



St. Augustine's Parish, Maryborough
 ~inc. St. Francis Xavier's, Stanley St. Tarnagulla. St. Kevin's, Barnett St. Avoca,
 St. Mary's, Hardy St. Dunolly, St. Patrick's, Pyrenees H'way & Evans St. Amphitheatre,
 St. Patrick's, Main St. Bealiba. St. Patrick's, Barkly-Redbank Rd. Redbank.~



31st December 2017 Feast of the Holy Family

Parish Priest: Fr. John Monaghan, 21 Burns St. Maryborough. Ph. 5461 1084.

Parish Secretary: Jill Morse **Email:** maryborough@ballarat.catholic.org.au

St Augustine's School: Ph. 5460 4440 **Principal:** Mrs. Sonia Turner principal@samaryborough.catholic.edu.au

Weekends: - MARYBOROUGH – Mass 6.00pm Sat. & 10.30am Sun. AVOCA – Mass 8.30am 1st & 3rd Sun. Assembly 8.30am 2nd, 4th & 5th Sun. DUNOLLY – Mass 8.30am 2nd & 4th Sun. Assembly 8.30am 1st & 3rd Sun. BEALIBA – Mass 8.30am 5th Sun.

Collections "Thank You". First Collection - Presbytery \$414 & \$1334 – Clergy support and Presbytery expenses.

Second Collection - Parish Planned Giving \$1306 – For Parish expenses and Church maintenance.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (First Rite) – Saturdays at 10.00am (enter door near Sacristy) or upon request.

Sanctuary Cleaning and Flowers	Jan. 5 2018 -	A. Butler, V. Lowery
	Jan. 12 -	K. Mullane, J. Lennen
Planned Giving Counters	Dec. 31 -	P. Walsh, B. O'Connor, D. Hamilton
	Jan. 7 2018 -	P. Egan, N. Fitzpatrick, D. Weeks, P. Egan.

	<u>READER</u>	<u>PSALM/PRAYER</u>	<u>MINISTERS OF COMMUNION</u>	<u>GIFTS</u>
Weekend Dec. 30/31				
6.00pm	T. Lacey	M. Lacey	M. Forster, B. Cramer, K. Broadway	B. Teggerth
10.30am	M. Flowers	R. Iles	S. Meerbach, F. Upson, T. Plucke	Knowles Family
Weekend Jan. 6/7 2018				
6.00pm	M. Lacey	D. Forster	G. Loyer, R. Putman, J. Walsh	Taylor Family
10.30am	P. Egan	C. Hadwen	T. Waterson, M. Flowers, F. Upson	Lloyd Family

MONDAY 1ST JANUARY 2018 - 9.30AM MASS NEW YEAR'S DAY
TUESDAY 2ND JANUARY 2018 - 9.30AM MASS
WEDNESDAY 3RD JANUARY - 9.30AM MASS
THURSDAY 4TH JANUARY - 9.30AM MASS
FRIDAY 5TH JANUARY - 11.00AM EXPOSITION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT
- 12.05PM MASS

St. Patrick's, Redbank –11.00am Wednesday 21st March 2018.

St. Francis Xavier's, Tarnagulla –11.00am Saturday 20th January 2018.

St. Patrick's, Amphitheatre – 6.00pm Friday 23rd February 2018.

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE: At our pre-Christmas combined Parish Council and Finance Committee meeting (14/12/2017) a Committee was formed to look at our long term Parish and School needs and help us plan for the future. Two of the things we will be considering are how to better assist St Augustine's School which has reached its maximum student capacity and cooperating with neighbouring parishes including in readiness for when there may no longer be a full time resident priest in Maryborough. Sonia Turner, Maree McNeilly, Cathy Schwager and Bernie Cramer have volunteered to be on this committee and invite thoughts and suggestions from parish groups and parishioners. The committee's will meet at 4.00pm Friday 5th January at the Parish Office.

JOCK ADAMS RIP: Deepest sympathy to his wife Deidre and sons and daughters-in-law Dean & Darlene and Nick & Melissa and their families at the passing of Anthony “Jock” Adams on 21st December. Jock’s Funeral was held on Wednesday followed by his burial at Maryborough Cemetery.

