

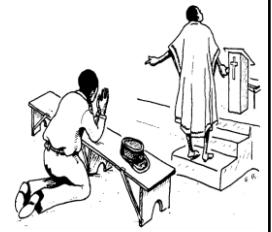


Holy Family Parish Northeast Mallee

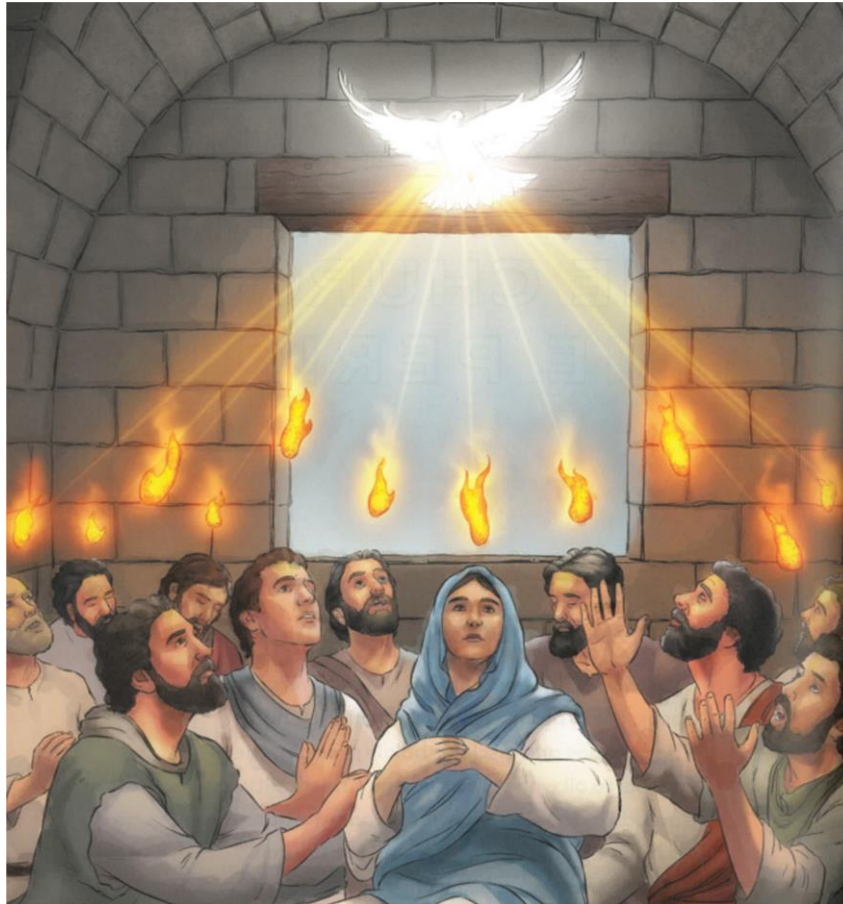
northeastmallee@ballarat.catholic.org.au 03 50324144

Website: northeastmallee.org.au

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



SUNDAY 26TH OCTOBER 2025: 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



A VERY SPECIAL WELCOME:

We warmly welcome all the children being presented by their families today to be part of our Confirmation Program. We have been praying for you all, and will keep praying for you in the weeks ahead leading up to the celebrations in November.

Today we will present you with the Creed, as a symbol of our faith in the Father and his great plans for us, in the Son and his great love for us, and the Holy Spirit who breathes life in us. It is also a reminder of the awesome story of God's love for all of creation, for all of humanity, and of his love for you! We pray that you can recognise yourself as part of this great story, and grow to take your part in it too!

We will also present you with the Our Father, that very special prayer that Jesus himself taught us. We give this to you a reminder that you are one of his beloved children, and are invited to open up your hearts and share life with him. Never be afraid to turn to the Father. Share your hopes and dreams with him, and your needs and worries too. He loves you so deeply, more deeply than you will ever realised. You can trust in him!

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 -1:30

Parish Priest

Fr James Kerr

Parish Office:

Glenda Klabbers & Mary Kennedy

Child Protection Officers:

Tony & 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+

Jim Elliott

Joyce Maggio

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

Mercy Ukadie Nwaobia, Santo & Grace Pati,

Dorothy Bishop, Ronald Hoare, Lia Pino

Patrick O'Reilly, Jack Giddings, Doreen O'Brien

Deborah Ann Elliott, Raffaele Mollo, George K Nair

Phyll Taylor, Margaret Byrne, Cypril Nwaobia

Jean Eustace, John Betts, Christina Heron

Fr Patrick Adegbetie

SICK LIST

Teresa O'Brien, Pat Egan, Carmel Ryan,

Pat Croft, Yvonne Richardson, Jayden Williams,

Margaret Foott, Jarrod Crimmins, Michael Bourke,

Jack Donohue, Jude Lewis, Bridget Phyland,

Peter Amezdroz, Ken Duryea, Helen Duryea

THIS WEEKEND 19TH OCTOBER

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 6pm Swan Hill

Sunday 8.30am Quambatook

Sunday 10:30am Swan Hill

Sunday 6pm Sea Lake (Once off)

WEEKDAYS IN SWAN HILL

Tuesday: 1.30pm Funeral Mass for Jim Elliott

Wednesday: 10.30am

Thurs: No Mass (Fr has funeral in Charlton)

Friday: 10.30am Funeral Mass Joyce Maggio

Saturday (Feast of All Saints): Confessions 10am,

Mass 10:30am, Rosary

NEXT WEEKEND 2ND NOVEMBER

ALL SOULS DAY

Saturday 6pm Swan Hill

Sunday Sea Lake 8.30am

Sunday 10:30am Swan Hill

Sunday 5pm Tooleybuc

NOTICES



ALL SAINTS & ALL SOULS

SPECIAL FAMILY EVENT SAT 1ST NOV

Celebrating All the Saints and our Hope in Heaven!

