



## Parish Newsletter - August 28th 2016

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Parish Priest – Fr Gary Jones [gary.jones@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:gary.jones@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

Parish Administration: Leah Monaghan

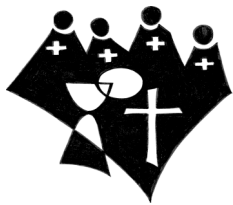
St Michael's Parish Primary School- Principal: Chris Pollard

### St. Joseph's Church Blampied

Lay Led Assembly (2nd Sunday of the Month) 9.00am

Vigil Mass Sat 6.00pm (4th Sunday of the Month)

Diocesan Website: [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)



### BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND

#### Collection for Sick and Retired Priests – next weekend

Creating a secure retirement future for the priests of the diocese is a duty and care in which we can all participate. Eighteen retired priests are currently supported by this Fund. Some live privately, some are retired in units in Ballarat or elsewhere, others live in supported accommodation.

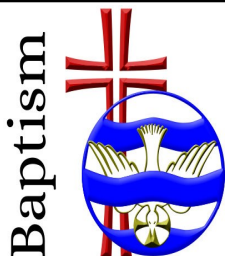
The funding required for these commitments is ongoing. Thanks to your generosity, this collection has raised nearly 1.7 million dollars since it began in 1991, including nearly \$54,000 last year. Along with the priests' own contribution of approximately \$38,000 per year, this annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our sick and retired clergy.

**A credit card facility is available for your convenience, and contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible.**

### REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSS

The goodness of God is seen in the extravagant generosity with which God gives gifts. This is described in the psalm in the boundlessness and universal scope of God's generosity. Like the rain that falls on the entire landscape, the blessings of God are showered on all. These blessings are true gifts. They have not been earned, nor can they be repaid. God's openness is also seen in the reading from the Letter to the Hebrews and in the gospel. All are invited to approach the heavenly city; the heavenly banquet will be open to the poor and to those who have no way of repaying. Only the humble can receive the gifts of God. Only those who can admit their neediness are open enough to realise that God's blessings are gifts freely given, not compensation for a job well done. Without a humble spirit we are unable to receive gifts as gifts. This is either because we are too proud or we do not know how to receive with the open hearts of children, who never think that they must return in kind. This is the kind of humility recommended by Sirach. This is the kind of humility possessed by the disadvantaged pictured in the gospel.

As we have received from the bounty of God, so we are called to give to others. Only those who have received with a humble spirit can give with the generosity of God, for they know that they do not deserve God's goodness and they do not require anything in return.

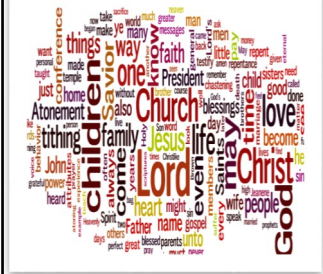


### *Welcome & Congratulations to Aurelien and Tamara Papet*

on the Baptism of their son

*Evan William Gilbert Papet*

Today at St Peter's Daylesford



**Last Week's Collections:** *Two collections are presented after the Prayers of the Faithful. The 1<sup>st</sup> Collection is cash toward the Presbytery for the sustenance of our Priest – with a contribution of 13% to provide support for our retired priests and the Diocese. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection is the Planned Giving (envelopes) for the administration of the Parish*

1st Collection (Presbytery – supporting our Priest) \$247.70

2nd Collection (Planned Giving): \$229.00

**RECENT DEATH:** Val Keating

**ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH:** Alice Stephens, Ena O'Brien, Carmel Barron, Betty O'Shannesy, Phillip Wooller, Aileen Slater, Therese Lane, Catherine Kilmartin, Massimo Clohesy



**St Michael's School Fete Sunday October 30th.**

Plant Stall: If there is anyone who would like to do some planting of seedlings, or cuttings, as we come into Spring, these would be most welcome on the Plant Stall. Thank you.

