

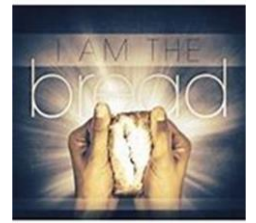


Holy Family Parish Northeast Mallee

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Website: northeastmallee.org.au

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



4TH AUGUST 2024 : 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



THE HUNGER ONLY GOD CAN SATISFY

Last week we heard of how Jesus miraculously fed the crowd with just a few loaves and fishes after seeing their hunger. He filled their bellies until they couldn't eat anymore... and now they are back for more! But this time around Jesus wants them to recognise the deeper hunger within them. All of us have need of spiritual nourishment. Just like we need food, water and air, we also need to be filled up with God's grace and love, and indeed need it even more than physical food. Whether we have many years left, or just a few, eventually these bodies of ours will pack it in. And even now, in this body that needs daily nourishment, we can recognise that we need far more than food to flourish and live life to the full. We need connection and relationship, meaning and purpose, forgiveness and reconciliation, hope and love. Jesus has come to fill that deeper hunger within us. He is the Bread of Life; ready to satisfy our deepest needs, both in the here and now and right through into eternity.

Now don't get me wrong, this is not to dismiss our physical needs. We aren't angels, we need food, and we certainly can't ignore the needs of the poor. That is not the point, as Jesus makes abundantly clear elsewhere. But again, we need much more than just physical nourishment. Jesus did not dismiss the hunger of the crowd, but fed them out of compassion for their needs. But he also performed the miracle as a sign of their deeper, spiritual hunger, and as a sign that he had come with the power to satisfy those deeper needs. And as a sign it pointed forward to the awesome gift he would leave his Church, the miraculous feast that we come to each week to find the nourishment we need; the Eucharist. If someone asks you why you bother going to Mass, you can answer quite simple, 'Because I am hungry, and that is where I am fed.'

WELCOME BISHOP PAUL!

A special welcome to our Bishop Paul who joins us this weekend for our Masses and Festa celebrations. Thank you for visiting us!

Parish Contact Details:

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

Parish Priest

Fr James Kerr

Parish Office:

Glenda Klabbers & Mary Kennedy

Child Protection Officers:

Tony and Joelle Whiting

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+**

Geoffrey William Ryan

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

Nell Frazer, Antoinetta Agosta, Richard Pippin,
Matthew Noone, Martino Carbone, Tony Carlo,
John Bell, Honora Bunworth, Emily Downes,
Edward Fitzgerald, Jack McMahon, Geoff Henson,
Anna Mancinelli, Florence Wright, Martin Irwin,
Albert Cooley, Malcolm Kanizay

SICK LIST

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

**THIS WEEKEND 3RD/4TH AUGUST
18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

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

WEEKDAYS IN SWAN HILL

Mon: Funeral Prayers Geoff Ryan 1pm Quambatook
Tuesday 5.30pm
Wednesday: 10am Mass
Thursday (**Feast of Mary MacKillop**):
Confessions 5pm, 5.30pm Mass, Adoration
Friday: 11.30am Mass

**NEXT WEEKEND 10TH/11TH AUGUST
19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Sat 6pm Swan Hill
Sunday 8.30am Quambatook
Sunday 10:30am Swan Hill
Sunday: 5pm Nandaly

NOTICES



FESTA DELLA MADONNA: AUGUST 4TH 2024

We will celebrate the Festa this Sunday 4th August to coincide with Bishop Pauls visit. After the 10:30am Mass, everyone is welcome to join over in the Parish Function Centre for a shared meal and celebration.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MACKILLOP COLLEGE!

You probably saw the exciting news during the week that MacKillop College has secured \$6 million in funding for the development of the new Gray St Campus. This is great news for not only the College, but indeed for the whole region and our Parish too. MacKillop draw students from Kerang through to Sea Lake and Nandaly, as well as many from over the river. The development of the much more spacious site of Gray Street is a generational step, and helps ensure MacKillop can continue to serve our regions educational needs into the future. Congratulations to the leadership of MacKillop for all their hard work and perseverance over many years!

HAPPY FEAST OF ST MARY MACKILLOP!



"Glorious Lives," which features the inspiring life stories of Catholic saints is featuring the life story of Australia's beloved saint, St. Mary MacKillop, and is

Our Parish Schools

St Mary's Primary School Sea Lake

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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

scheduled for August 8th at 7:00 PM on **Shalom World TV**, aligning with the saint's feast day.

