



St Mary's Parish Swan Hill and Sea Lake
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
17th September 2017

Incorporating the Catholic Communities of
 St Mary's Church, Swan Hill
 St Mary's Church, Sea Lake
 St Joseph's Church, Lake Boga
 St Joseph's Church, Nandaly
 Sacred Heart Church, Culgoa

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Thomas
 St Mary's Parish 62 Splatt St Swan Hill
 Po Box 71 Swan Hill, Vic 3585
 Phone: 03 5032 4144
swanhill@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Sealake@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Office Hours Tues and Fri 10am -2pm
Parish Admin Officer: Glenda Klabbers
Child Protection Officers:
 Damian and Karen Kelly

Weekday Masses

Monday: No Mass
 Tuesday: 5.30pm Swan Hill
 Wednesday: 10am Funeral
 Eileen Young, Swan Hill
 Thursday: 10am Sea Lake
 Friday: 12.00
 Exposition 11.00am

Sick List

Please pray for the following people who has requested our prayers:
 Erin Coburn, Ronald Duryea,
 Jude Lewis, Jarrod Crimmins,
 Brian Mulcahy, Brooke Kennedy

Bishop Paul's Letter

Please find copies of the Pastoral Letter from Bishop Paul, on the topic of Same-sex Marriage. These are located in the Foyer.

Welcome Fr Anthony

This Weekend we welcome Fr Anthony from the Cathedral, we hope he enjoys his time here in the Parish. Fr Matt has made a swap for the weekend as he has committed to conduct a wedding.

Bikes for Humanity Collection Day

International charity Bicycles for Humanity gives old bikes a new home. They collect old bicycles, refurbish them and send them to Africa where the shipping container they came in transforms into a bike workshop providing employment, skills, training, economic development and ongoing benefits to the local community as well as all the 'new' bikes! Collection of your old bikes and parts Thursday October 6th 9am -3.00pm St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat car park.



Recent Deaths

Bernie Noble
 Eileen Young
 Olive Williams

Anniversaries of Death:

Pierce Derham, Vince Bonano,
 Jack Cleary, John Nolen,
 Martino Raco, Dot Ryan,
 Mary O'Loughlin,
 Chris Pupillo, Mavis Nolan,
 Rocco Pachi, Mary Cleary,
 Marianne Murray,
 Vi & Tim Power,
 Margaret Thomas



Centenary of Fatima

Mass in the Bendigo Cathedral, October 8th 11am Evening of Reflection and Devotion - Fr Gerard Ryan will lead this evening in St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat on Friday October 13th, commencing with Reconciliation from 6.30 pm, 7.00 pm Fr Gerard introduces the evening, 7.30 pm Mass, 7.45 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament concluding with Benediction. The Legion of Mary express their thanks to all who support the Novena preparing for the centenary of Mary's apparitions at Fatima, Portugal.

Weekend Mass Times

St Mary's Swan Hill
 Sat 6.30pm Sun 10.30am
St Mary's Sea Lake
 Sun 8.30am (1st Sun) 5pm (3rd Sun)
 9am Assembly (2nd, 4th) Ecc Ser. (5th)
 10am
St Joseph's Lake Boga 8.30am (4th Sun)
St Joseph's Nandaly 5pm (2nd Sun)
 9am Assembly (1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th Sun)
Sacred Heart Culgoa 5pm (4th Friday)
 9.30am Assembly (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th)

St Mary's Primary School Sea Lake

Principal: Kate Nunn
 47 Hannon Street, Sea Lake
 Ph: 03 5070 1272
Principal@smsealake.catholic.edu.au

St Mary's Primary School Swan Hill

Principal: Greg Lane
 2 Murlong St Swan Hill
 Ph. 03 5033 2541
principal@smswanhill.catholic.edu.au

St Mary MacKillop College

Principal: Michelle Haeusler
 53 McCrae Street, Swan Hill
Principal@mackillopsh.vic.edu.au

Finances

1st Collection (Support Clergy)
 \$726.70
 2nd Collection (Parish Support)
 Including C/Cards and D/Debt
 \$3,247.40
 Thank you for your support

Next Week's Readings

1st Is 55:6-9 2nd Phil 1:20-24,27
 Gospel MT 20:1-16

Roster for this weekend 17th September

Week 3 of Month	Sat 6pm Swan Hill	Sun 10.30am Swan Hill
Minister of the Word	John Farrell Kay Farrell	Yvonne Richardson Josie Caccavello
Minsters of Communion	M Derham, T McRae, D & R Devereux	F Fogarty, K Smith C Alderuccio, J Ingram R Bookham, E Balsarini,
Presentation of Gifts	J & G Kladders	J & R Bookham
Music Ministry	John Farrell	K Smith & B Grace
Counting Team	Elva Carty	Geraldine Murdoch

