



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 03 50324144

Website: northeastmallee.org.au



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT 6TH MARCH 2022

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY BEGINS



It was wonderful to see so many people come to participate in our Ash Wednesday Masses last week. It really helped instil the sense that Lent is never a purely individual pilgrimage, but rather a communal one. For sure, Lent is indeed a time when we pause and take a stock of our own lives. But we should never lose sight of the fact that our brothers and sisters are doing the same alongside us. And by together acknowledging our need for God's help and grace, we are drawn closer to Christ, and through Christ closer to each other too. By their nature, reflection and self-examination are deeply personal. But the Lenten pilgrimage never stops there. We are called into ourselves, so that we might better go out of ourselves in love.

We search our hearts so that they might pour out that love more fully. The sign of a Lent well lived is not so much how successful we have been in keeping certain promises, but in how our efforts have opened up our hearts afresh to God's grace and through that grace to each other.

PRAYERS FOR PEACE IN THE UKRAINE

We continue to pray for peace in Ukraine, and for all people who are hurt by war.

Heavenly Father,

Your will for your people is peace, not war.

Pour out on our world, especially in Eastern Europe, your Spirit of compassion and solidarity.

Grant all those who believe in you the strength to be close to those who suffer and the courage to resolve their differences and conflicts in truth and without resort to arms.

Be with the widow, the orphan, the refugee and the peacemaker.

Bind us all into the peace of your Kingdom.

Through Christ our Lord,

AMEN.

Parish Contact Details:

St Mary's Presbytery 62 Splatt St
Po Box 71 Swan Hill, Vic 3585

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Office Hrs: Tues and Fri 10:30 -2:30

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

Angelo Abate
(Father of Teresa Taverna)

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

Pasquale Milazzo (30 Days), Francesco Salvo,
Norah Walsh, Mary Eleanor Ryan, Thomas Walsh,
Sarina & Giovanni Edera, Frank Dillon, Charles
Healy, Kath Daniels, Ron Noble, Mary Foley,
Leonard Patching,

SICK LIST

Jayden Williams, Margaret Foott, Jarrod
Crimmins, Jack Donohue, Jude Lewis, Yvonne
Annan, Sarah Kenny, Michael Bourke, Bridget
Phyland, Carmel Ryan

THIS WEEKEND (5TH/6TH MARCH)

Saturday 6:30pm Swan Hill
Sunday: 8.30am Sea Lake
Sunday 10:30am Swan Hill

WEEKDAYS IN SWAN HILL

Tuesday 5.30pm
Wednesday 10am
Thurs: Confession 5pm and Mass 5.30pm
Fri: Adoration 11am Mass 12 Noon
Sat: Confessions 9-10am

NEXT WEEKEND (12TH/13TH MARCH)

Friday 5pm Culgoa
Saturday 6:30pm Swan Hill
Sunday 8.30am Quambatook
Sunday 10:30am Swan Hill
Sunday 5pm Nandaly

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND

1st (Presbytery) \$ 610
2nd (Parish) \$ 1927

NOTICES

CUPPA AFTER MASS after the 10.30am Mass in
Swan Hill this Sunday 6th March. All welcome

EXTRA CONFESSION TIMES As Lent is marked
as a special time for prayer and repentance, it is
also a great time to bring in a slight change to
our weekly routine. From next weekend onwards
I will offer confessions on Saturdays from 9am-
10am. I will still continue to offer confessions on
Thursday evenings and know that you are always
welcome and encouraged to approach me for
confession at any time. This sacrament is one of
the greatest treasures of our faith.

ROSARY IN THE PARK Saturday 12th March.
10am Riverside Park. All welcome. BYO chair.

VOLUNTEERS: Do you have a few hours to
spare on a Tuesday evening between 4.30pm
and 7.30pm. **A GOOD KITCHEN** is looking for
volunteers to assist them. Contact by email
agoodkitchen@gmail.com or call in to the Parish
Function Centre on a Tuesday after 4.30pm and
sign up.

PROJECT COMPASSION resources are available
from the Church.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP Some young local
Christians are looking to start up an ecumenical
fellowship group for young adults here in Swan
Hill. This should be a great way to support each
other. More details to come.

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

St Mary's Primary School Swan Hill
Principal: Kate Quin
2 Murlong St Swan Hill
Ph. 03 5033 2541

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



Anatercia 12, was struggling to cope with adult responsibilities after her father died. Then she participated in Caritas Australia- supported training and gained access to psychosocial supports.

Now, Anatercia can easily access clean drinking water, community members are able to grow healthy crops all year round, and there is enough nutritious food to eat. Anatercia feels better supported by her community, has more time to study and do her homework, and hopes to fulfil her dream of becoming a nurse.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 to help young people succeed in the future and bring stability to vulnerable youth like Anatercia.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from the church, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Why is it significant that Jesus was able to be tempted?

Why might the account of the temptations immediately follow Jesus' baptism?

How might we interpret the fact that Jesus was 'led by the Spirit' through the wilderness?

What are the temptations that you face?

How do you try to resist these temptations?

When have you ever had a 'wilderness experience' in your life?

Readings Next Week: 2nd Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Gen 15:5-12. 17-18

Second Reading: Phil 3:17 – 4:1

Gospel: Mt 17:5

REFLECTION BY DIANNE BERGANT CSA

Lent is a time when we are reminded that there is nothing we can do to win our salvation. It is a pure gift from God. Like Jesus in the wilderness, we are to allow God's plan to unfold in and through us. Lent is a time for us to enter actively into the mysteries of the death and resurrection of Jesus, and there to marvel at what God has done for us.

The temptations of Jesus are the same temptations that we face when we are inclined to think that somehow we are in control. While the goals of the temptations may be admirable – feed the hungry, bring the world under the control of good, trust in God's power to protect us – we often choose to accomplish them in ways that are less than admirable. We try to perform the extraordinary so that what we do reflects favourably on us. We use brute force in order to achieve control. We put God to the test rather than live peacefully with God's plan as it unfolds within and around us. We seek to become the super-hero, the super-minister, the super-Christian on our own. In his responses to the tempter, we see Jesus constantly deferring to the power of God: It is not by bread alone . . . worship only God . . . do not put God to the test. In a real sense, these temptations are a reminder that the fundamental temptation is to deny our human limitations and refuse to let God be God for us.

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LIVING THE GOSPEL – LENT

The 40 days that Jesus spent praying and preparing in the wilderness is reflected in the season of Lent that lasts 40 days from Ash Wednesday until the day before Easter Sunday (not counting Sundays in the season). It has been traditional that during the time of Lent Christian people renew their efforts in prayer, fasting and almsgiving. All three of these practices are actions of preparation. Just as Jesus prepared for his ministry in the wilderness, so too is Lent an opportunity for us to be deliberate about our reflection on what we are called to do in this world

First Reading Dt 26:4-10

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy:

The confession of faith of the elect.

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

"My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 90:1-2. 10-15. R. v.15

(R.) Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides in the shade of the Almighty says to the Lord: 'My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!'

Upon you no evil shall fall, no plague approach where you dwell. For you has he commanded his angels, to keep you in all your ways.

They shall bear you upon their hands lest you strike your foot against a stone. On the lion and the viper you will tread and trample the young lion and the dragon.

His love he set on me, so I will rescue him; protect him for he knows my name. When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.' I will save him in distress and give him glory.

(R.) Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Second Reading Rom 10:8-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The confession of faith of the believers in Christ.

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved.

When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel Lk 4:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness where he was tempted.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.'

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God', he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says:

He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again:

They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

The Gospel of the Lord.