

St MALACHY'S PARISH

APSLEY * EDENHOPE * GOROKE * MINIMAY

3rd Septmeber, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: Reg Pahl, Thomas Bull, Esme Upton, Evelyn Ryan, Gerry Dwyer, Jack McDonnell, Jack Kealy

Next weekend Sun 10th September

10:30am SAWC

Naracoorte Mass times (see notice board)

Church Collections from 27.8.2017

Priests Fund: \$224.00

Planned Giving: \$71.00

Total for this PG Financial year: \$2,974.00

Parish Diary

Sun Sep 3 9am Mass
Sun Sep 10 10:30am SAWC
Sun Sep 17 11am Mass
Sun Sep 24 5pm Mass
Sun Oct 1 9am Mass

Available from the foyer

- This week's bulletin

Edenhope:

This weekend 3rd September

Reader C McCann
Prayers/Psalm R Rokebrand
Gifts A Wait family
Ministers C Heenan
Cleaning C Middleton
Linen C McFarlane
Lawns A Wait
Collection R Burgess, D McDonnell

Edenhope:

Reader
Prayers
Leaders
Ministers
Cleaning
Linen
Lawns
Collection

This week at St Malachy's

Monday Ang at South West Network Gathering

Tuesday Spellathon, SAC Meeting

Wednesday Speech Pathologist visiting, Year 6

Transition Afternoon, e smart parent session with

Julie Bruce at 7:30pm

Thursday Theresa from CEO visiting staff for

Maths support

Friday

Thank you to everyone who, in big or small ways, keeps our Parish alive and positive.

Fr John's Corner

FATHERS' DAY COLLECTION FOR SICK AND

RETIRED PRIESTS: 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, others live in supported accommodation.

The funding required for these commitments is ongoing. Thanks to your generosity, this collection raised \$60,000 last year. Along with the younger 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.

CHILD PROTECTION SUNDAY: In response to a request from Pope Francis, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has earmarked **next Sunday 10 September**, Child Protection Sunday, as a Day of Prayer and Penance for Victims and Survivors of Sexual Abuse.

FAMINE IN AFRICA AFFECTING MILLIONS OF

PEOPLE: With more than 20 million Africans presently affected by famine, the world faces the largest humanitarian crisis since World War II. Caritas Australia has already helped provide lifesaving support to half a million people. They are seeking donations to scale up their efforts and get food and water to people and communities in dire need. Our parishes will have a special collection Social Justice Sunday, 24 September 2017, to support this enormous humanitarian effort.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?'

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Reflections on the Gospel

JESUS' TRUE HONOUR

In the Gospel of last Sunday, Simon Peter proclaimed Jesus' identity: he is the Messiah, the Son of the living God (*Matthew 16:16*). Jesus received this honourable identity not from human beings but from God. It was the Father himself who revealed Jesus' identity to Peter.

Jesus senses that the honour received from the Father will involve his suffering and death at the hands of his enemies. He will be utterly shamed before the people. In today's Gospel, he makes his first passion prediction: he will suffer greatly in Jerusalem and be killed. But God will bestow on him the true honour by raising him from the dead.

Simon Peter, who probably understands only the 'passion' part of Jesus' prediction, challenges him. He says, 'God forbid, Lord'. He wants God to change his plan about Jesus.

Jesus senses that Peter is testing his loyalty to God, his very claim to honour. His reply to Peter's challenge is to call him 'Satan'. Sometimes the Bible identifies Satan as the devil; at other times, however, Satan is seen not so much as an evil spirit but as an 'accuser', a heavenly prosecutor who questions to test the genuineness of human virtue (see *Job 1:6-12*). Peter here acts as a tester of Jesus' loyalty to God, as Satan did in the temptations Jesus experienced after his baptism. Jesus again proves his loyalty to God's will for him.

Death on the cross is the worst shame any Israelite could suffer. It is seen as a 'curse' from God (*Galatians 3:13*). But in Jesus' case, the cross proves his loyalty to God 'to the very end'. This is his true honour, which God confirms by raising him from the dead.

Fr Gil Alinsangan SSP



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

3 SEPTEMBER 2017

FIRST READING

Jer 20:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock,
everybody's butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'

The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, 'I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.'

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,

imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me,
I could not bear it.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 62:2-6, 8-9. R. v. 2

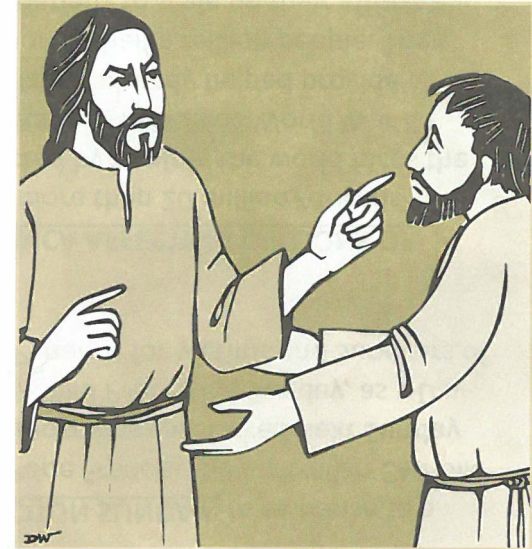
R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; / for you my soul is thirsting. / My body pines for you / like a dry, weary land without water. **R.**

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary / to see your strength and your glory. / For your love is better than life, / my lips will speak your praise. **R.**

3. So I will bless you all my life, / in your name I will lift up my hands. / My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, / my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R.**

4. For you have been my help; / in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. / My soul clings to you; / your right hand holds me fast. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf. Eph 1:17, 18

Alleluia, alleluia! / May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ / enlighten the eyes of our heart, / that we might see how great is the hope / to which we are called. / Alleluia!