

# The Parish Pump

The Weekly Bulletin for St John's, Dennington and St Pius X, West Warrnambool  
Priest: Father Michael Linehan      Presbytery: 76 Morriss Road, Warrnambool  
Phone: 5562 5033      email: warrnamboolwest@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
Postal address: c/- Post Office, Dennington Vic 3280. www.ballarat.catholic.org.au  
**1 January 2017**      **Mary, Mother of God**

## Weekday Masses

Monday 2 January is a public holiday in Victoria this year, so Mass at St Pius X on Monday morning will be at 10 a.m. For the rest of the week, the weekday Mass timetable will be as usual...see the furthest column of this bulletin.

## Columban Calendars

There are still some Columban Calendars for 2017 available in the church foyer at \$8 each, a discount on the recommended retail price. Your purchase will help Columban Missions and St Vincent de Paul.

## Here are some things that you might not know about 1 January:

1. 1 January is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. A solemnity is a liturgical celebration that is different from feast days and memorials. All three honour the Saints or special aspects of Jesus and Mary, but solemnities are the highest degree of celebration and are reserved for the most important mysteries of the Faith. Solemnities include Easter, Pentecost, the Immaculate Conception, the main titles of Jesus, and Saints that are of particular importance in salvation history.

2. The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, is celebrated on the Octave of Christmas. Octave comes from the Latin word for "eight," and is the name for the ancient Church practice of celebrating Christmas for eight days. The tradition dates back to the Old Testament, when the Hebrew people observed many of their feasts for a period of eight days, e.g. the "Feast of Tabernacles" and the "Dedication of the Temple." Later, the Roman Emperor Constantine added the celebration of the dedication of basilicas to this tradition. In the past, there were several feasts that were celebrated with octaves; since Vatican Council II, only Easter and Christmas have octaves. The Church granted a period of eight days, so that families could more fully take in the importance of these liturgical feasts. With Christmas bearing the importance that it does, it's no wonder the Church allows us eight days of special contemplation.

3. Mother of God, or in Greek *Theotokos*, is the highest title ever to be given to Mary. She was given this title during the Council of Ephesus in 431 AD. The Council taught that Jesus' humanity and divinity could not be separated, and therefore Mary rightly deserved the title Mother of God. Mary brought Jesus into the world, and so she truly is God's mother, since Jesus is the second person of the Trinity.

4. The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, is the oldest feast of Mary celebrated in the Catholic Church.  
*from Marge Fenelon in aleteia.com*



## Recent Death

Claire Ryan

## Anniversary

Richard O'Keefe

## Collections at Christmas

Presbytery: \$1,468.30

Christmas Offerings: \$678.50

Bishop's Appeal: \$1,865.60

Parish Planned Giving Program figures will be published as a monthly total as usual. We also expect to publish the annual report on parish income and expenditure before the end of January.

## New Defibrillator

Following the recent course on its use, a new defibrillator has been installed in the church foyer adjacent to the notice board where other Warrnambool parish weekly bulletins are displayed. Our thanks are extended to the donors and to the parishioners who volunteered to learn how the appliance should be used...as well, of course, to those who installed it on the wall.

## Mass Rosters Next Week Readers

6 p.m. P. McGennisken  
10 a.m. M. Woodward

## Prayers of the Faithful

6 p.m. C. Reid  
10 a.m. L. Lane

## Ministers of Communion

6 p.m. L. O'Keefe  
Peter Haberfield  
N. Russell  
N. Stapleton  
J. Dean  
10 a.m. B. Ermacora  
A. Mills  
S. Malone  
M. Healey  
T. Patterson

## Local Sunday Masses

Sat.	6 p.m.	St Pius X
	6 p.m.	OLHC
Sun.	8:30 a.m.	St Joseph's
	9 a.m.	OLHC
	10 a.m.	St Pius X
	10:30 a.m.	St Joseph's
	10:30 a.m.	Allansford (1st, 3rd & 5th: Mass) Purnim (1st, 3rd & 5th lay-led)
	11 a.m.	Purnim (2nd & 4th Mass) St Joseph's
	11 a.m.	
	6 p.m.	

## Weekday Masses

Monday 2:	10 a.m. St Pius X
Tuesday 3:	7:30 p.m. St Pius X
Wednesday 4:	10 a.m. Dennington
Thursday 5:	10 a.m. Mercy Place
Friday 6:	9:15 a.m. St Pius X
Saturday 7:	10 a.m. St Pius X

## Confessions

Saturday mornings after Mass or when you can find Father Michael: no appointment necessary.