

Parish Newsletter



Parish Office: Leonie Bird Phone 53018161
Daylesford (Wednesday- Friday) 9am- 2pm



“We are a Child Safe Parish”

Safeguarding Officer: Leonie Bird

Emails: daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au & creswick@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr Gary A Jones- Also visiting Priest for: Wendouree & Ballarat North

Parish School Principal: St Michael's Ethan Corfee St Augustine's Terry Brennan.

Sunday Mass times: Creswick 8.45am & Daylesford 10.30am

Country Church: St Joseph's Blampied ; St Francis Xavier Chapel Eganstown Cemetery

Recent Death: Damian Van der Linden

Anniversaries of Death:

Creswick- Mary Haintz; Francis Kennedy;
Maria Danaher.

Daylesford- Thelma Rodgers; Patrick Purcell;
Jean Mahoney; Catherine Brown; William Wilson; Joseph
Rieniets; Peg Greenham.



OFFICE CLOSED

Please note that the
office will be closed
Friday 25th September.



HISTORICAL **CONTEXT**

Labourers for hire

Jesus' parable describes a situation that would have been very familiar to his audience. At the time, there were many quite wealthy landowners who controlled large vineyards, orchards and crop fields. They would have employed a certain number of permanent workers but come harvest time there was a need for more workers and, much like today, they sought to employ part time workers for a short period of time until the rush was over. Men looking for work would gather in the marketplace of a village and landowners would select workers and send them to their property to work.

It's St Mary's 10th Anniversary and you're invited

To mark the 10th anniversary of the canonisation of Mary MacKillop, Australia's first Saint, the Sisters of Saint Joseph invite you to celebrate the wonderful life and inspirational legacy of Saint Mary of the Cross. The Sisters have created commemorative prayers, videos and a global vigil in of honour Mary throughout September and October

<https://www.sosj.org.au/10th-anniversary>

Prayers and Images in the Time of Virus

Following the success of Michael McGirr's *Trees in Solitude*, *Prayers and Images for Pentecost*, Garratt Publishing are pleased to present a complimentary second 'Trees' series from Michael – *Trees Without Masks*. Over the coming weeks these beautiful prayers and images will be shared. Download the prayers from the news section of the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au.

LETTER FROM BISHOP PAUL

Hello Everyone,

As you would be aware, the Victorian government has announced some easing of the restrictions that have been in force to counter the spread of COVID-19.

In regional Victoria, including our Diocese of Ballarat, we will move to the Third Step of the government's staged reopening. This will apply from midnight tonight (September 16).

What does this mean as far as our churches and chapels and religious ceremonies are concerned?

Weddings will be able to have up to 10 people gathered (including the couple and two witnesses), plus the celebrant.

Funerals will be able to have up to 20 people gathered, plus those required to conduct the funeral.

Outdoor religious gatherings will be allowed for up to 10 people, plus a faith leader.

Churches and chapels may be open for private worship for households or social bubbles, plus a faith leader.

These provisions allow for some increase in numbers for weddings and funerals. Furthermore, it will now be possible to have an outdoor religious celebration for up to 10 people, plus the person leading the prayer. Parishes may be able to arrange some such outdoor celebrations.

Moreover, we will now be able to reopen our churches and chapels, at least for private worship. I encourage parish and school communities to open churches and chapels for some time each day so that people can spend a while in personal prayer in the presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

It is still possible for parishes to live-stream Mass. However, this can only involve up to five people. The provisions do not allow us to gather in our churches to celebrate Mass as we would dearly wish to.

Together with the other bishops of Victoria, I have been making representations to government for an easing of the restrictions in relation to places of worship. I have proposed that places of worship should at least be treated in the same way as other places where people can gather socially. In the coming week, bishops and other religious leaders will have further meetings with government. I hope these meetings will bear fruit so that we will be able to gather again in our churches. We do need to safeguard the community's health. Yet we have shown that we can observe the necessary precautions for physical health at the same time as we celebrate the liturgy, which contributes so much to the spiritual and mental health of the community. I pray particularly that we will soon be able to share the Eucharist, source and summit of the Christian life.

Peace be with you.

God bless you all.

Bishop Paul

