



Parish Newsletter December 18, 2016

GRESWICK OFFICE Hours: *Wednesdays 10am - 11am. (*If Wednesday Mass)
 Ph: **5345 2160 (Leah)** Email: creswick@ballarat.catholic.org.au
 (Administering ST THOMAS AQUINAS', Bailey Street, CLUNES)
 ST. AUGUSTINE'S PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL: Mr. Terry Brennan, Principal.
 SCHOOL OFFICE Ph: 5345 2106 (Mandy) Website: www.sacreswick.catholic.edu.au

DAYLESFORD OFFICE Hours: Fridays 9.30am - 1.00pm.
 Ph: **5348 2026 (Leah)** Email: daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au
D'FORD PRESBYTERY Ph: **5348 3911** PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Gary A. Jones


DIOCESE online: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (inc [ONLINE PARISH BULLETIN](#))

PARISH VISION STATEMENT:

Our Parish is a welcoming and inclusive community, based on the Christian ethic where our lives are enhanced by worship that enriches, leadership that is shared and service that cares.



WEEKDAY MASSES -
 St Augustine's, Creswick: NO WEDS MASS until Jan 4
 St Peter's, Daylesford: 10am Fri, Dec 23 & 30

PLEASE PRAY FOR
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Sandra Kenyon (died recently)
 Anne Griffin, Eileen Tacey, Margaret James, Ralph Bell, Merle Beves, Catharina Schellens, Franz Vleugel (anniversaries of death Thurs - Wed)
 John Ryan, Ben Lockyer, Mary Bell, Jeanette Morris, Pat Prendergast (unwell at this time)

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Blampied: Friday, Dec 23 7pm (Carols @ 6.45pm)
Creswick: Christmas Eve 9pm (Carols @ 8.30pm)
 Christmas Day 8.45am
Daylesford: Christmas Eve 7pm
 Christmas Day 10.30am

AVAILABLE AFTER MASS
ST VINCENT DE PAUL
 Cards (50c each) - Calendars (\$7)
 in back room of church

CHRISTMAS ROSTERS

...thank you to all who have volunteered so far...

St. Joseph's Church, Blampied
 Lay Led Assembly (2nd Sunday of the Month) @ 9am
 Vigil Mass Saturday (4th Sunday of the Month) @ 6pm

We still needing a few more volunteers...
 See (#) empty slots below
 - list for adding names is on the back table -

NO
WEDNESDAY MASS in Creswick until Jan 4

Can you help bring over our beloved Nativity statues after Mass TODAY?
 - NO SET UP INVOLVED -
 After Mass, please gather near organ if you can help

ROSTERS for CHRISTMAS EVE

Reader: Barb H
 Leaders: n/a
 Comm'tor: # Volunteer PLZ
 Sp Minister/s: Angeline-Margie-Aileen
 Welc'/Offer'y: # 2 Volunteers PLZ
 Remote: Jesse & Steve Sch
 Cleaning THIS week: Izabelle J - Pat McK



ADVENT GIVING TREE
 TODAY is the LAST DAY for bringing gifts

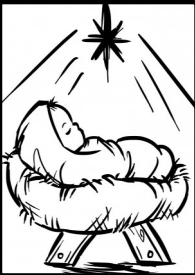
Our THANKS to ROLAND & LORETTA for arranging this gift giving opportunity, and for taking these gifts down to the **Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project** in Melbourne this week.



TODAY
 Please stay for some **PARISH CHRISTMAS CHEER** shared over a glass of Port (or Cuppa) & Fruitcake in the church garden straight after Mass **Sunday, December 18**
 Kindly hosted by our Parish Family Group

ROSTERS for CHRISTMAS DAY

Reader: Bernie T
 Leaders: n/a
 Comm'tor: Pat T
 Sp Minister/s: Brian RW-Barb- # Vol PLZ
 Welc'/Offer'y: Kaval Family
 Remote: # Volunteer PLZ
 Counters: Mick & Pete



JESUS is the reason for the season

COLLECTIONS

Two collections are taken up after the Prayers of the Faithful.
The 1st Collection is the Presbytery Collection – this collection is for the support of the local priest, with 13% going towards the support of the retired priests and the Bishop.
The 2nd Collection is the Planned Giving (envelopes) for the support of Parish endeavours and structures.

Collections from last week (with thanks)
 1st (Priest Support) - \$251.30; 2nd (Planned Giving/Parish) - nc



15 December 2016

Dear Father/Sister,

Christmas Appeal 2016

Our Christmas Appeal is one way by which the diocese can respond to the many communities from near and far who turn to us for assistance. Often these requests come through people who have bonds with the diocese of Ballarat.

I commend the Christmas Appeal to you and to your Parishioners. I am aware that there are many times throughout the year when you are invited to respond to appeals for very worthy causes, but I hope the Ballarat diocese can continue to support this particular appeal.

I thank the people of the diocese for their support of last year's appeal. The money was distributed as follows:

Loreto Vietnam Australia Programme	5,000
St Columban's Mission Society	5,000
Refugees in the Middle East (through Melkite Catholic Eparchy)	5,000
Catholic Education in Myanmar	5,000
Caritas Australia	5,000
Catholic Mission	5,000
Nazareth House Ballarat	5,000
Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference Aboriginal Ministry	5,000
Exodus Community, Wendouree West	2,000
Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH)	2,000
Edmund Rice Centre	2,000
3BA Christmas in July Appeal	2,000
	\$48,000

In anticipation I thank you for your co-operation in recommending the 2016 Christmas Appeal to the generosity of your parishioners and giving them the opportunity to make their contribution on or about Christmas Day.

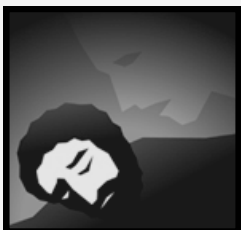
With every good wish, I am

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+ Paul Bird CSsR
 Bishop of Ballarat

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Living the Gospel - ADVENT *Greg Sunter*

Emmanuel; God-is-with-us – that's what we celebrate through Christmas and that's what we've been preparing for during Advent. We celebrate God-with-us in a particular time and place through our celebration of the birth of Jesus. But we remember it every year because we also use the Christmas celebration to remind ourselves that God continues to be with us. That is what is so remarkable about the Christmas season: that God-is-with-us now, not just in a stable in Palestine so many years ago, but now! Advent is the time to remind ourselves of this incredible truth and prepare ourselves to acknowledge it once again.