm. All welcome

Beyond the Year of Mercy A retreat afternoon, which is open to all adults, is to be held at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Ballarat on Sunday, October 30, 2016 from 1.30pm concluding with 5.00pm Mass. The afternoon will be led by Sr Veronica Lawson, a Sister of Mercy from Ballarat, biblical scholar and author of "Blessings of Mercy." Registrations through the Cathedral Parish Office ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au or phone 5331 2933

Grief to Grace - Healing the Wounds of Abuse

A spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held March 26 - 31, 2017. To request an application contact Anne by emailing info@griegtograceaus.org.au or phone 0407704539

GOSPEL REFLECTION Both the reading from the prophet Amos and the gospel narrative pointedly condemn the lifestyles of the rich. It is not wealth itself, but the complacency and the disregard for others that it too frequently generates, that is denounced. Biblical covenant is a communal concept. It emerges from a society that insists on mutual responsibility. Today's readings invite us to consider the covenant bond we have with others. How do we measure up?

The fundamental image of God reveals mercy and compassion. However, we cannot disregard the fact of judgment. Amos pronounces a woe against his own people; Abraham declares that there is an unbridgeable chasm between the saved and the condemned. Paul speaks here of the appearance of the Lord Jesus Christ who will bring judgment when he comes. Judgment will be determined not primarily in terms of our obedience to law, but in view of our fidelity to covenant commitment.

Righteousness is a covenant term. It is a quality of God that is shared with us by means of our covenant bond. Paul admonishes Timothy, and us, to pursue this righteousness, along with devotion, faith, love, patience and gentleness. Some of these virtues focus on our relationship with God, but most of them are directed toward our relationship with others. Those who are less fortunate are our sisters and brothers. If we take lightly our covenant obligations and allow them to languish at our gates, we will have only ourselves to blame when we find ourselves facing the harsh judgment of God.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSS

