



# Holy Family Parish Northeast Mallee

## 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

### Sunday, 21 June 2020



**Parish Priest:** Fr James Kerr

St Mary's Presbytery 62 Splatt St

Po Box 71 Swan Hill, Vic 3585

Phone: 03 5032 4144

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

**Office Hours**

Tues, Thurs and Fri

10am -2pm

**Parish Admin Officers:**

Glenda Klabbers

Mary Kennedy

**Child Protection Officers:**

Damian and Karen Kelly

**Incorporating the Catholic Communities of**

Sacred Heart Church, Culgoa

St Michael's Church, Lalbert

St Joseph's Church, Lake Boga

St Joseph's Church, Nandaly

S's Peter & Paul, Quambatook

St Mary's Church, Swan Hill

St Mary's Church, Sea Lake

Notices for Bulletin need to be received at the office by Wednesday morning.

**Parish Prayer**

God our Father,

Through the intercession of the Holy Family our patron, we pray that you bless this parish so that we may love you more.

Help parents to be a good example to their children and our youth to grow in strength as good Christians.

Encircle our families with your loving care; to the sick and the weak grant health; to the aged bring serenity; and to those in sorrow joy.

May we grow stronger in faith and may our love for one another become deeper in our daily life. Amen.



**Recent Deaths**

Jonah Waterson

**Weekday Masses**

Monday: No Mass

Tuesday: No Mass

Wednesday: 10am Swan Hill

Thursday: No Mass

Friday: 12pm Swan Hill

**Anniversaries**

Luigi Mase, Thea Bryan, Mary Wour, Bill Kelly, Rosa Mobilio, John Hogan, Patrick Lonergan, Maurice Kelly, Bernard & John Willocks, Martin Egan, Thomas Considine, Des Rinaldi, Mary Kelly, John Hayes, Dennis O'Meara Francis Loughran, Leo McLoughlan,

**Note: Weekday Masses**

From this coming week forward we will be allowed to have 50 attend the Mass, which will make things a lot easier. This means we can also begin to return to the regular weekdays Masses. This coming week then I will celebrate Mass in Swan Hill on Wednesday at 10am and Friday at 12pm. Tuesday Mass will return from the 30<sup>th</sup> June onwards, and we are looking to restart the Thursday Masses in Sea Lake next term. Given the low numbers, there will be no need to ring in and book for weekday Masses, but we will still need you to 'sign in' on arrival. We will still need people to book in for Sunday Masses though. Please see the notice within explaining the arrangements.

**Schools within the Parish**

**Primary**

**St Mary's Primary School Sea Lake**

Principal: Kate Nunn

47 Hannon Street, Sea Lake

Ph: 03 5070 1272

[Principal@smsealake.catholic.edu.au](mailto:Principal@smsealake.catholic.edu.au)

**St Mary's Primary School Swan Hill**

Principal: Kate Quin

2 Murlong St Swan Hill

Ph. 03 5033 2541

[principal@smswanhill.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@smswanhill.catholic.edu.au)

**Secondary**

**St Mary MacKillop College**

Principal: Michelle Haeusler

53 McCrae Street, Swan Hill

Ph: 5032 9771

[Principal@mackillopsh.vic.edu.au](mailto:Principal@mackillopsh.vic.edu.au)

**Sick List**

Jarrold Crimmins, Jack Donohue, Sean Carroll., Ronald Duryea, Jude Lewis, Yvonne Annan, Sarah Kenny, Michael Bourke Chris Hall, Allan Mathews.

During these difficult times your continued donations to the presbytery and parish support are greatly appreciated. If you wish to drop off your stewardship envelopes please leave under door at Parish office or drop off on a Tuesday or Friday.

**Finances**

1<sup>st</sup> Collection (Support Clergy)

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection (Parish Support)

Including C/Cards and D/Debt

Thank you for your generous contribution to the running of the parish and the support of our priests

**Saints / Feast Days**

**This Week**

Mon: St John Fisher & St Thomas More

Tues: St Joseph Cafasso

Wed: Birth of St John the Baptist

Thurs: St William of Vercelli

Fri: St Josemaria Escriva

Sat: St Cyril of Alexandria

**Child Safe Church**

Here in the Parish of Holy Family North East Mallee follow the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian Government and we also implement procedures and standards as directed by the Ballarat Diocesan Office

## The Parish Collections

We have had people enquire about how they can contribute to the normal collections.

**The First Collection** - This looks after Fr James and the running of the Presbytery, this collection is normally taken up first and in the past has been via cash, with the current situation you may wish to contribute to this by either dropping money into the office on a Tues or Fri or you can direct debit to the account. Account Name Holy Family Parish  
BSB- 083874 Account 30-816-7018

**The Second Collection**- this is for the running of the parish, most people either use plan giving envelopes or direct debit, if you would like to contribute to this one the details are

Name: Holy Family Parish BSB 083874  
Account 30-806-2531

If using direct deposit, please make sure you put your name in the reference box.

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

Why do you think 'Do not be afraid' is so frequently repeated in the Bible?

Why might this passage be titled in some versions of the Bible as 'Bold Confession'?

In what ways can this message to the disciples be interpreted in a modern context?

What are some of the obstacles that make it hard to proclaim what you believe 'from the house-tops'?

What does it mean in today's world to 'declare oneself' for Jesus?

Who is someone you admire because they are not afraid to live their faith?

God watches over us and protects us because we are precious to him. Draw a picture of something that is precious to you.



