

## LITURGY OF THE WORD 4th Sunday of Easter

### FIRST READING from the Acts of the Apostles

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

The Word of the Lord.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 22:1-6. R. v.1

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.  
Alleluia.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.  
Alleluia.

### SECOND READING from the first letter of St Peter

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in

the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

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

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

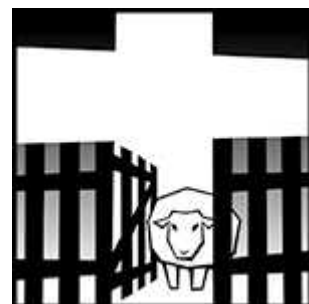
Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly,  
I am the gate of the sheepfold.  
All others who have come  
are thieves and brigands;  
but the sheep took no notice of them.  
I am the gate.  
Anyone who enters through me will be safe:  
he will go freely in and out  
and be sure of finding pasture.  
The thief comes  
only to steal and kill and destroy.  
I have come  
so that they may have life  
and have it to the full.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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## ST MARY'S PARISH SWAN HILL BULLETIN

**Priest:** Fr. Matthew Thomas PP

**Parish Secretary:** Glenda Klabbbers

**Parish Council Chair:** Michelle Haeusler

**Parish Safeguarding Officers:**  
Karen & Damien Kelly

**St Mary's School Principal:** Greg Lane

**St Mary MacKillop Principal:** Michelle Haeusler

**Parish Office:** Tuesday 10.00am - 2.00pm  
Friday 10.00am - 2.00pm



## 4th Sunday of Easter Year A 7th May 2017

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

**Phone:** 50324144

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

The Parish of Swan Hill comprises of the faith Communities of:  
St Marys Swan Hill,  
St Joseph's Lake Boga

### Mass Next Weekend:

Saturday	6.30 pm Vigil	Swan Hill
Sunday	10.30 am	Swan Hill

### Mass this Week:

Tuesday:	5.30 pm
Wed:	10.00 am
Thursday:	1.30 pm Funeral Prayers Merv Bryant.
Friday:	11.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 12 noon Mass



**An Easter Prayer** God our Father, creator of all, today is the day of Easter joy. This is the morning on which the Lord appeared to men and women who had begun to lose their hope and opened their eyes to what the scriptures foretold: that first he must die, and then he would rise and ascend into his Father's glorious presence. May the risen Lord breathe on our minds and open our eyes that we may know him in the breaking of bread, and follow him in his risen life. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism:



Isla Murchie daughter of Jarrod and Melissa, Maxwell Maduca son of Donatus and Vanessa, and Marli Bruton, daughter of Nicholas and Natasha baptised this weekend. May they grow in faith in their loving family and our Catholic Community.



**Cuppa after Mass TODAY**

### Recently Deceased: We commend to God:

Sr Eileen Carr, Merv Bryant, Annette Garguilo

**Anniversaries: We remember:** Pat Chisholm, Pat Lange, Haydee Phyland, Salvatore Mangiamelli, Ignatius & Patrick Willocks, Domenico & Antonetta Di Nicola, Jeff Learmonth.

**Prayers for the Sick:** Erin Coburn, Jude Lewis, Ronald Duryea, Brian Mulcahy, Brooke Kennedy, Jarrod Crimmins, Joy Parsons.

**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.**

**CWL** are holding a raffle, cake and produce stall NEXT Sunday, Mothers Day after the 10.30 am Mass. Please support.

**Over 60's** meet THIS Monday 8th May at 1.30pm.

### Mass Count starts on weekend 6-7 May

The Annual Diocesan Mass Count will take place over the 4 weekends of May commencing on the weekend of 6-7 May.

### Bishop Peter Connors 30th Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination

Mass will be held on Sunday, May 21, 2017 at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 10.30am. All welcome.

### House Blessing

**May this house be a place of happiness  
And health of contentment generosity and hope.  
A home of creativity and kindness  
May those who visit and those who visit  
And those who live here know only blessing and peace.  
Amen**

### EASTER WATER

please feel free to bring your own container and help yourself to the water of new life in the Easter font for blessing of homes people, etc, in fact anything.

**ST MARY'S MINISTRIES for 14th May 2017**

Ministers of the Word:

Vigil: Michelle Haesler, Glenda Klabbers

10.30am: Kate Quinn, Ginny Gook.