The film not only showcases St. Mary MacKillop's remarkable achievements and contributions but also features interviews with historians, educators, and individuals inspired by her legacy. Viewers will experience the challenges she overcame and the steadfast faith that drove her mission. This compelling film, produced over six months, combines dramatic e-enactments with expert interviews to delve into her extraordinary life.

The channel is accessible for free download on all smart TVs and devices, allowing unlimited viewing.



ST MARY MACKILLOP FEAST DAY CELEBRATION – AUGUST 8, 2024

Mary MacKillop Place North Sydney and the Sisters of Saint Joseph are livestreaming Mass on August 8, 2024 at 10.00am to celebrate the Feast of St Mary MacKillop,
Livestream: youtube.com/embed/lppmamzmOb0.



MONTHLY MORNING TEA

The monthly Sunday Morning Tea will recommence on Sunday 1st September, due to the Festa being held on Sunday 1st August. As the morning tea is increasing in numbers, and proving popular for the parish get together, if you would like to contribute on the day a slice/cake, it would be well received.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT – *BREAD THAT ENDURES*

Jesus says, 'Do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life.' The reference to food that cannot last relates to today's first reading about manna. In the full account of Exodus 16 you will see that the manna that fell on the first five days had become rotten by the next day and could not be eaten. However, the manna that fell on the sixth day was 'food that endures' so that it could

be eaten the next day – the Sabbath day, when the work of gathering the manna was not allowed.

LIVING THE GOSPEL – *THE BODY OF CHRIST*

Christ is present in the Eucharist in many forms: in the people gathered; in the celebrating priest; in the Word proclaimed; and in the consecrated bread and wine – the Body and Blood of Christ. In relation to receiving Christ through the reception of communion, St Augustine wrote, 'Be what you see, and receive what you are.' We not only receive the Body of Christ through Eucharist, we are called to be the Body of Christ because of what we have received; and we receive the Body of Christ because we are already part of the Body of Christ.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT – *BREAD*

For thousands of years, bread has been a staple part of the human diet in many cultures. It is no accident that the image of Jesus as bread makes such a significant appearance in the gospel of John. For the Jews, like other Ancient Near Eastern cultures, bread was a vital mainstay of their diet. In the Bible, the word 'bread' often simply means all food – it was that important! For many, regular access to bread did equate to life. Bread also played a crucial role in religious practices, especially the Passover meal.



HAVE YOU THOUGHT?

- Why do you think the crowd sought out Jesus after he miraculously fed 5,000 of them?
- In what ways does Jesus try to 'redirect' the people?
- Why would Jesus as the Bread of Life have been a powerful and significant image at the time?
- In what ways does the Eucharist provide us with nourishment or food for our lives?
- How are you / can you be 'bread' for others?

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

19th Sunday in Ordinary time

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:4-8

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:30 – 5:2

Gospel: John 6:41-51

FIRST READING Exodus 16:2-4. 12-15

*A reading from the book of Exodus
I will rain bread from heaven upon you.*

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, 'Why did we not die at the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our hearts content! As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day's portion; I propose to test them this way to see whether they will follow my law or not.'

'I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, "Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your hearts content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God.'" And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, 'What is that?' not knowing what it was. 'That' said Moses to them 'is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.'

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 77:3-4. 23-25. 54. R. v.24

(R.) The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

The things we have heard and understood,
the things our fathers have told us,
we will tell to the next generation:
the glories of the Lord and his might.

He commanded the clouds above
and opened the gates of heaven.
He rained down manna for their food,
and gave them bread from heaven.

Mere men ate the bread of angels.
He sent them abundance of food.
He brought them to his holy land,
to the mountain which his right hand had won. **(R.)**

SECOND READING Ephesians 4:17, 20-24

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
Put on the new person that has been created in God's image.*

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life;

you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Matthew 4:4

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

GOSPEL John 6:24-35

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
Whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes in me will never thirst.*

When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When they found him on the other side, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly,
you are not looking for me
because you have seen the signs
but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat.

Do not work for food that cannot last,
but work for food that endures to eternal life,
the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you,
for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.'

Then they said to him, 'What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?' Jesus gave them this answer, 'This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.'

So they said, 'What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'

Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly,
it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven,
it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven,
the true bread; for the bread of God
is that which comes down from heaven
and gives life to the world.'

'Sir,' they said 'give us that bread always.' Jesus answered:
'I am the bread of life.

He who comes to me will never be hungry;
he who believes in me will never thirst.'

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

