

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



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

22nd January 2017

Presbytery: 62 Splatt Street Swan Hill 3585

Phone: 50324144

Email: swanhill@ballarat.catholic.org.au

The Parish of Swan Hill comprises the faith Communities of:

St Marys Swan Hill,
St Joseph's Lake Boga

Mass Next Weekend:

Vigil: **7.00 pm** Swan Hill

Sunday: **8.30 am** Lake Boga **10.30 am** Swan Hill

Mass this Week:

Monday: 1.30 pm Funeral Jenny Leonardi

Tuesday 5.30 pm

Wednesday: 10.00 am

Thursday: 10.00 am Australia Day

Friday: 12.00 noon

Intentions:

Tuesday: Luigi Mase (Remembrance)

Wednesday: Giuseppina Abate (30 Day Remembrance)

Friday: Noura Thiele R.I.P

Recently Deceased: We commend to God

Noura Thiele

Anniversaries: We remember Bill Magee, Carmelo Carpenteri, Dominic Costa, Patrick Shepherd, Eda Whiting, Beatrice Curran, Margaret Foott, Maria Rantino, Lance Learmonth, Felicia Foott, Julie Wilson.

Prayers for the Sick: Erin Coburn, Jude Lewis, Ronald Duryea, Brian Mulcahy, Brooke Kennedy, Patricia Mikes, Sr Cheryl Bourke (PBVM), Jarrod Crimmins, , Rebbecka Sandemen. Rosa Santos

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

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

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.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 26:1. 4. 13-14. R. v.1

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; Before whom shall I shrink?

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long, to live in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life, to savour the sweetness of the Lord, to behold his temple.

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living. Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the Lord!

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

SECOND READING from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ

been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

The Word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

GOSPEL reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali! Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan, Galilee of the nations! The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light; on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

The Gospel of the Lord

MINISTRIES for Next Weekend 29th January 2017

Ministers of the Word:

Vigil: Kerry Hoare & John Hoare

10.30 am Yvonne Richardson & Josie Caccavello

Ministers of Communion:

Vigil: Kerry Hoare, Kath Hogan, Mary Kennedy, Josh Klabbbers

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

Music Ministry:

Vigil: Joe Taverna

10.30 am Ken Smith & Brenda Grace

Presentation of Gifts:

Vigil: Kerry Hoare & Family

10.30 am Robertson Family

Counters: Chris & Margaret Hoare

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READINGS NEXT WEEK 29th January

Zep 2:3; 3:12-13; 1 Cor 1:26-31 ; Mt 5:1-12
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STATE OF THE NATION

Presbytery Account: (1st Basket) **\$ 894.50**
(Support of Priests & Bishop)

Parish Account: (2nd Basket) **Envelopes \$ 853.50**
(Support of the Parish) **Credit Card \$ 0.00**
Direct Debit \$ 20.00
Loose Plate \$ 69.25
\$ 942.75

Thank-You!
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WEDDING BELLS: Congratulations and prayerful best wishes to Eddie McEwen and Bonnie-Jo Hagley on their wedding at St Mary's on Saturday

LENTEN PROGRAM: Ash Wednesday falls on March 1st and Easter is 16th April. If you are interested in forming a group, joining an established group or just wish to obtain the Lenten Program book please contact the office by 3rd February so that books can be ordered.

WANTED URGENTLY WANTED More helpers with Ministries at weekend Mass. We need more parishioners to assist as Ministers of the Word, Ministers of Communion, Presentation of Gifts, Multi-media Projector Operation and Counters for Stewardship Collection (2nd Basket). The number of volunteers has dwindled due to age, health and parishioners leaving the area. Please contact the office on Tuesday or Friday between 10.30am and 1.30pm on 50324144

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 in Tasmania. To request an application contact Anne by emailing info@griefftograceaus.org.au or phone 0407704539. For more information visit www.griefftograce.org <http://www.griefftograce.org>

Ash Wednesday March 1st

Rite of Election March 4th 12.30pm St Patrick's Cathedral

GOSPEL REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate **The Voice of Jesus**

There are certain news readers or presenters on the radio or TV one wants to switch off: something in the voice grates. Others, one could listen to endlessly: something about the tone is so attractive.

Jesus' voice must have sounded fascinating: something about it perfectly vocalised his attractive and fascinating personality.

It gave true voice to who he was, and this is what proved so alluring to those four fishermen, two sets of two brothers.

It is an extraordinary situation. These men were running successful fishing operations, family businesses. But once Jesus passed by and called them, the Gospel says, at once they left their boats and followed him.

Immediately, they allowed this stranger to wrench them out of their place in society, in the commercial life of the Sea of Galilee. Without any further ado, they gave up their status as independent and settled businessmen and became dependent itinerants.

How did this come about?

I think because, hearing his voice, they realised that Jesus was the true vocalist of God.

Irish author and mystic, John O'Donohue, once wrote, 'Something in us senses and knows how perfectly the contours of the soul fit the divine embrace.' *

Maybe Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John sensed that, in this Jesus, there was a Soul whose contours perfectly fitted the divine embrace. They were prepared to risk everything, abandoning their livelihood, for the chance to have their souls contoured along the same lines.

More particularly, they were Jewish. Their Jewish scriptures and tradition would have prepared them, filled them with longing and expectation for the Messiah. They were in a state of readiness.

And then, the call: 'Follow me ...', the call not to an isolated individual promising to save his soul, but to two brothers and then another two brothers. Immediately, a community was being formed and its task was to bring others into that Jesus-following community.

At some stage, you will hear his fascinating voice, and a decision will be required: a decision of faith.

'Come, follow me.' The faith required is not a peculiar sort of knowledge about this or that. 'Faith' is setting out on a journey in the hopeful conviction that *this Jesus is* the person who wants to set me on the Way which is most life giving, the person through whom I can receive divine mercy, the person in whom I can share victory over death, the person by whom I am called to participate in Divine life.

The Nazarene is calling.

Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John are also beckoning: 'Take the risk of joining us. Let us together follow the sound of that voice which reverberates throughout all creation, the sound of that voice which perfectly articulates Divine Truth and Beauty, the call of that voice sounded by Our Lord Jesus Christ.'

* John O'Donohue, *Divine Beauty: The Invisible Embrace*, Bantam Press, p.246.