



LITURGY OF THE WORD
17th Sunday of Ordinary
Time

FIRST READING from the first book of the Kings

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97

Lord, I love your commands.

My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word. The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold.

Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant. Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight.

That is why I love your commands more than finest gold. That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways.

Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it. The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple.

Lord, I love your commands.

SECOND READING from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The Word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION See Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

GOSPEL reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

Q. Why did the man who found the treasure in the field have to hide it again rather than keep it?

Q. Why might Jesus have given dozens of different descriptions of what the kingdom is 'like'?

Q. How does this passage speak to our modern reality that not everyone accepts the message of Jesus?

Q. In what ways can you be a 'glimpse of the kingdom' for others?

ST MARY'S PARISH SWAN HILL
BULLETIN

Priest: Fr. Matthew Thomas PP

Parish Secretary: Glenda Klabbers

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



17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year A
30th July 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:

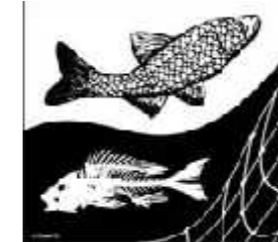
Saturday 6.30 pm Vigil Swan Hill
 Sunday 10.30 am Swan Hill

Mass this Week:

Tuesday: 5.30pm
 Wed: 10.00 am
 Thursday: 10.00 am
 Friday: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 12.00 noon

Mass Intentions:

Saturday 29th— May Davis
 Leonardo Caccaviello



Recently Deceased: We commend to God

Anniversaries: We remember: Concetta Castelli, Victoria & Rosario Columbro, Geoff Balsarini, Gavin Polinelli.

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

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.



We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism: Evelyn Cleary ,daughter of Daniel & Lucy May she grow in faith in her loving family and our Catholic Community

CUPPA AFTER MASS NEXT SUNDAY

DATES TO REMEMBER IN AUGUST

- 6th August: Cuppa after Mass
- 7th August: Josephites Knitting Day 10.00am
- 7th August: Divine Mercy Devotion. 1.45 pm
- 8th August: Feast if St Mary MacKillop
 CWL Meeting 1.30pm
- 9th August: Stewardship Information evening. 7.00pm
- 12th August: Rosary in the Park: 10.00am
- 14th August: Over 60's meet. 1.30pm
- 17th August. Josephite Associates Meeting 1.30 pm.
- 21st August: Baptism Preparation. 7.00pm
- 22nd August: Distribution Meeting; Stewardship Program 10.00am
- 27th August: Lake Boga Mass 8.30am



Josephite Associates Knitting Day
 Monday 7th August in the Parish Function Centre from 10.00 am. Raffles and lunch supplied. All welcome.



PARISH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

This is the second weekend in our Stewardship Program with emphasis on **Celebrating Faith** At our Masses this weekend we have speakers who will talk about their involvement in our Parish, and challenge us to volunteer our **Time and Talents** for our Parish and community.

We warmly invite all Parishioners to attend the **Parish Stewardship Information Meeting on Wednesday 9th August at 7.00pm in the Parish Function Centre.** The meeting provides the opportunity to hear about the recent achievements in our Parish and our future plans as well as to ask questions and be informed. It is also a time to reconnect and meet fellow parishioners over a cuppa. Please put your name on one of the RSVP cards when they are passed around at mass, to indicate you will be in attendance! **See you there!**

Collection of Envelopes

A note of thanks to all who collected their envelopes and for the large number people who helped deliver by hand the others, a small amount were posted.

There are copies of the parish flyer and a time and talent sheet in the foyer for those who have not received one.

ST MARY'S MINISTRIES for 6th August 2017

Ministers of the Word:

Vigil: Marilyn Foley, Rene Devereux
10.30am: Jordan Wong, Elizabeth Milazzo.

Ministers of Communion:

Vigil: Ursula Phyland, Josh Klabbbers, Marilyn Foley, Michelle Haeusler.
10.30 am: Frank Fogarty, Connie Alderuccio, Rona Bookham, Jocelyn Ingram, Elma Balsarini. Ken Smith,

Presentation of Gifts:

Vigil: Helen Lewis, Margaret Magee.
10.30am : Scott & Carolyn Zambelli.