ST FRANCIS XAVIER’S CHURCH, TARNAGULLA: Bishop Paul Bird has given permission for the sale of St Francis Xavier’s church. This follows discussion of this at/after Tarnagulla Masses and upon the recommendation of our parish finance committee and consideration of this by the Ballarat Diocesan Finance Committee. It is anticipated this will be listed for sale in the New Year.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY: It is through sharing in family love and responsibilities that we find ourselves as persons. It is normally in the love and support of the family that we find the resources to face the setbacks of life. And what family is there that does not know pain and suffering? Today’s liturgy reminds us that, because ‘he became in every way like us’ (Phil 2:7), our Saviour has shared in the ups and downs of family life.

Our reading from Genesis reminds us of the strength we can find in family traditions. Taking part in the life of old Israel, the family of Jesus shared in the boundless hopes – as vast as ‘the stars of the heavens’ and ‘the sands on the seashore’ – that found expression in the stories of God’s promises to Abraham. The second reading, from Hebrews shows the first Christians rejoicing in the fulfilment of these hopes. They saw the wanderings of Abraham as making him a model of God’s people, as they come to terms with the fact that their true home is not any earthly city. And they saw, in Isaac, the son Abraham was ready to sacrifice - given back to him from the dead, as it were - a foreshadowing of the Son the Father gave up for our salvation.

The tableau sketched by Luke in today’s gospel text, brings us insights into the life of the Holy Family. Joseph and Mary were faithful to the traditions of Israel. (This is significant, coming from Luke the Gentile convert – pointing to the essential continuity of the two covenants: salvation for old Israel, he implies, comes through fidelity to the authentic traditions of the old covenant.) Though Joseph’s carpenter trade would have given this family some security, they did not find it easy to make ends meet. The offering they made, of doves and pigeons, is the more modest offering permitted to the poor (cf. Lev 121:8). Their home was probably a cave dug into the side of a hill, with a small extension in front, and a floor that was simply clay beaten hard by the feet of the household (B. Vawter). This family belonged to the ‘anawim’, the simple people championed by the prophets who, in the struggle of life, kept alive the true spirit of Israel, through trust in their God.

To create his tableau, Luke has united two separate rituals. The firstborn of a Jewish family – who belonged to the Lord – was ‘redeemed’ through the ritual payment of five silver shekels. This ceremony did not necessarily take place in the temple. In a separate ritual, a Jewish mother, five weeks after the birth of a son, came for ceremonial purification. Luke intends his tableau to show the Lord’s coming to his temple – a beloved theme of true believers in old Israel, and looked forward to as the fulfilment of the hopes of the nation. ‘Suddenly the Lord whom you seek will come to his temple’, the prophet Malachi foretold, ‘Who will be able to withstand the day of his coming?’ (3:1-2). Luke’s narrative often uses the device of pairing a man and a woman, expressing their equal dignity under the Gospel. Here he sees Simeon and Anna, meeting with the parents of Jesus, as the fulfilment of the longings of the ‘anawim’, movingly expressed in the canticle of Simeon, ‘Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace’, and in Anna’s praise and rejoicing.

The ‘salvation’ being inaugurated is universal, ‘for all the nations’, one of Luke’s favourite themes. But it will come through the Cross. The family that returns to the hidden life of Nazareth is very close to the world’s families in their ups and downs.

Fr John Thornhill sm

Remembering those who have died:

We pray for those who died recently especially Jock Adams and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Robyn Eastwood, Ray Severino, Renato Novelli, Patricia Wood, Leo Harnetty, Dianne Brown, Harry Daly, Mary Grigg, Henry Dam, Thomas Peterson, Rosaleen McVeigh, Norma Sutton, Esther Corcoran, Julie Neville and Graham O’Shaunassy.

Priest: On this feast of the Holy Family let us present our petitions, confident that God will hear them.

Reader: That we may joyfully proclaim and live our faith in Christ the Word.

(pause) Lord, hear us: All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That nations may search for peace and reconciliation rather than confrontation and war.

(pause) Lord, hear us: All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That families experiencing mistrust, despair or fear may find strength and hope.

(pause) Lord, hear us: All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That children everywhere be valued and treasured.

(pause) Lord, hear us: All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That aging members of our community not be forgotten in this age of nursing homes and the absence of extended families.

(pause) Lord, hear us: All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For Jock Adams who died recently and all whose anniversaries are named on the Bulletin.

(pause) Lord, hear us: All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: For Mary's intercession, we pray: – "Hail Mary

Priest: God of love, you sent your Son to become a member of our human family and through the Holy Family teach us to value family life. Grant us these prayers through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.