Join us for a special family event on Saturday 1st November, starting with the 6pm Mass. Last year we had a great celebration of All Hallows Eve (aka Halloween), and this year we hope to do it again.

Beginning with the 6pm Mass for All Souls, we will remember our loved who have gone before us, and then we will carry on with some games and food in the Parish Function Centre. There will be face painting as a special treat, and for a bit of extra fun, kids are encouraged to dress up as their favourite saint! There will be prizes for the best dressed!

RSVPs to the Parish Office would be appreciated. Also, if you are able to help out, please let us know.

"HOPE DOES NOT DISAPPOINT!"

A VERY SPECIAL RETREAT OPPORTUNITY:

Experience a day of prayer, renewal and fellowship,

deepening in the Jubilee theme of 'Hope'

with Rosemary Drum MGL and Kathryn Kingsley MGL

SAT 8 NOVEMBER, 2025

Starts 9.30am, finishes with fellowship after 6pm

Mass. Lunch will be provided

Parish Function Centre, 62 Splatt St Swan Hill

RSVP FOR CATERING PURPOSES:

northeastmallee@ballarat.catholic.org.au

(03) 5032 4144

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

CALLING FOR HELPERS:

KEEPING OUR BUILDINGS IN GOOD ORDER

A couple of weeks ago I put out a call for help from any parishioners with experience in building and trades. I am very grateful for the response and my thanks to those who have already stepped forward to offer their experience, skill and contacts. Thank you! And just in case some missed the initial invitation... Together with the Parish Finance Committee, I would like to extend an invitation to any parishioners with experience and skills in building and property management or with good connections to those in local trades to work with us in making sure our buildings are kept up to scratch, especially in regards to those in Swan Hill and Sea Lake. We are open to suggestions as to what this might look like in practice, but at least we can begin by identifying the need and getting the right people on board. Just as so many of you have stepped up to share your gifts in music and hospitality and other ministries, I am confident God will call forth the particular gifts we need to help keep our buildings in good order.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

My apologies- I forgot to get this in here last week, but it is not too late to support a good cause...

Each year during October, Catholic Mission and the broader Catholic community come together to celebrate World Mission Month, guided by the theme "Missionaries of Hope Among All Peoples." Together, we have the power to create change and build a more just world for people everywhere. By supporting missionaries in their work, we can create life-changing opportunities for countless children, families, and communities worldwide. Join us in making a difference for our sisters and brothers.

If you would like to support Catholic Mission, you will see the envelopes available, or you can also visit

www.catholicmission.org.au/mission

NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARY

BY MARY COLOE PBVM

God, be merciful to me. Luke 18:9-14

Occasionally in my teaching I hand out the following ticket or ask if someone wants this free ticket.

HEAVEN

Admit one

Free

Invariably many are shocked. They laugh! Think it is a joke! They obviously do not know the Gospel. This Sunday and next, we come to the heart of the Gospel message. God offers salvation to us; it is a free and total gift of love. It is not something we earn or deserve. It is a gift. In today's parable, one person realises this.

It is the social outcast, the tax collector who knows he needs God, and asks for God's mercy. The religious person has no need of God; he is striving for righteousness through his own efforts.

The Pharisee exemplifies an early heresy in the Church put forward by a man called Pelagius. Like the Pharisee in this parable, Pelagius placed great importance on doing good deeds and thereby being right before God. The Church condemned his teaching as false, for this attitude does away with the need for God and for God's offer of Salvation in Jesus. We don't save ourselves. No amount of Masses, Rosaries, Novenas or indulgences can achieve Salvation for us. My students then ask, 'Well, why do these things?' When someone gives us something wonderful, far beyond our hopes and dreams, the usual response is one of deep gratitude. When I hand out tickets to heaven, the recipients automatically say 'Thank you'. This is why we pray, and act generously; our entire life is living out 'Thank you' to the God who has given us the gift of Jesus for our Salvation.

Today we come to the end of this Letter to Timothy. As we read or listen to it, keep in mind Paul, a real person, imprisoned in Rome knowing that his time is coming to an end. What would our reflections be in his situation? From Paul we get no sense of fear or despair. On the contrary his words affirm a life spent, poured out, for God – either as a Pharisee, or as a Christian evangelist. His words remind me of the words of Simeon, 'Now Lord, you may dismiss your servant in peace.' (Luke 2:29) The sense I have is that Paul knows that he has lived his life to the full; he has recognised the gift he was given and willingly travelled across Turkey and Greece to share his faith with others. This was Paul's gift and his mission. But God has many gifts, and many missions and being a mother or father within a family is no less a vocation than Paul's. In many ways we too can live out our Christian faith giving witness to the gospel, perhaps not in a trial like Paul, but perhaps within a work environment which sees religion as futile.

As we, like the Christians of Luke's community, get on with our lives in the world, we too need to come before God in prayer, knowing our emptiness, our poverty and open to receive the blessings that God wishes to give us. Then, like Paul, when we look back on our life we can do so with a sense of satisfaction – I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish. © Mary Coloe

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

ALL SOULS DAY

First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9

Second Reading: Romans 8:31-35. 37-39

Gospel: Luke 7:11-17

FIRST READING *Sirach 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. *ALL: 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.)**

SECOND READING *2 Timothy 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. *ALL: Thanks be to God.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *2 Corinthians 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 *Luke 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. *ALL: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.*