Music Ministry:

Vigil:
10.30am:
Counters: Cathy Livingston & Helen Dean.

STATE OF THE NATION

Presbytery Account: (1st Basket)	\$ 887.20
<i>(Support of Priests & Bishop)</i>	
Parish Account: (2nd Basket)	\$ 1065.00
<i>(Support of the Parish)</i>	
Envelopes	\$ 0.00
Credit Card	\$ 0.00
Direct Debit	\$ 163.55
Loose Plate	\$

Thank-You!

READINGS NEXT WEEK 6th August Year A

1st Reading : Daniel 7:9-10. 13-14
 2nd Reading: 2 Peter 1:16-19
 Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND

Collection for Sick and Retired Priests – next weekend

Creating a secure retirement future for the priests of the diocese is a duty and care in which we can all participate. Eighteen retired priests are currently supported by this Fund. Some live privately, some are retired in units in Ballarat or elsewhere, others live in supported accommodation.

The funding required for these commitments is ongoing. Thanks to your generosity, this collection has raised nearly 1.8 million dollars since it began in 1991, including nearly \$60,000 last year. Along with the priests' own contribution of approximately \$37,000 per year, this annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our sick and retired clergy.

A credit card facility is available for your convenience, and contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible.

CARING FOR THOSE WHO CARED FOR US – THE CHURCH COMMUNITY'S RESPONSIBILITY

Sacred Heart Parish Mildura Retreat

Mildura are hosting a regional retreat on Mon 21-Wed 23rd Aug all welcome to attend 6.30pm—9pm. Parish Function Centre Eleventh St.

Tooleybuc Pasta and Wine Tasting Luncheon

Sunday 10th August from 12noon Adults \$15 Family \$40 Tooleybuc Football Club Rooms, Proceeds to Tooleybuc Catholic Church.

Youth Synod Questionnaire:

The second part of the Youth Synod 2018 preparatory consultation with our Diocese is a Questionnaire. Groups and individuals of all ages are invited to respond. Pope Francis wants to hear from Dioceses around the world and responses to the Questionnaire will form part of the preparations for the world-wide **Ordinary Synod on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment** in Rome in October 2018. The Questionnaire is available on the Diocesan website (*Latest News* on home page). Please email responses by 15 August 2017. For more info contact youth@ballarat.catholic.org.au or 5337 7125.

National Vocations Awareness Week (NVAW): July 30 – August 6, 2017

Each year in August the Church in Australia celebrates National Vocations Awareness Week (NVAW). This week is an opportunity for parishes, schools and other groups to pray for and to help young people discern their vocation from God whether that be to Marriage, Priesthood, Single Life, the Diaconate or Religious Life. This is also an opportunity to pray for those who are currently in formation in Religious Houses of Formation and our own Provincial Seminary Corpus Christi College.

Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide Proposals

In April this year, the bishops of Victoria published a pastoral letter in response to proposals to introduce legislation allowing euthanasia and assisted suicide. This letter is located in the foyer of the church and details to write to your local member of parliament as well.

Our Diocesan Community Magazine

Please collect your copy of the ODC Magazine after mass. There are some great articles from around the Diocese.



Jesus tells us that the Kingdom of God is so valuable that we ought to be prepared to give up everything for it. What are some things in your life that you would be prepared to give up or change in order to enter God's Kingdom?

What did the man do after he found the treasure hidden in the field? Use the key below to decipher the code.

A ○	E ●	I ◊	R ⬠	
B ☆	F ⚙	L ⌚	S ○	V ⚑
D ⬠	G ⬠	N ⌚	T ⚡	Y ⌚
	H ⋯	O ⌚	U ⌚	

⋯ ● ⌚ ⌚ ⬠ ⬠

● ⚑ ● ⬠ ⌚ ⚡ ⬠ ⌚ ⬠

○ ⌚ ⬠ ☆ ⬠ ⬠ ⬠ ⋯ ⚡

⚡ ⋯ ● ⚙ ⬠ ● ⌚ ⬠

Can you find the letters that spell the word TREASURE hidden in the picture below?

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field."



"The kingdom of heaven is also like a shop keeper looking for fine pearls. When he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it."