

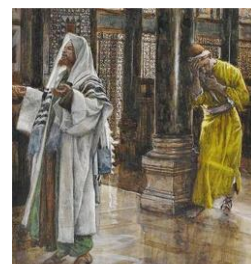


Holy Family Parish Northeast Mallee

northeastmallee@ballarat.catholic.org.au 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



23RD OCTOBER 2022

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OPEN HEARTS, READY TO RECEIVE GOD'S LOVE

Two men come to pray in the Temple.

The first is very sure of himself. In fact, he is so sure of himself that he has nothing to bring to his prayer except proud claims about how well he is doing, like God should somehow be impressed. He acts as if he has no need of God. He thinks that he is carrying along quite well on his own. God may as well be dead to him. His heart is completely closed. There is no change in him, he leaves the Temple just as he has come in.

The second man is much more in tune with reality. His humility allows him to see himself as he truly is, a sinner in need of help, and his faith allows him to see God as he truly is, a merciful Father who is always ready to shower us with his love. This man's humility means his heart is open and ready to receive God's love as a gift. God is very real to him. He knows he needs God and pins his hopes on God's merciful love. And because of this, because he came with an open heart, he leaves the Temple a new man.

Humility simply means recognising our relationship with God for what it truly is. In other words, true humility is grounded in knowing that we are loved.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES!

We are very pleased to begin our Confirmation celebrations this weekend. Our children and their families have been preparing over the last few weeks.

The focus of the program has been on opening our hearts to receive and respond to God's love. He loves each of us deeply, as if we were his special favourite. However he never forces his love on us, but offers it as a free gift.

We pray for each of the children presented today. We pray that your hearts will always be open to the Father's love for you. May his Holy Spirit strengthen those special gifts that you receive today and help bring growth to His fruits in your lives. As special sharers in Jesus' Mission, may you always be ready to share his love with all the world!

SPECIAL PRAYER IN TIME OF FLOOD

We keep in our prayers those affected by flooding over these last few days.

We pray that everyone will be kept safe in the days ahead, especially those who will be on the road.

We also pray for those who are putting their hands up to help those in need.

Parish Contact Details:

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

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

Fr Bill Melican

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

John O'Sullivan, Luke Brennan, Brian O'Loughlin,
Patrick Pearce, John "Jack" McNamara, Mary Dobeli,
Michael O'Connor, Dorothy Bishop, Ronald Hoare,
Lia Pino, Patrick O'Reilly, Jack Giddings,
Doreen O'Brien,

SICK LIST

Elizabeth Williamson, Paul Donohue, Jayden
Williams, Margaret Foott, Jarrod Crimmins,
Jack Donohue, Jude Lewis, Susan, Yvonne Annan,
Bridget Phyland, Carmel Ryan, Bill Free

THIS WEEKEND (22ND/23RD OCTOBER)

Saturday 6pm Swan Hill (Confirmations)

Sunday 8.30am Quambatook

Sunday 10:30am Swan Hill (Confirmations)

WEEKDAYS

Monday: 10am Memorial Mass for Fr Bill Melican

Tuesday: 5.30pm

Wednesday: 10 am

Thursday: Confessions 5pm
Mass 5.30pm; Adoration until 7pm

Friday: 11am Adoration
12 noon Mass

NEXT WEEKEND (29TH/30TH OCTOBER)

Saturday 6pm Swan Hill

Sunday 10:30am Swan Hill

LOOKING AHEAD-

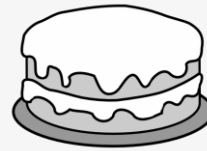
ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS

Monday 31st October: 5:30pm (Vigil All Saints)

Tuesday 1st November: 5:30pm (All Saints)

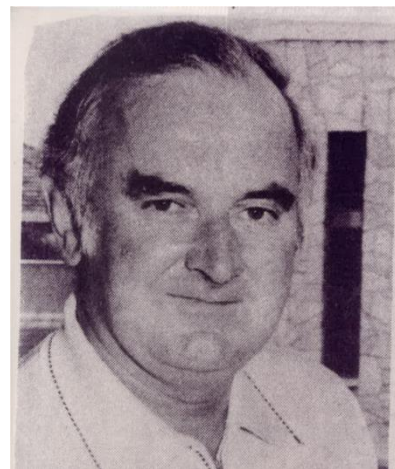
Wednesday 2nd Nov (All Souls): 10am & 5:30pm

NOTICES



CLAYTON'S CAKE STALL: THANK YOU

A big thank you to all those who contributed to the Clayton's Cake Stall. You raised \$ 985.50 which was a fantastic effort. Thank you to Brenda especially for her work in organising this. That will cover the recent repairs done to the Church roof here in Swan Hill, with a good amount left over to go towards some new carpet in the affected areas. Thank you!



