



Holy Family Parish Northeast Mallee

03 50324144

Website: northeastmallee.org.au

Incorporating the Communities of St Mary's Sea Lake, Sacred Heart Culgoa, St Michael's Lalbert, St Joseph's Nandaly, S's Peter & Paul Quambatook & St Mary's Swan Hill as well as the Lake Boga Families & Faith Group



18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SUNDAY 31ST JULY 2022



YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU: THE HARVEST IS MEANT FOR SHARING!

There was once a very greedy man who was facing his last days. He loved his money more than anything, so before he died he made his wife promise him one thing; to bury him with all his money. "I earned that money and I'm going to take every penny of it with me!" he roared from his bed. He then rolled over and died. No-one was particularly sad at his passing, but word had got around about the promise, so the whole town turned up at the funeral to see how things would turn out. Would the wife honour his wishes? Seeing everyone there out of curiosity, she addressed them straight. "You all know my husband was a greedy fool, and you probably heard about his dying wish. You can all be my witnesses, I have followed it to the letter. I called by the bank for a statement of his account, and have made out a cheque for that exact amount. It is there in his coffin with him and he can cash it in whenever he likes."

Avarice, jealousy, greed, envy... they are dangerous things and can eat away at the soul, leading to bitterness and resentment. And you don't have to be rich to suffer from them either; the poor are equally in danger. The rich are in greater danger of becoming slaves to their own possessions, but the poor can just as easily fall prey to the resentment avarice brings. It stunts growth and inhibits our truer freedom. It is also ultimately futile, because the only thing we can take from this life is our soul and the account we have made for it.

The good news is there is an easy antidote; generosity.

Wherever we are and in whatever setting we find ourselves, we can always give of ourselves and share with those around us. We can be generous in so many ways too; in our time, our treasure and in our talents. And in living generosity we are freed from the slavery of avarice. We come to recognise that all we have comes from God, and that no matter how much we give we will still always receive more. We are opened up to the people around us so that we might enjoy the greatest treasure of all; loving relationships.

WELCOME FR MATTHEW RESTALL!

We welcome Fr Matthew Restall back this weekend to celebrate Mass with us. You can still smell the fragrant oil on his hands! We thank Fr Matthew for so generously laying his life down in service of God's Church here in the Diocese of Ballarat, and we wish him every blessing going forward.

Be sure to join in the celebrations after Mass; there will be lots of special food to enjoy!

Parish Contact Details:

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

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Phone: 03 5032 4144

Website: northeastmallee.org.au

Office Hrs: Tues, Wed 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

Helen Brown

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

Salvatore Castelli, Ian Thomson, Noel Hickey
Concetta Castelli, Jack Meney, Veronica Deagan,
Gavin Polinelli, Veronica Butler, John Phyland,
Matthew Noone, Allan Irvine, Nell Fraser,
Antonietta Agosta, Adrianna Klabbers

SICK LIST

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

THIS WEEKEND (30TH/31ST JULY)

Saturday 6pm Swan Hill
Sunday: 8.30am Quambatook
Sunday 10:30am Swan Hill
Sunday 10am Sea Lake Ecumenical Service Uniting
Church

WEEKDAYS IN SWAN HILL

Tuesday: Mass 5.30pm
Wednesday: 10.00am
Thursday: Confessions 5pm
Mass 5.30pm, Adoration until 7pm
Friday: Adoration 11am
Mass 12noon
Saturday: Confessions 9am-10am
Mass 10am (First Saturday)

NEXT WEEKEND (6TH/7TH AUGUST)

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

LAST 2 WEEKEND'S COLLECTIONS

1st Collection (Presbytery): \$ 1916
2nd Collection (Parish- Planned Giving): \$ 2300

NOTICES

2022 SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT:

RESPECT: CONFRONTING VIOLENCE AND ABUSE

The latest Social Justice Statement will be released in a week, with a focus on the very important subject of recognising and confronting domestic violence. Our Diocese will host a forum in response to the statement on Saturday October 1st. The program will run for about two hours and include presentations from Victoria Police and CatholicCare.

It will be open to anyone via Zoom, but the hope is also to gather in 'hubs' hosted by certain parishes across the Diocese. Our parish has been invited to host one such hub in Swan Hill. If you are interested in being part of the day, and are open to being part of a core group to help promote and set up for it, could you please let us know in the office by the end of the week. That way we can let the organisers know whether or not we will be able to host. Given the sensitive nature of the topic, they are planning to have counsellors on hand at each hub.

The event will still be open to us either way, and we will share more details as they come.

