



Parish Newsletter - May 21st 2017

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Parish Priest – Fr Gary Jones gary.jones@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Administration: Mrs Leah Monaghan

St Michael's Parish Primary School- Principal: Mr Ethan Corfee

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



Over the past few weeks, there has been a lot of information in the media about the Turnbull Government's *Quality Schools* funding package and its impact on Catholic school fees.

The package proposed by the Government is a 10-year funding model, which will see significant changes to how Catholic schools are funded in the future.

Like the majority of Catholic schools, our school aims to be open and accessible to all families seeking a Catholic education. That means we aim to be affordable as well.

One of the big impacts of the Turnbull Government's funding package is that Catholic school fees will have to rise.

This won't happen tomorrow, but over the next 10 years, cuts to school funding will mean fees will gradually increase.

Catholic education leaders across Australia have been working hard to make sure the Government and the Opposition understand that our students will be disadvantaged by the funding model.

Everything is being done to make sure the Turnbull Government's funding package does not become law.

That's where our school community comes in. In coming weeks, please keep an eye out in the school newsletter (or at the bottom of school bags) for information about how you can add your voice to help prevent unreasonable fee increases.

We need to step up. Unreasonable fee increases are only a possibility at this stage – not a certainty. Parents in nearly 500 other Catholic schools in Victorian have also been asked to get ready and join the campaign.

With your help, we can make sure our politicians in Canberra are listening to Catholic schools.



Last Week's Collections: *Two collections are presented after the Prayers of the Faithful. The 1st 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 2nd Collection is the Planned Giving (envelopes) or cash for the administration of the Parish & general running costs:*

1st Collection \$256.70

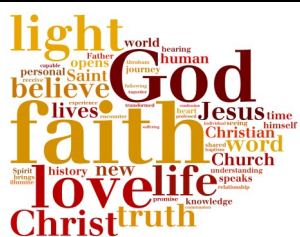
2nd Collection \$156.20

RECENT DEATHS: Emma Kate McGrath, Gladys Cheney

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH: Matthew Saleeba,

Prayers for Sick: Gary Eyles

The Funeral for Glad Cheney will be here at St Peter's on Wednesday May 24th at 11.30am.



REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

Although this week's gospel passage comes from the Last Supper discourse, it is the perfect reading for this time in the liturgical cycle. In next week's liturgy we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord and the following week we celebrate Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples. This week's reading is the perfect precursor to these coming weeks. Prior to this section of the Last Supper discourse, Jesus has told the disciples that he will be leaving them. He alludes to that fact again in this section but also spells out that he will ask the Father to send to the disciples another advocate (sometimes translated as paraclete or counsellor). By referring to the Spirit as 'another' advocate or paraclete, Jesus names himself as having been an advocate.

The Spirit is to continue the work that Jesus has begun in and with the disciples, standing as witness and strength for them to help them when the world turns against them.



Cancer Council
Biggest Morning Tea
Daylesford Bowling Club
Monday May 22nd - 10.30am
Enquiries Carol 5348 2366

Today we welcome our First Communion Candidates— Harry Jenkin, Max Lynch, Brendan Monaghan, Jessie Quinn and Hayley Lynch - to the first of their Dismassal Masses as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of First Communion On June 18th. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.



Sunday May 28th

Reader: B Arnell **Commentator:** U Kroeger **Offertory:** Thannhauser Family

Ministers: L Righetti, C Collins, N Chamberlain **Sacristan:** Kath

Counters: (May 21) team 8— J Barker

(May 28) team 1—

Weekday Masses:

10am Tuesday Creswick. 10am Thurs and Friday—Daylesford