## ***Message from Fr James***

On Friday we celebrated the Feast of the Sacred Heart. Many of us have a special love for this devotion, and with good reason. How awesome to meditate on the great mystery, that the Divine Love of God burns brightly for us in the human heart of Jesus. I'm always drawn to that image of the beloved disciple leaning on Christ's breast at the Last Supper. Just think, as he listened to Jesus' heart beating, he was listening to the love of God made flesh; the same love that created the world and all that is, the same love that called humankind to share relationship with him, the same love that formed God's Holy people Israel, gently leading them through the ups and downs, the same love that was always ready to forgive his people when they fell. In Jesus' heart, that love takes on flesh. And that heart of flesh beats with love for each and every one of us, no matter where we might find ourselves.

It was great to be able to join with some of our parishioners last weekend to celebrate the Eucharist. Over the next few weeks we'll slowly be able to see a bit more of each other. Once again, thank you for your patience. There were a couple of little teething issues, (as was to be expected), particularly with the sound system, but we should get everything smoothed out over the next few weeks. We will just have to remain conscious of allowing each other a bit of space and avoiding crowding, especially at Communion time and when leaving.

If you visit the Church, you will notice the arrival of our new padded armchairs. These were purchased to provide some more suitable seating for those who are elderly or mobility impaired. There are some rows towards the front of the Church on either side (closest to the heating!), as well as some in the day chapel. In order to fit the chairs in we've also had to rearrange some of the pews. Of course, nothing is bolted down. The new arrangement will be something of a 'trial and error' until we find the best fit. Thank you to those who have already made a donation towards the cost of the chairs.

## ***Gospel Reflection***

'Do not be afraid' is one of the most commonly repeated sentences in the Bible. In one form or another, the command to 'be not afraid' or 'fear not' appears several hundred times throughout the Old and New Testaments. Today's gospel passage is part of the sending out of the Twelve that occupies all of Chapter 10 in the gospel. It follows a little later in the chapter from last week's reading in which Jesus called the Twelve and sent them out as Apostles. The remainder of the chapter provides an extended teaching on what it means and what it costs to take the message of Jesus out into the world. Jesus teaches the Twelve that the message they bear will not always be well received and there will be those who will seek to silence the Apostles through violent means. But then the teaching comes to the section of today's passage and Jesus commands the Twelve, 'Do not be afraid'.

The message to not be afraid is as much for the original intended audience of the gospel as it was for the apostles. The community for whom this gospel was written were on the verge of being 'squeezed out' and forced into secret. The passage reminds them to have courage and to have the courage of their convictions; to shout from the house-tops their message, not whisper it in darkness. It is a reminder of the abundant love of God who cares for them and sees all their efforts to continue to live out the message and ministry of Jesus.

It is equally a message for us, today. We are called to continue the spread of the gospel message; continuing the work of those early Christian communities, the Twelve and Jesus himself.

**Greg Sunter** has worked in Catholic Education (Brisbane) for many years, most recently as a member of the Religious Education team and Mission and Formation team. He has extensive experience of praying with young people and forming others to lead prayer with young people. He is the author of books on adolescent faith, is a regular speaker at youth and evangelisation conferences, and is a retreat and reflection facilitator and presenter. His areas of interest include religious education, theology, scripture, spirituality, Catholic ethos, prayer, and ministry with young people.



**With the easing of COVID-19 restrictions**

### **MASS IS RESUMING *BUT* WITH RESTRICTIONS:**

From now on we will be celebrating weekend Masses. Next weekend, the 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> June, will be according to our usual roster for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month.

To help accommodate some extra numbers, Fr James will also temporarily offer an extra Mass in Swan Hill on Saturdays at 5.00pm.

### **BUT**

According to Victorian Governments directions  
only **50** worshippers can attend each service

### **SO**

For Swan Hill, book your seat by **Phone ONLY** from TUESDAY onwards by contacting the Parish Office on 50324144 **after** 10.30am.

Our country churches have been contacted and will make their own arrangements for their scheduled Masses

**First Reading** Jer 20:10-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

Jeremiah said:

'I hear so many disparaging me, "Terror from every side! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All those who used to be my friends watched for my downfall, "Perhaps he will be seduced into error. Then we will master him and take our revenge!"

But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero; my opponents will stumble, mastered, confounded by their failure; everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs. But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe With justice, who scrutinise the loins and heart, let me see the vengeance you will take on them, for I have committed my cause to you. Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.'

*The Word of the Lord*

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 68:8-10. 14. 17. 33-35. R. v.14

**(R.) Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

It is for you that I suffer taunts, that shame covers my face, that I have become a stranger to my brothers, an alien to my own mother's sons. I burn with zeal for your house and taunts against you fall on me.

This is my prayer to you, my prayer for your favour. In your great love, answer me, O God, with your help that never fails: Lord, answer, for your love is kind; in your compassion, turn towards me.

The poor when they see it will be glad and God-seeking hearts will revive; for the Lord listens to the needy and does not spurn his servants in their chains.

Let the heavens and the earth give him praise, the sea and all its living creatures.

**(R.) Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

**Second Reading** Rom 5:12-15

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans:

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Gospel Acclamation** Jn 15:26. 27

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses. Alleluia!

**Gospel** Mt 10:26-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew:

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

*The Gospel of the Lord*

**Next Week's Readings:**

First Reading: 2 Kgs 4:8-11. 14-16

Second Reading: Rom 6:3-4. 8-11

Gospel: Mt 10:37-42