LOOKING AHEAD

Mondays 8th & 15th mark two special feasts for our parish, especially for our 3 schools who will each celebrate their Feast days. Each will have their special liturgies, and we will also celebrate Masses in Swan Hill at 5:30pm both days.

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.

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.au

St Mary MacKillop College

Principal: Michelle Haeusler

53 McCrae Street, Swan Hill

Ph: 5032 9771

Principal@mackillopsh.vic.edu.au



REFLECTION BY FR MICHAEL TATE STOP TALKING TO YOURSELF!

Conversation is what makes us human: we are word animals. Anyone who has been in hospital for some time knows that it is the lack of conversation which starts to tell. We need mouth to mouth resuscitation.

Did you notice in today's Gospel that the rich landowner is constantly murmuring to himself. He poses questions which he answers. He is so bound up with his possessions that there is no room in his life for real conversation with people or with God.

In muttering to himself, the rich man was becoming dehumanised and in danger that at the moment of death, he could find himself monologuing for all eternity, and that is a Hellish existence. He, and we, need to learn the language of Heaven and we begin that on earth.

There are two partners of conversation we need: With God we call it prayer. The Our Father is the conversation of the children of God with their heavenly Father. With other people, real dialogue might reveal something about them such that we need to respond wholeheartedly.

And then, draw closer to Our Lady who was the greatest conversation partner with God: 'Be it done unto me according to Thy word.' She is constantly trying to draw us into her conversation with God.

We could pause for a moment to ask Our Lady to help us to learn and practise the language of Heaven: 'now, and at the hour of our death.' Amen.

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HAVE YOU THOUGHT?

Why might the man in the crowd have asked Jesus to sort out the dispute with his brother?

What is the message of Jesus' parable about the rich man with the good harvest?

What does Jesus mean by making ourselves 'rich in the sight of God'?

How could you simplify your lifestyle and make a difference in the lives of others?

How is it possible to maintain integrity in the face of constant advertising pressure to acquire new things?

In what way is the parable an answer to the man's question about the dispute with his brother?

What experience do you have of people hoarding their wealth and sharing their abundance?

What are the implications of this gospel for the way we share our personal gifts and talents?

How could your local community better strive to live out this gospel message?

IN GRATITUDE FOR OUR GRANDPARENTS!

Last weekend was celebrated a special time to recognise the pivotal role grandparents and the elderly play in supporting and forming the next generation. This is because it sat closest to the Feast of Anne and Joachim that we celebrated on Tuesday; the parents of Mary and so grandparents of Jesus. Below is part of the Pope's message for the day:

***The World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly** is an opportunity to proclaim once more, with joy, that the Church wants to celebrate together with all those whom the Lord – in the words of the Bible – has "filled with days". Let us celebrate it together! I ask you to make this Day known in your parishes and communities; to seek out those elderly persons who feel most alone, at home or in residences where they live. Let us make sure that no one feels alone on this day. Expecting a visit can transform those days when we think we have nothing to look forward to; from an initial encounter, a new friendship can emerge. Visiting the elderly who live alone is a work of mercy in our time!*

*Let us ask Our Lady, Mother of Tender Love, to make all of us artisans of the **revolution of tenderness**, so that together we can set the world free from the spectre of loneliness and the demon of war.*

First Reading Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes
What do people gain by all their work?

Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity!

For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skilfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all. This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night.

You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades.

Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?

Show pity to your servants.

In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands.

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

Second Reading Col 3:1-5, 9-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians
Seek the things that are above where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life: fornication, impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the

image of its creator; and in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! Alleluia!

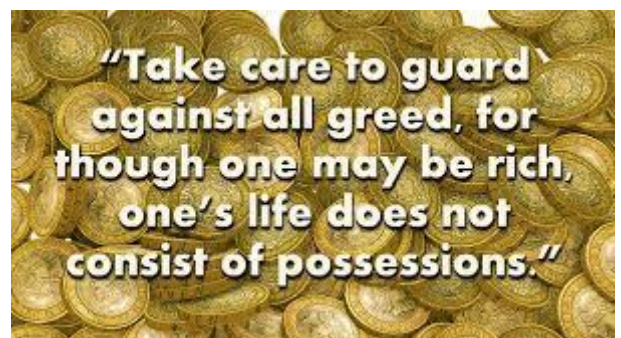
Gospel Lk 12:13-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
To whom will all this wealth of yours go?

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied, 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do; I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Readings Next Week:****19th Sunday Ordinary Time**

First Reading: Wis 18:6-9

Second Reading: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19

Gospel: Lk 12:32-48