MEMORIAL MASS FR BILL MELICAN

Fr Bill Melican died last Saturday morning. After two earlier stints as an assistant in the mid-late fifties, Fr Bill returned to take up an appointment as Parish Priest of Swan Hill from 1971 to early 1979. He later returned to the region for the last years of his active ministry to serve in Robinvale. I know many remember Fr Bill fondly. Even in his late years he could still very well hold court as the life of the party! He never lost his deep store of stories, facts, verse and limericks.

The Requiem Mass for Fr Bill Melican will be held at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat this Monday (24th Oct) at 10:30am.

Given the flood situation, I am not able to attend, so I will be offering Mass for him here in Swan Hill instead at **10am on Monday**.

May he rest in peace.

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

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Please check that you have collected your envelopes for 2022/2023 from the back of the church. There are a number of **monthly and yearly** envelopes still to be collected.

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTIONS

1st Collection (Presbytery): \$

2nd Collection (Parish- Planned Giving): \$

Clayton's Cake Stall Total: \$ 985.50

HAVE YOU THOUGHT?

The Pharisee's prayer names very good actions and attitudes. What's wrong with his prayer?

How do the physical actions of the two men in the parable contrast?

Why does the tax collector's prayer set him at rights with God?

How do you think Luke's original audience might have reacted to hearing this parable?

Where in today's world do you see examples of the Pharisee's attitude?

What does this parable tell us about the purpose of prayer?

From this parable, what would seem to be the most important element of prayer?

Why might the gospel writer have chosen a Pharisee and a tax collector as the two characters?

How does this parable serve to demonstrate that God's ways are not the ways of humankind?

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - TODAY

Today is World Mission Sunday, a day dedicated to the great work of Mission. To celebrate this event, Catholic Mission is inviting all of us to answer our call to be missionaries. Through their international network of the Pontifical Mission Societies, Catholic Mission have created a 2022 #wearestillhere message that witnesses the dedication of missionaries around the world and is a celebration, an acknowledgment, and a thank you message to everyone who is answering the call of being missionaries wherever they are. Together, let's reach out and give life. Learn what Mission means to our brothers and sisters at catholicmission.org.au/wearestillhere Thank you for choosing to support the work of Catholic Mission and for sharing the important and vital work of missionaries. This year, we invite you to partner with the essential work of the community and Church in Ethiopia as they look to establish a goat rearing centre to provide nutritious milk for families in most need. In addition, the Centre will provide opportunities for agricultural training and employment.

REFLECTION BY FR MICHAEL TATE

Standing in the Humus of Life

This parable begins 'Two men went up to the Temple to pray'. But only one of them actually prayed: 'God be merciful to me, a sinner'. The other informs God how well he is doing in the piety stakes. Notice that he strings together a whole lot of verbs, all in the first person singular! This means he is in mortal danger of staying in the first person singular after death, which is Hellish.

The other is said to be 'humble'. I like the English companion word: 'humus'. He is well-grounded, knows where he is standing, sometimes in the manure of life.

It takes courage and humility to admit to God exactly where we stand. We can do so in Confession, or less formally simply praying: 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner'.

We could pause for a moment to humbly pray so that we may hope to hear Our Lord say: 'This woman, this man, this boy, this girl, went home at rights with God.'

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FIRST READING Sir 35:12-14, 16-18

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

The prayer of the humble will penetrate the heavens.

The Lord is a judge who is no respecter of personages.

He shows no respect of personages to the detriment of a poor man, he listens to the plea of the injured party. He does not ignore the orphan's supplication, nor the widow's as she pours out her story.

The man who with his whole heart serves God will be accepted, his petitions will carry to the clouds. The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds, until it arrives he is inconsolable nor will he desist until the Most High takes notice of him, acquits the virtuous and delivers judgement. And the Lord will not be slow, nor will he be dilatory on their behalf.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 32:2-3, 17-19, 23. R. v.7

(R.) The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad.

The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth. The just call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress.

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.

(R.) The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

SECOND READING 2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

All that remains is the crown of righteousness reserved for me.

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing. The first time I had to present my defence, there was not a single witness to support me. Every one of them deserted me – may they not be held accountable for it. But the Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for

all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 2 Cor 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 18:9-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The publican returned to his home justified; the pharisee did not.

Jesus spoke the following parable to some people who prided themselves on being virtuous and despised everyone else, 'Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood there and said this prayer to himself, "I thank you, God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of mankind, and particularly that I am not like this tax collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on all I get." The tax collector stood some distance away, not daring even to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his breast and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." This man, I tell you, went home again at rights with God; the other did not. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

**READINGS NEXT WEEK:**

29th Sunday Ordinary Time

First Reading: Wis 11:22 – 12:2

Second Reading: 2 Thes 1:11 – 2:2

Gospel: Lk 19:1-10