



# Holy Family Parish Northeast Mallee

Incorporating the Communities of

St Mary's Sea Lake, Sacred Heart Culgoa, St Michael's Lalbert, St Joseph's Lake Boga, St Joseph's Nandaly, S's Peter & Paul Quambatook & St Mary's Swan Hill  
[northeastmallee@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:northeastmallee@ballarat.catholic.org.au) 03 50324144



## Pentecost Sunday - 23rd May



### COME, O HOLY SPIRIT, COME!

O God, who by the mystery of today's great feast  
sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation,  
pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit  
across the face of the earth  
and, with the divine grace that was at work  
when the Gospel was first proclaimed,  
fill now once more the hearts of believers.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

#### **Parish Contact Details**

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 Priest**

Fr James Kerr

#### **Parish Admin Officers:**

Glenda Klabbers

Mary Kennedy

#### **Child Protection Officers:**

Damian and Karen Kelly

#### **Child Safe Church**

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



*Please keep in your prayers*  
**Recent Deaths**

Lyn Stutley

**Anniversaries of Death**

John O'Bree, Haydee Phyland, Orazia Ganci,  
Roy Marsilino, Maria Colombo, Giovanni & Serena  
Edera, Hugh Woodburn, Cornelius Ryan, John Joseph  
O'Loughlin, Lorna Graves, Michael McInerney, Patrick  
Conlan, Michael Tuohey, Cheryl Hind,

**Sick List**

Jarrold Crimmins, Jack Donohue,  
Jude Lewis, Yvonne Annan, Sarah Kenny, Michael  
Bourke, Bridget Phyland, Greta Sherlock, Carmel Ryan,  
Tully Williams, Bill Croft.

**Sacraments this week**

**This weekend**

Saturday 6.30pm Swan Hill  
Sunday 8.30am Lake Boga  
Sunday 10.30am Swan Hill

**Weekday Mass**

Monday 5:30pm  
(Feast of Mary Help of Christians, our Patron)  
Tues 5.30pm Swan Hill  
No Wednesday Mass (Funeral 11am)  
Thurs 5.30 pm Swan Hill  
Friday 12pm Swan Hill

**Confessions**

Thursday 5pm -5.30pm

**Next weekend (Confirmations)**

Saturday 6.30pm Swan Hill  
Sunday 10.30am Swan Hill

**Collections Last Weekend**

1<sup>st</sup> Collection (Presbytery): \$ 965  
2<sup>nd</sup> Collection (Parish): \$ 871.40

# NOTICES

## LAKE BOGA FINAL MASS

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June 12:30pm**

As announced last week, the Lake Boga Mass Community has decided that the time has come to retire the building.

**Our challenge** is the deteriorating condition of the Church building and the ever increasing demands of maintenance, both of the Church and the grounds. As numbers decrease, this burden falls on fewer and fewer parishioners and is becoming too much.

**Our Priority** is the community itself and the people who make it up. The building exists to serve the needs of the community, not vice versa. With the needs of the building ever increasing, it is time to reconsider what is the best way to focus our energies and resources.

**A New Opportunity:** It was suggested that refocusing our energies into establishing a new family group may be the best way forward. We would aim to meet several times a year, either by the Lake foreshore or at one another's houses, taking turns to host. Such gatherings would be a great way to maintain and grow the great friendships formed by the Church community. We can continue to support each other as we follow Christ through the ups and downs of life.

**We plan therefore to hold our final Sunday Mass in Lake Boga on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June at 12:30pm.** This will be a chance to give thanks for the years the building has served our community, and to commission the new family group which will carry on the community spirit. Mass will be followed by a shared lunch. Please bring something to share. All are welcome. Please pass on the message to all who may have been connected to Lake Boga in the past.

**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.

**Our Parish Schools**

**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.a](mailto:principal@smswanhill.catholic.edu.a)

**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)



### A RETREAT DAY WITH ST JOSEPH

In honour of the Year of St Joseph, the parish is hosting a retreat day where you can learn more, and reflect upon, his life and how he is the model of the spiritual life. The day includes three talks, Mass, morning tea and lunch. The speakers will facilitate a short period discussion and Q&A after each input session.

