

# 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



## CHRISTMAS 2016

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

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

**Phone:** 50324144

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

The Parish of Swan Hill comprises the Church Communities of:

St Marys Swan Hill,  
St Joseph's Nyah West,  
St Joseph's Lake Boga

**Mass Next Weekend: 31st Dec/ 1st Jan**

**Vigil: 7.00 pm** Swan Hill **Sunday: 10.30 am** Swan Hill

**Mass during the Week:**

Friday: 12.00 noon Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

**Intentions:**

Friday: Jane Hinton Anniversary



**Recently Deceased: We commend to God:** Kevin David Carty (Mackay), Shannon Wallace, Kaye Anderson.

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Arthur O'Bree, Charlie Taverna, George Livingston, Columbia Cutri

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

**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 *Is 9:1-7*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt and consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 95:1-3, 11-13 R. Lk 2:11*

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth. O sing to the Lord, bless his name.

Proclaim his help day by day, tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples.

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad, let the sea and all within it thunder praise, let the land and all it bears rejoice, all the trees of the wood shout for joy at the presence of the Lord for he comes,

he comes to rule the earth. With justice he will rule the world, he will judge the peoples with his truth.

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord

### SECOND READING *Ti 2:11-14*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

The Word of the Lord

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Lk 2:10-11*

Alleluia, alleluia! Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!



## Diocesan Christmas Appeal 2016

Our Christmas Appeal is one way by which the diocese can respond to the many communities around the world who turn to us for assistance. Our response is an indication of our solidarity with people in need, such as those affected by natural disasters.

In commending the Christmas Appeal to you, I am aware that there are many times throughout the year when you are invited to respond to appeals for very worthy causes.

Last year's appeal which raised **\$48,000** was distributed to a number of communities including the following:

Loreto-Vietnam Australia Programme	5,000
Columban Mission Society work in Peru	5,000
Refugees in the Middle East	5,000
Catholic Education in Myanmar	5,000
Caritas Australia	5,000
Catholic Mission	5,000
Nazareth House Ballarat	5,000
Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference	
Aboriginal Ministry	5,000
Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking	
In Humans (ACRATH)	2,000
3BA Ballarat Christmas in July Appeal	2,000
Edmund Rice Centre	2,000
Exodus Community, Wendouree West	2,000

Yours sincerely in Christ,



+ Paul Bird CSsR  
Bishop of Ballarat

**All loose money placed in the second basket passed around tonight and this morning will go towards this Appeal**

May the joy of the Angels be yours.

May you be men and women of goodwill.

May you be open hearted like the shepherds.

May the courage and fidelity of Jesus be yours.

May you bring Christ into our world as Mary did.

May the Christ Child bring peace into your families, homes and your world.

May the blessings, holiness and wonder of Christmas surround you all as you spend time in the company of family, friends, neighbors and visitors to Swan Hill.

To all who exercised ministry in any way throughout 2016 many thanks for your generosity and commitment. For your kindness, care and love expressed either by word, card or gift at this time,

Yours in Christ, Fr. Marcello

### Readings for 1st Jan 2017

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

## ST MARY'S MINISTRIES 1st January 2017

### Ministers of the Word:

Vigil Volunteers Please

10.30 Volunteers Please

### Ministers of Communion:

Vigil Volunteers Please

10.30am Volunteers Please

Music: Vigil Joe Taverna

10.30am Brian Wood

### Presentation of Gifts:

Vigil Helen Lewis & Margaret Magee

10.30am Jim & Helen Meehan

Counters Brenda Ford. Pina Rosaia

### STATE OF THE NATION

Presbytery Account: ( 1st Basket ) \$ 783.60

Christmas Offerings: to date \$ 100.00

( Support of Priests & Bishop )

Parish Account: ( 2nd Basket ) Envelopes \$ 1,136.00

( Support of Parish ) Direct Debit \$ 20.00

Credit Cards \$ 0.00

Loose Money \$ 79.90

\$ 1,235.90

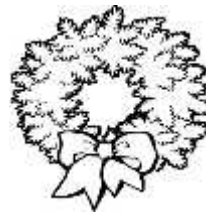
THANK YOU!

### FEAST DAYS OF THE WEEK

Dec 26

St Stephen, the First Martyr

Stephen was one of the first group of seven deacons to be ordained in the early Church. Their role was to take care of the daily distribution of food to those in need. Falsely accused, Stephen was stoned to death but died praying for his executioners. See Acts of the Apostles Ch.7 for an account of Stephen's speech before the Sanhedrin and for an account of his death.



Dear God,

Thank you for all my gifts....

Even the ones I don't appreciate

Amen

Dear God, remind me  
that the greatest  
gifts are wrapped in  
people not paper.

This Christmas remember  
to thank God for sending  
Jesus and to laugh with  
your family.