



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



19TH NOVEMBER 2023: 33RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR CONFIRMATION CHILDREN

This weekend we are delighted to welcome thirty-four children for Confirmation at our Swan Hill Masses. Please know we have been praying for you during this time of preparation with your families. We pray that today will be a special day for you to know God's love in your lives, to be filled up with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and to see his fruits grow ever stronger in your hearts. And remember- those fruits are meant to be shared! God has a special plan for each and every one of us.

You are created to share his Light and his Love in a unique way that no-one else can.

Does that sound daunting? There is no need to be afraid! God gives us all the help and strength that we need. Open your heart to his Holy Spirit, and you will find nothing is impossible with God! In the parable today, the servant was entrusted with five talents, and was able to double that and make five more! The same can be true for all of us too- if we put our trust in God and reach out in faith, he can work wonders in our lives!

Mary Kennedy and I would also like to add a thank you to all our families for your participation in the program, to Bishop Paul for making the big trip for our celebrations, to St Mary's Primary Swan Hill for their great support, to all our parishioners who have supported us with their prayers and especially to those who helped at the enrolment sessions and retreat.

AND A SPECIAL INVITATION: GEN BRYANT IS BACK IN TOWN!

Next weekend Gen Bryant will be back in town with some of her friends for a special visit to our Parish. She will run a Family Fun night on Saturday following 6pm Mass and will also lead us in singing at the 10:30am Mass which will be followed by a Feast of Nations! Please see inside the bulletin for more information.

Parish Contact Details:

Po Box 71 Swan Hill, Vic 3585

Phone: 03 5032 4144

northeastmallee@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Website: northeastmallee.org.au

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

Parish Priest

Fr James Kerr

Parish Office:

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**

Sofia Marturano (formerly of
Tooleybuc)

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

Kathleen Storer, Robert Isgro, John Auden
Elizabeth Kiley, Loretta Barry, Cecil Learmonth
Edward McLoughlin, Carol Drummond John Flannery,
Edna O'Halloran, Michael Power, Cyril Storer
Catherine Scalora, Marlene Kelly, Leon McDougall
Michael Leonard, Mary Rogers, Frank Curran
Trevor Wiedermann, Amy Leggett

SICK LIST

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

**THIS WEEKEND (18TH/19TH NOV)
33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Saturday: 6:00pm Swan Hill *with Confirmations*

Sunday: 8.30am Culgoa

Sunday: 10:30am Swan Hill *with Confirmations*

Sunday 6pm Swan Hill Vietnamese Mass

WEEKDAYS IN SWAN HILL

Monday: *Graveside Funeral Sofia Marturano 12pm*

Tuesday 5.30pm

Wednesday 10am

Thursday 5pm Confessions

5.30pm Mass, Adoration until 7pm

Friday: 11am Adoration, 11.30am Mass

NEXT WEEKEND (25TH/26TH NOV)

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

Saturday 6:00pm Swan Hill

Followed by Family Fun Night with Gen Bryant

Sunday 8.30am Quambatook

Sunday 10:30am Swan Hill

Followed by Multicultural Lunch

NOTICES

**CELEBRATIONS FOR CHRIST THE KING
GEN BRYANT BAND VISIT...**

Next weekend we are delighted to welcome **Gen Bryant** and some of her friends back to Swan Hill to help us celebrate the Feast of Christ the King! Gen is fresh off playing in front of some 2 million pilgrims at World Youth Day in Lisbon- so we are so lucky to have her! There will be 2 special events to mark this visit;



SATURDAY 25TH: FAMILY FUN NIGHT

MUSIC & GAMES WITH GEN BRYANT AND CREW!

Gen and her band will lead us in singing at the 6pm Mass, and then afterwards families are invited to join for some more music, games and fun, including a BBQ dinner. Please pass the message around- if you have grandkids at St Mary's Swan Hill or Sea Lake, they will know Gen and her crew and will be very excited to hear she is in town. This is a great opportunity to invite them along. Also, if anyone is able to help cook the BBQ please let Fr James know.



SUNDAY 26TH: FEAST OF NATIONS!

On Sunday after 10:30am Mass we will once again share a multicultural Feast to celebrate how Christ has drawn us together from across so many Nations of the World. Even if you go to 6pm Mass, you are still very welcome at the Feast! Again, please pass the word around and invite your neighbours, family and

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

friends. And if you are happy to help prepare some food to share- please contact Fr James, or touch base with Jordan, Josie Renda or Helen Tuntar.

READERS ROSTER

The Readers Roster has been emailed out. Copies at the back of the church. We would love to have more readers so if you would like to help in this ministry and can be available once a month, less if we have a few more then please contact Glenda in the office.