Ministers of Communion:

Vigil: Claire Billing, Chris Hoare, Gladys Bryant, Lyn Stutley

10.30 am: Sam Colombo, Robert Jager, Margaret Foott, Elizabeth Milazzo, Yvonne Richardson, Josie Renda.

Presentation of Gifts:

Vigil: Howison Family

10.30am : Scott & Carolyn Zambelli.

Music Ministry:

Vigil: Brian Wood

10.30am: Year 2 Mass

Counters: Vin & Kerry Dullard, Kieran Brennan.

**STATE OF THE NATION**

<b>Presbytery Account:</b> (1st Basket) (Support of Priests & Bishop)	<b>\$ 1033.75</b>
<b>Parish Account:</b> (2nd Basket) (Support of the Parish)	
<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$ 1044.00</b>
<b>Credit Card</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
<b>Direct Debit</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
<b>Loose Plate</b>	<b>\$ 100.50</b>
	<b>\$ 1,144.50</b>
<b>Project Compassion:</b> to date	<b>\$ 1,570.30</b>

Thank-You!

**READINGS NEXT WEEK 14th May Year A**

1st Reading : Acts 6:1-7

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-9

Gospel: John 14:1-12

**Car Park**

Just a friendly reminder that the car park in the church grounds is for those with a Disabled sticker, or people being dropped off and picked up. We ask that you do not park on the grass, as we have had to replace the sprinklers a couple of times. Thanks for your assistance with this.

**"Lessons from the Long Paddock" E-Confrence**

On Tuesday 6th June will be the date for the next econfrence focus is on the Spirituality of the Outback. Bishop Columba Macbeth Green OSPPE, (Bishop of Wilcannia-Forbes) and Fr Frank Brennan SJ will be the main presenters. More information in later bulletins.

**120 years of Catholic Education in Charlton**

On October 20 & 21 21, 2017 we will be celebrating 120 years of Catholic Education in Charlton – this is also Charlton Show weekend. We invite any past pupils and staff to attend our celebrations. Please contact Anne, ph. 0408547973 for further details.

**Mission Conference 2017– One Heart Many Voices**

May 15-17 will be the Mission Conference, is for those who are inspired to strive creatively for justice, peace, reconciliation and God's Mission of Mercy. It is a unique opportunity to listen, converse, and experience the many and diverse voices that are an expression of the one heart of mission. The conference will explore the complexity and issues surrounding leadership, formation, theology and the practice of mission. For more information go to [www.mohmv.com.au](http://www.mohmv.com.au).

**Ballarat Diocese Webpage**

[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)

This webpage contains current news and information on the diocese and parishes.

E-news is available to all members of the diocese and those who are interested in the life of the Ballarat Diocese.

If you wish to subscribe or have a article for E-News email

[enews@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:enews@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Reflection**

by Michael Tate

In Jesus' time, the shepherd lead from the front: the sheep followed the sound of his voice to reach good pasture. Jesus describes other voices who might try to mislead the sheep as 'thieves and brigands'.

In John's gospel, Judas, the *thief* from the common purse of the disciples, led a group of temple guards and Roman soldiers to take Jesus by force.

Barabbas was a *brigand*, a leader of an insurrection. Our Lord knew that armed rebellion against the Romans would lead to the destruction of Jerusalem.

So, Jesus is warning his followers against the seductive voices of those who advocate the use of violence.

In particular, the successor of Peter should echo the voice of Jesus the Good Shepherd and no other. Popes of the modern era seem to be listening more attentively to the Good Shepherd, as successors of St Peter who was instructed: 'Feed my lambs, feed my sheep'.

We could pause for a moment to attune our ears to the sound of the Shepherd's voice and follow Him so that He may lead us to pastures where we can have life, abundantly.

Alleluia!

[mtate@bigpond.com](mailto:mtate@bigpond.com)

Jesus is our good shepherd and we know that we must follow him. What are some of the things our shepherd has told us to do?



A thief has stolen some letters from the passage of text below. Use these letters to discover something that Jesus said to his disciples.



"I \_ \_ T \_ \_ GAT \_  
FOR T \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ P.  
\_ LL W \_ O CO \_ \_ IN  
T \_ ROUG \_ \_ \_ WILL  
B \_ \_ \_ V \_ D."