**St Augustine's Feast Day—August 28th**

St Augustine was born at Tagaste (modern Algeria) in Africa. His father was a pagan who converted on his death bed; his mother was Saint Monica, a devout Christian. He received a Christian upbringing and in 370 went to the University at Carthage to study rhetoric with a view to becoming a lawyer. He gave up law to devote himself to literary pursuits and gradually abandoned his Christian faith, taking a mistress with whom he lived fifteen years and who bore him a son, Adeodatus, in 372. After investigating and experimenting with several philosophies, he became a Manichean for several years; it taught of a great struggle between good and evil, and featured a lax moral code. A summation of his thinking at the time comes from his *Confessions*: "God, give me chastity and continence - but not just now." In 384, he accepted the chair of rhetoric at Milan, and of his tutor, Simplicianus, he returned to his Christian faith and was baptized on Easter Eve 387. On the death of his mother he returned to Africa, sold his property, gave the proceeds to the poor, and founded a sort of monastery at Tagaste. He was ordained in 390 and moved to Hippo where he established a community with several of his friends who had followed him. Five years later he was consecrated Bishop and made coadjutor to Valerius, Bishop of Hippo, whom he succeeded in the following year. Augustine became the dominant figure in African Church affairs and was the leader in the bitter fights against Manichaeism, Donatism, Pelagianism and other heresies. Augustine's towering intellect molded the thought of Western Christianity to such an extent that his years after his death. He wrote profusely, expositing and defending the faith, and to this day many of his two hundred treatises, some three hundred sermons are of major import in theology and philosophy. Among his best best-known works are his *Confessions*; *City of God*, a magnificent exposition of a Christian philosophy of history; *De Trinitate*; *De Doctrina Christiana*; *Enchiridion*; and his treatises against the Manichaeans and the Pelagians. His later thinking can be summed up in a line from his writings: "Our hearts were made for You, O Lord, and they are restless until they rest in you." Called *Doctor of Grace*, he is one of the greatest of the Fathers and Doctors of the Church, and with the possible exception of Thomas Aquinas, the greatest single intellect the Catholic Church has ever produced.

**Diocesan News**

**Fr Shane Mackinlay's Silver Jubilee** Fr Shane Mackinlay will celebrate his 25th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood on 6 September this year. The Bungaree and Gordon parishes will celebrate this event with Fr Shane at 10.30am Mass on Sunday 11 September, at St Michael's, Bungaree, followed by lunch in the Parish Centre; and at 10.30am Mass on Sunday 18 September, at St Brigid's, Ballan. All welcome.

**An End of an Era Celebration at St Michael's School, Springbank** St Michael's School Springbank will close at the end of the 2016 school year and on December 3, 2016 we will be celebrating the life and times of the school. Celebrations will commence with an afternoon tea at 4.00pm, Mass at 6.30pm, then join us for a spit roast tea, meeting old friends, colleagues and dance the night away. A recovery brunch will be held on Sunday, December 4 (this will be a BYO drinks event). Please register your interest to attend to one or all of the events by email to [quinlanwater@gmail.com](mailto:quinlanwater@gmail.com) or by message to Margie Quinlan, ph. 0417587235. Please note that you will not be catered for if your name is not on the guest list.

**Loreto College 2017 Year 7 Parent Orientation Evening** Wednesday, November 9, 2016 from 7.00pm – 8.30pm at Mary's Mount Centre, Loreto College Ballarat.

**Roster - Sunday 4th September**

**Reader:** I Tinetti **Comm:** J Dwyer **Ministers:** T Tinetti, SWhiffin, C Bartholomew **Offertory:** M & M Yanner **Counters** *August 28th (Team 2)* J Egan. C Collins *Sept 4th (Team 3)* D Leonard, M Bolton, V & L Hayes, C & P Jenkins

**Weekday Mass - Wednesday Creswick 10am, Friday Daylesford 10am**

