



# Holy Family Parish Northeast Mallee

[northeastmallee@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:northeastmallee@ballarat.catholic.org.au) 03 50324144

Website: [northeastmallee.org.au](http://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



## 6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2024: 27<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



***"THEY ARE NO LONGER TWO, THEREFORE, BUT ONE BODY..."***

Marriage in God's plan is something beautiful. Lived faithfully, it is a powerful witness to the victory of love. But of course, living that faithfulness in the brokenness of our world is never easy. Even the most generous and committed spouses will still face times of trial, and perhaps even hard suffering. Today's Gospel is a good reminder for us to make a special effort to support and encourage all who are married, in all the varied and personal circumstances they face. A very special part of that support is our prayer.

Perhaps we might make that our special focus today.

*Almighty and eternal God, you have so exalted the unbreakable bond of marriage that it has become the sacramental sign of your Son's union with the Church as his spouse.*

*Look with favour on all couples whom you have united in marriage, as they ask for your help and the protection of the Virgin Mary.*

*They pray that in good times and in bad they will grow in love for each other; that they will resolve to be of one heart in the bond of peace.*

*Lord, in their struggles let them rejoice that you are near to help them; in their needs let them know that you are there to rescue them; in their joys let them see that you are the source and completion of every happiness.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

### ***WELCOME FR PETER!***

This weekend we welcome Fr Peter Hudson back to the Parish. He is kindly supplying for Fr James as he attends the Marriage Encounter Weekend Retreat.

#### **Parish Contact Details:**

Po Box 71 Swan Hill, Vic 3585

Phone: 03 5032 4144

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Website: [northeastmallee.org.au](http://northeastmallee.org.au)

**Office Hrs:** Tues, Wed and Fri 10:30 -1.30

#### **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+**

Irene Perry

**ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH**

Stephen & Audrey Walsh, Bill O'Loughlin,  
Carmel Kelly, Thomas Patrick Bell, Alma Cameron,  
Maurice Foley, William Kelly, John Tuohey,  
John Considine, Margaret Barry,  
Ada & Gordon Dwyer, Justina Unukpo Ugbejie,  
Dom Violi, Murray Grant Catherine Gleeson,  
Lucia & Ralph Amitrano, Donald Nicholson,  
Maureen Irwin, Theresa Ederson,  
Christopher Irwin, Giuseppe Nasisi

**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 5TH/6TH OCTOBER  
27<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

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

**WEEKDAYS IN SWAN HILL**

Tuesday: 10am Mass, **1:30pm Funeral Irene Perry**  
Wednesday: 10am  
Thursday: 5pm Confessions, 5:30pm Mass, Adoration  
Friday: 11:30am Mass

**NEXT WEEKEND 12<sup>TH</sup>/13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER  
28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

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

**NOTICES**



**URGENT APPEAL**

**FROM AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED**

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) provides much needed support to Catholics suffering around the world due to oppression, poverty, persecution and war. Unfortunately, we know our world is facing so much violence and strife. Needs have increased, and the capacity of ACN to meet those needs have been sorely stretched. Recently they have made an urgent appeal to sponsors around Australia- 'To help keep our promises'. Perhaps you may be in a position to consider supporting this appeal?

You can visit their website for more details.

[aidtochurch.org/urgentappeal](http://aidtochurch.org/urgentappeal)



**MISSION: TRANSFORM LIVES  
...THEIRS, AND YOURS**

Are you ready to embark on a life-changing journey that combines your professional experience with meaningful community impact and living our faith in practice? Hear inspiring stories from Palms mission participants at our at our Discovery Online session Wednesday 9 October. Explore unique opportunities matching your skills to sustainable solutions.

**Venue:** Online via Zoom- Scan the QR or register at [palms.org.au/events](http://palms.org.au/events)

**Date & Time:** Wed 9 Oct 2024, 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

02 9560 5333

[palms@palms.org.au](mailto:palms@palms.org.au)



**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Principal@mackillopsh.vic.edu.au)



## **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION, SWAN HILL YEAR 3 AND ABOVE**

This term we will start our program in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation for the children in Swan Hill and surrounds. This is open to any baptised Catholic children in year 3 or above. After Baptism, Confirmation is the next step in the sacramental journey. The program begins with attending an enrolment session in week 2 of this term. This journey then continues with the celebrations of Reconciliation and Holy Communion. We look forward to welcoming any families who wish to be part of our program. Invitations have been sent through St Mary's Swan Hill, and also through the local Government schools, but there is always the chance that some may have missed out.

So, if your child is in grade 3, or is older but has missed out on Confirmation so far, simply touch base with Fr James after Mass or contact the Parish via email [northeastmallee@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:northeastmallee@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or phone 50324144. Grandparents can also have a special role in making sure the message gets out!

### **HAVE YOU THOUGHT?**

Why might the Pharisees have been trying to 'test' Jesus with their question about divorce?

Why do you think the gospel writer followed the question about divorce with the teaching about children?

What does it mean to welcome the kingdom of God?

What characteristics of little children might Jesus be encouraging us to adopt?

### **READINGS NEXT WEEK:**

**28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

First Reading: Wisdom 7:7-11

Second Reading: Hebrews 4:12-13

Gospel: Mark 10:17-30

### **REFLECTION BY DIANNE BERGANT CSA**

In marriage, the couple does not merely receive a sacrament, they become one. They become an outward sign of the love of God. They are able to open themselves to each other in love, because God has first loved them. When they become one in marriage, they create something new, something that is a sign of the creative power of God. This in no way minimises the passionate love that they may have, or the unselfishness with which they give themselves to each other. Rather, it underscores the origin of that passion and the model of that unselfishness.

We are brothers and sisters of Christ in more than one way. First, through his incarnation, he became one of us, a little lower than the angels. He shared our human existence; he knew the highs and lows of human life. Then he redefined family relationships, claiming that blood bonds were no longer the determinant for establishing kinship. Instead, those who hear the word of God and keep it, those who commit themselves to God in faithful discipleship, are his brothers and sisters.

Marriage and other forms of discipleship make religious demands on us. Because we are taking a step into the unknown, they require a profound act of trust – trust in ourselves, trust in each other and, most importantly, trust in God. They also expect openness on our part – openness to give and openness to receive. Unfortunately, we associate these characteristics with unpretentious children. While children may possess them because they are innocent, adults must repossess them because we have been recreated in Christ. © Dianne Bergant



**FIRST READING** Genesis 2:18-24

*A reading from the book of Genesis  
They were two in one flesh.*

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them, each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed:

'This at last is bone from my bones,  
and flesh from my flesh!

This is to be called woman,  
for this was taken from man.'

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

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

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 127. R. v.5

**(R.) May the Lord bless us  
all the days of our lives.**

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 will be 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!

May you see your children's children.

On Israel, peace! **(R.)**

**SECOND READING** Hebrews 2:9-11

*A reading from the letter to the Hebrews  
He who sanctifies, and those who are sanctified have one origin.*

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything

exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** cf 1 John 4:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

If we love one another,

God will live in us in perfect love.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** Mark 10:2-16

*A reading from the Gospel according to Mark  
What God has joined together, no one must divide.*

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

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