Roster for next weekend 24th September

Week 3 of Month	Sat 6pm Swan Hill	Sun 10.30am Swan Hill
Minister of the Word	Margaret Hoare Mary Nolen	Jordan Wong Elizabeth Milazzo
Minsters of Communion	M Hoare, B McCartney, H Lewis, C Page.	D Bishop, D Kelly, R O'Halloran, B Ford, J Meehan.
Presentation of Gifts	M Haeusler G Kladders	J Chand
Music Ministry	J Taverna	B Murray & B Grace
Counting Team	J Ingram	Y Richardson

Australian Catholic Social Justice Commission Subscription

Please find attached a subscription form, for the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council (ACSJC). The ACSJC is the official Social Justice Agency of the Catholic Church in Australia. For a yearly subscription of **ONLY \$30**, you will receive the following:

- *Justice Trends* (quarterly newsletter)
- Catholic Social Justice Series books
- Background Papers and Discussion guides
- Social Justice Statement – (2017/18 Statement soon to be released!!!)
- Prayer card and Ten Steps leaflet
- Social Justice Diary

Representing EXCELLENT value. More information at <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/publications>

Italian Social Group

Il gruppetto, di uomini che parlano la lingua Italiana invitano altri Italiani se sono interessati, ad unirsi a questo gruppo si incontrano ogni mercoledì alle, ore 1.45pm – 3.45pm durata circa 2 ore luogo incontro (Neighbourhood House Gray St) il costo 2 dollari per settimana si include tazza caffè, si serve pure a socializzare, si gioca a brioscola, scopa, si fa qualche, viaggio in autobus. Se siete interessate telefonare Sarina 0439383638, Josie (Pinella) 0409305551 Sandra 50339359, Grazie

Italian Social Group

An invitation to the male who are Italian speaking and would like to join the group on a Wednesday afternoon from 1.45-3.45pm at the Neighbourhood House on Gray St. Cost is \$2 per week including afternoon. Any Inquires please contact Sarina 0439383638, Josie (Pinella) 0409305551 Sandra 50339359

Swan Hill Show

On the weekend of Fri 6th & Sat 7th Oct, the show committee have asked for assistance from the local church's for people to work on the gates, looking for volunteers to help out. See form in the foyer for time slots if you able to assist. Of you can give a couple of hours would be greatly appreciated as an event which supports the local community.

30th Anniversary of Ordination of Fr Gary Jones

The Parish of St Peter's Daylesford will be celebrating the 30th Anniversary of Fr Gary's Ordination at 10.30am Mass on Sunday, October 15, 2017 followed by morning tea in the Parish Centre. All welcome. Please RSVP to daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au to assist with catering.

National Association of Catholic Families Conference 2017

The 2017 National Association of Catholic Families (NACF) conference/retreat will be held in Melbourne (Belgrave Heights) September 29 - October 1. Activities during the weekend will include Mass, rosary procession, talks running concurrently for parents, youth and children, sporting events, workshops, and a family bush dance on Saturday evening. For more information contact Claire on (03) 9543 5613 or go to www.nacf.info. Registrations close September 10.

Caritas responds to the Famine in Africa affecting millions of people

The world faces the largest humanitarian crisis since the second world war with more than 20 million people facing starvation and famine. Please support this humanitarian effort on Social Justice Sunday September 24th. Enquiries to Sue Searls, 0409 401 329 or email sue.searls@ballarat.catholic.org.au

FIRST READING from the book of Ecclesiasticus *Sir 27:30 – 28:7*

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 102:1-4. 9-12. R. v.8*

The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.

His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever.

He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults

For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins.

The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

SECOND READING from the letter of St Paul to the Romans *Rom 14:7-9*

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The Word of the Lord



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Jn 13:34*

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:

love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew *Mt 18:21-35*

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

Jesus told the following story to show how we need to forgive others. Use the words below to fill in the blanks.

Show Forgiveness

How does God forgive us when we do wrong things?



How can we show forgiveness to others?



One day a _____ gathered his officials to find out how much _____ they owed him. One official owed the king fifty million _____ coins, but could not pay back what he owed. The king ordered that he, his family and _____ be sold to pay back the debt. The official _____ for mercy. The king felt sorry for him and set him _____. As the official left, he met a man who owed him one hundred silver _____. He grabbed the man and said, "Pay me back what you owe me!" The man begged for _____ but the official had him thrown in prison. When the other officials found out they told the king. The king was so _____ he called the official back and ordered him to be _____ until he paid back everything he owed.

Spot the 7 differences between these pictures



coins **mercy**
punished
money
king **angry**
free
possessions
begged
silver



Food for Thoughts

Which character in the parable is most like God / least like God?

In the parable of the unforgiving servant, which character do you identify with? Why?

When have you been forgiven for something you did wrong? What did it feel like to be forgiven?

Have you ever truly forgiven someone and tried to forget about what happened? Is it difficult?

What gets in the way of forgiving someone when they have hurt you?