



Holy Family Parish Northeast Mallee

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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



24TH DECEMBER 2023: 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

RECENT DEATHS

Graham Gaylard

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

Jim Romeo, Eileen Watson, Marie Ewart.
Alexander Irwin, Catherine Spry, George Livingston,
Margaret Cleary, Paolo Peluso, Nicholas Bruton
Connie Isgro, Monica Livingston, John Capiello

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,

AND THE ANGEL LEFT HER...

The little detail at the end of the Gospel is easy to pass over, but it tells us so much about Mary's depth of faith. After Gabriel delivers his literally world-changing news, and Mary's life is turned on its head... and then just as suddenly as the angel appeared, he is gone, and Mary is left alone. Well, that is not quite true, because she now carries Christ in her womb. But she cannot feel his presence yet, and he can offer her no help or consolation. Instead she has to draw on the strength within her and step forward in faith. With no outward signs to guide her, she had to rely entirely on God's hidden presence and grace



REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

Thank you everyone for your generous response to this cause, your enthusiasm, assistance and donations were overwhelming. Thank you to the ladies who came and helped on Monday to organise the boxes. In all we had 60 boxes to give out at A Good Kitchen for their Christmas tea.

Parish Contact Details:

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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.

FIRST READING 2 Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16

A reading from the second book of Samuel

The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent'. Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: 'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."'

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 88:2-5. 27. 29. R. see v.2

(R.) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;

I have sworn to David my servant:

I will establish your dynasty for ever
and set up your throne through all ages.'

He will say to me: 'You are my father,
my God, the rock who saves me.'

I will keep my love for him always;
for him my covenant shall endure. (R)

SECOND READING ROMANS 16:25-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be

broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Luke 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:

may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 1:26-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

You will conceive and bear a son.

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

The Gospel of the Lord. ALL: Praise to Lord Jesus Christ.

WEEKDAYS IN SWAN HILL

NO Masses this week

READINGS NEXT WEEKEND (30TH/31ST DEC)

FEAST HOLY FAMILY:

Sat 6pm Swan Hill

Sun 10:30am Swan Hill

NEW YEARS DAY: MARY MOTHER OF GOD

10am Monday 1st Jan Swan Hill