The retreat will be held on Saturday 19 June from 9.30-4.15pm in the Parish Function Centre, Swan Hill. Entry is free, donations are appreciated.

Please book through the Parish Office and pass the word on to anyone you feel may be interested.

For more information see the flyer on the parish noticeboard, go to [www.sapientiaproject.com](http://www.sapientiaproject.com), or call the parish office.

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

In what ways was the Pentecost experience, 50 days after Easter, the 'right time' for the disciples?

What emotions may the disciples have felt on that day?

How would you have reacted if you were in the disciples' place?

What is the relationship between Jesus and the Holy Spirit?

Where in your life could you use the guidance and strength of the Spirit?

What was significant about the disciples being heard to speak in many different languages?

Have you ever had an experience of being aware of the Spirit's presence/action?

**ROSTERS** for counters and Eucharistic Ministers are available at the back of the church. If you would like the rosters emailed to you please contact the office with your details.

### SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

#### *Come, Spirit of Truth.*

The Feast of Pentecost began in Israel as a simple Harvest Festival to celebrate the *first fruits* of the crops at the beginning of summer. In time, the festival was linked to the arrival of the Israelites at Mt Sinai following the Exodus from Egypt. At Sinai, God and Israel bound themselves in covenant and God gave them the gift of the Law to shape their lives. The gift of the Law was seen as the *first fruits* of the Exodus, the beginning of Israel's life as the people of God. Within Judaism, the festival took place seven weeks after the Passover, a week of weeks, hence its Jewish name, the Festival of Weeks (*Shavuot*).

Following the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christians, who were at first all Jews, experienced the power of the Risen Jesus still present in their midst, restoring their faith in him and giving them the courage to proclaim Jesus as God's chosen one. Over a period of decades, the ongoing experience of the Spirit of Jesus enlivening the community led Luke to understand the Spirit as the 'first fruit' of Easter. This led Christians to celebrate the Festival of Weeks no longer as the gift of the Law on Sinai but as the gift of the Spirit. Since this festival began fifty days after Passover (Easter), the name given to this Festival among Greek speaking Jews and Christians was Pentecost. So Luke begins the Acts of the Apostles, with a vivid account of the Spirit coming to the Christian community during the great Jewish Festival of Pentecost. Placing the gift of the Spirit during this Jewish Festival was Luke's deliberate way of interpreting what the Spirit meant for the Christian community. Where the Sinai covenant was seen as the first-fruits of the Exodus, the Spirit is the first-fruit of Easter. The Sinai covenant is what bound the people of Israel together, making them one people, and it also bound them to God. The Spirit is our bond with each other and with God. If you look at the fruits of the Spirit that Paul lists in his letter to the Galatians, these are all values that bring people together: love, joy, kindness, trustfulness – these are essential values to any relationship. Paul says that these are the ways the Spirit is manifest in the lives of Christians. In the vivid description of the coming of the Spirit in the Acts of the Apostles, the Spirit enables people to speak and listen to each other.

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Taken from reflection as posted on [Liturgyhelp.com.au](http://Liturgyhelp.com.au)

**First Reading** Acts 2:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

*They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.*

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome - Jews and proselytes alike - Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.' *The Word of the Lord*

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 103:1. 24. 29-31. 34. R. v.30

**(R.) Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.**

Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord God, how great you are, How many are your works, O Lord! The earth is full of your riches.

You take back your spirit, they die, returning to the dust from which they came. You send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord last for ever! May the Lord rejoice in his works! May my thoughts be pleasing to him. I find my joy in the Lord.

**(R.) Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.**

**Second Reading** 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians  
*In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.*

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Alleluia!

**Gospel** Jn 20:19-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John:

*As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.*

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Next Week's Readings:**

First Reading: Dt 4:32-34. 39-40

Second Reading: Rom 8:14-17

Gospel: Mt 28:16-20

