

# ST MARY'S PARISH SWAN HILL BULLETIN

**Priest:** Fr. Marcello Colasante PP

**Parish Secretary:** Glenda Klabbbers

**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



## 1st Sunday of Advent

### 27th November 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: **7.00 pm** Swan Hill  
Sunday: **8.30 am** Nyah West **10.30 am** Swan Hill

#### Mass this Week:

Tuesday: 5.30 pm  
Wednesday: 10.00 am  
Thursday: 10.00 am  
Friday: 1.30 pm Funeral Michael Power  
11.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

#### Intentions:

Tuesday: Mary O'Connor, Mick O'Connor and Mary Elliott Anniversaries  
Wednesday: Frank Richardson Anniversary  
Thursday: Sr. Sheila O'Callaghan RSM (Ireland) R.I.P  
Friday: Adrian & Bernadette Power and Family

**Recently Deceased: We commend to God** Michael Power, Brendan (Joe) Hogan

**Anniversaries: We remember** Brian Templeton, Peter Healy, Frank Richardson, Tom Stutley, John Billing, Henrietta Tat, Bruce Gook, Gerald Walsh, Veronica Power, John, Jim & Tom Turner.

**Prayers for the Sick:** Moira Higgins, Rita Tuohey, Monica Nolen, Erin Coburn, Jude Lewis, Ronald Duryea, Brian Mulcahy, Brooke Kennedy, Jarrod Crimmins, Sr Cheryl Bourke PBVM, Mandy Pearce Lovell, Eileen Watson, Patricia Mikes

**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 vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.' He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9. R. see v.1.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.' And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name. There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David.

For the peace of Jerusalem pray: 'Peace be to your homes! May peace reign in your walls, in your palaces, peace!'

For love of my brethren and friends I say: 'Peace upon you!' For love of the house of the Lord I will ask for your good.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

#### SECOND READING from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under the cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

#### GOSPEL reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

The Gospel of the Lord



**READINGS NEXT WEEK 4th December 2016**

Is 11:1-10; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

**STATE OF THE NATION**

<b>Presbytery Account:</b> (1st Basket)		<b>\$ 752.55</b>
<i>(Support of Priests &amp; Bishop)</i>		
<b>Parish Account:</b> (2nd Basket)	<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$ 1,535.00</b>
<i>(Support of the Parish)</i>		
	<b>Credit Card</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
	<b>Direct Debit</b>	<b>\$ 70.00</b>
	<b>Loose Plate</b>	<b>\$ 93.85</b>
		<b>\$ 1,698.75</b>

**Thank-You!**

**MINISTRIES for Next Weekend 4th December 2016**

**Ministers of the Word:**

**Vigil** Michelle Haeusler & Barb Patterson

**10.30 am** Jordan Wong & Elizabeth Milazzo

**Ministers of Communion:**

**Vigil :** Claire Billing, Chris Hoare, Gladys Bryent, Lyn Stutley

**10.30 am** Frank Fogarty, Connie Alderuccio, Ken Smith,

Rona Bookham, Elma Balsarini, Jocelyn Ingram.

**Music Ministry:**

**Vigil** Joe Taverna

**10.30am** Bernice Murray & Alison Wright

**Presentation of Gifts:**

**Vigil** Michelle Haeusler & Glenda Klabbers

**10.30am** Jim & Rona Bookham.

**Counters:** Vin Dullard & Kieran Brennan

**Majellan Christmas Cards for sale**, \$6.50 a set of 10, available from the Parish Office Tuesdays or Fridays, 10.30am to 1.30pm. Also available for sale are **2017**

**Columban Calendars** for \$10.00

**Baptism Preparation.** The last program for this year will be held on Monday 5th December at 7pm. Parents of children being baptised in December, January or February should attend. .

**2017 Josephite Calendars** are now available. Cost \$8.00. Contact Helen Dean or Barbara Patterson.

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** St Mary's Parish Swan Hill is looking for a person to take on the volunteer role of Parish Safeguarding Officer, responsible for ensuring that activities within the parish comply with all Child Safety Standards. For further information please contact the Parish Office ph 50324144

**Carols by Candlelight:** An invitation is extended to anyone wishing to be part of the choir for this Annual Event in Riverside Park. Choir Practices have been arranged as follows:

Monday 21st November 7.00—8.30 pm

Monday 28th November 7.00—8.30 pm

Sunday 4th December 2.00—3.30 pm

Monday 5th December 7.00—8.30 pm

Where: Grain Shed Church of Christ 2 King St

Expressions of interest can be made to Tanya Forrest at

**tjforrest@hotmail.com**

**DAILY RANDOM ACTS OF CHRISTMAS KINDNESS**

- \* Make a card for an elderly neighbour
- \* Pick up litter in your street, local park
- \* Make Christmas biscuits for a neighbour
- \* Donate toys to your favourite charity



**2016 National Church Life Survey. This weekend Our Parish** will complete the 2016 National Church Life Survey. In lieu of homily this weekend please complete your answers to the questions contained in the survey using a pen or pencil that are in the pews. Approximately 20 minutes will be allowed for completion and the surveys will be collected prior to the General Intercessions.

The purpose of the NCLS is to help churches to be more vital and effective. Through the survey our churchgoers will be able to give their thoughts, opinions and experiences of church life.

The survey provides valuable feedback that enables leaders at local, regional and national levels to evaluate and plan for the future.

After 25 years of experience you can be assured that this Christian mission research with proven academic credibility will lead to practical application in churches. Our church's contribution will form an important part of the national snapshot of the whole Australian Church.

**GOSPEL REFLECTION:** Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSS

We may be accustomed to think of Advent as the time when we prepare for the coming of God, but the readings also train our attention on our own journey to God. We see this most clearly in this first Sunday with readings that tell us the identity of the pilgrims, the destination toward which they travel, and the way of life that is required of them on their journey. As the Vatican Council has proclaimed: We are a pilgrim people.

Both the reading from Isaiah and the psalm response speak of the pilgrimage to the mountain of the Lord, the place where God can be found. Although the psalm speaks about Jerusalem and refers to the temple there, the broader theological significance of the mountain, the city and the temple is one and the same. They represent the presence of God in our midst, and this presence is the goal of our striving. There are clear directions about how we are to live while we are on this pilgrimage to God. In Isaiah we learn that we must put away our instruments of violence and hatred, our swords and our spears. Lest we pick them up again, we are told to convert them into life-producing implements, into ploughs and pruning hooks. Paul exhorts us to put away our deeds of darkness and self-indulgence and to clothe ourselves instead in the deeds of Jesus Christ. Matthew points out the need for alertness, attentiveness, a disposition that is open to a change of heart

**ADVENT**

**A:** Awaiting the Coming of Christ

**D:** Dawn of a new beginning

**V:** Virgin will conceive and give birth to a Son – Emmanuel

**E:** Emmanuel-a name which means "God with Us"

**N:** Nativity-the day Christ was born

**T:** Temple - the place where Jesus worshiped.