CHÚA NHẬT 33 THƯỜNG NIÊN 19.11.2023

Cộng đoàn Anh Chị Em Công giáo Việt Nam tại khu vực Swan Hill rất hân hạnh được chào đón Linh mục Phaolô Lư Văn Phú ghé thăm và cử hành Thánh lễ vào lúc 18h (6:00 PM).

Ngài cũng sẽ giúp Anh Chị Em chuẩn bị tâm hồn cho mùa Vọng và mùa Giáng sinh sắp tới qua Bí tích Hoà giải vào lúc 16:30 (4:30 PM).

Sau Thánh lễ xin mời Anh Chị Em cùng tham dự buổi họp mặt thân mật với Cha sở và Cha Phú.

Trân trọng

HAVE YOU THOUGHT?

Why did the servant who received one talent hide it in a hole instead of investing it?

Why was the master so angry with the servant who received one talent?

How is a measure of money like a special natural ability?

Why do people hide their natural talents?

What talent do you have that you could use to make a difference in other people's lives?

In what ways do you relate to a character in the parable?

What elements of our culture make it easier / more difficult to share our talents with others?

In what ways do you restrict others from opportunities to use their talents?

When have you ever allowed an opportunity to use your talents pass you by?



BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL

This week's Gospel speaks of how Jesus' disciples are to conduct themselves as they await the Kingdom of Heaven. In the preceding passages and in last week's Gospel, Jesus taught that there is no way to predict the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven. His disciples must, therefore, remain vigilant and ready to receive the Son of Man at any time.

Jesus' parable talks about Christian discipleship using economic metaphors. Before he leaves on a journey, the master entrusts to his servants a different number of talents, giving to each according to their abilities. A talent is a coin of great value. Upon the master's return, he finds that the first and second servants have doubled their money, and both are rewarded. The third servant, however, has only preserved what was given to him because he was afraid to lose the money. He has risked nothing; he did not even deposit the money in a bank to earn interest. This servant is punished by the master, and his talent is given to the one who brought the greatest return.

Read in light of last week's parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids, this parable teaches that God's judgment will be based on the service we render to God and to one another in accordance with the gifts that God has given to us. Our gifts, or talents, are given to us for the service of others. If we fail to use these gifts, God's judgment on us will be severe. On the other hand, if we make use of these gifts in service to the Kingdom of Heaven, we will be rewarded and entrusted with even more responsibilities.

This Gospel reminds us that Christian spirituality is not passive or inactive. Our life of prayer helps us to discern the gifts that have been given to us by God. This prayer and discernment ought to lead us to use our gifts in the service of God and our neighbor. God's grace allows us to share in the work of serving the Kingdom of Heaven. © Loyola Press

FIRST READING Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31

A reading from the book of Proverbs

Give her a share in what she has worked for.

A perfect wife – who can find her?
She is far beyond the price of pearls.
Her husband's heart has confidence in her,
from her he will derive no little profit.
Advantage and not hurt she brings him
all the days of her life.
She is always busy with wool and with flax,
she does her work with eager hands.
She sets her hands to the distaff,
her fingers grasp the spindle.
She holds out her hand to the poor,
she opens her arms to the needy.
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;
the woman who is wise is the one to praise.
Give her a share in what her hands have worked for,
and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.
The Word of the Lord. ALL: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 127:1-5. R. v.1

(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper.
Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your
house; your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table.

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life. **(R.)**

SECOND READING FOR CONFIRMATION MASSES

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians
If we live in the Spirit, let us be directed by the Spirit.*

If you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger
of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is
the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against
such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so
opposed that you do not always carry out your good
intentions. What the Spirit brings is very different:
love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness,
trustfulness, gentleness and self-control. You cannot
belong to Christ Jesus unless you crucify all self-
indulgent passions and desires. Since the Spirit is our
life, let us be directed by the Spirit.

The Word of the Lord. ALL: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians
The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.*

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you,
brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know
very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a
thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How
quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly
happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a
pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody
to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for
that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons
of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the
night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as
everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

The Word of the Lord. ALL: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION John 15:4. 5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 25:14-15. 19-21

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Because you have been faithful over a few things, enter
into the joy of the Lord.*

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of
heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned
his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one
he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each
in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. Now a long
time after, the master of those servants came back and
went through his accounts with them. The man who had
received the five talents came forward bringing five
more. "Sir", he said "you entrusted me with five talents;
here are five more that I have made." His master said to
him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have
shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you
with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

The Gospel of the Lord:

ALL: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12. 15-17

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26. 28

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46