



Parish Newsletter 5th MARCH 2017

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Gary A. Jones Email: gary.jones@ballarat.catholic.org.au

CRESWICK OFFICE Hours: *Tuesdays 10am - 11am. (*when Tuesday Mass during school term)

Ph: 5345 2160 (Leah). Email: creswick@ballarat.catholic.org.au

(Administering ST THOMAS AQUINAS' Church, 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 St Peter's PRESBYTERY: 5348 3911

DIOCESE online: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (including Creswick's PARISH NEWSLETTER)

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.

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WEEKDAY MASSES -

St Augustine's, Creswick: 10am **TUESDAY**, Mar 7

St Peter's Daylesford: 10am Thu & Fri, Mar 9/10

WEEKEND SERVICES -

LAYLED

St Joseph's, Blampied: 9am Sun, Mar 12

MASSES

St Augustine's, Creswick: 8.45am Sun, Mar 12

St Peter's, Daylesford: 10.30am Sun, Mar 12

PLEASE
PRAY
FOR



William Sedgwick, Annie Goates,
Paul Scholten, Peter Quinlan,
Elaine Morris
(anniversaries of death Thurs - Wed)

James Stacey, Pat Prendergast,
Mary Bell, John Ryan
(unwell at this time)

Nb. If you wish your name or a family/friend's name to be placed ON or taken OFF the prayer request list, get a message to Sue.

St. Joseph's Church, Blampied

Lay Led Assembly (2nd Sunday of the Month) @ 9am

Vigil Mass Saturday (4th Sunday of the Month) @ 6pm

St A's SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

Claudia Martin & Harry Donovan-Clancy

ROSTER for NEXT Sunday, 12th MAR

CLEANER/S (THIS week, BEFORE Sun 12th):

Mick & Carmel G

WELCOMERS/OFFERTORY:

Phoebe, Jesse, Steve S

REMOTE: **Lois K**

COMMENTATOR: **Alastair H**

READER: **Carol V**

EXT. EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Judy S - Brian RW - Roland K

COUNTERS: **Josie & Brian R**

Faith Seeking Understanding in the Contemporary World

Venue: Mercy Gathering Room, Gent St, Ballarat East. \$20 donation.

Dates: March 16; April 27; May 18; June 22; July 20.

(Nb. Two of St A's parishioners 'Pauline & Fred' are attending and can offer a lift)

Simply contact Sr. Veronica (veronica.lawson@mercy.org.au) or ph 0408392297 before February 20.

Kindly provide contact details and indicate whether you wish to enrol in the (1-3pm) or (7-9pm) session.



PROJECT COMPASSION

2017 Theme: "Love your neighbour"

Each year, Project Compassion runs during Lent, the six weeks leading up to Easter.

Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal is an extraordinary, ongoing demonstration of the faith, love & generosity of the Catholic congregation and caring supporters throughout Australia to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

BOXES & ENVELOPES on the back table

MASS of the OILS

@ St Patrick's Cathedral
Monday, April 10 @ 6.30pm

Please see Sue if you are going and can collect Creswick's Oils on behalf of our parish.

This Mass has special significance for those who will use the blessed oils in 2017 - the ordained, the sick, those to be baptized and confirmed.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL & FINANCE TEAM

NEXT MEETING
TUESDAY MARCH 21 @ 7.30pm

'PALM CROSS' CRAFT WORKING BEE

Straight after 10am Mass
@ the presbytery on
TUESDAY March 21



ALL INVITED!

St A's CRESWICK SOCIAL in 2 WEEKS: March 19



Smokeytown Café
CRESWICK
straight after Mass

Kindly hosted by our Parish Family Group

COLLECTIONS

TWO COLLECTIONS ARE TAKEN UP AFTER THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL/GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

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) - \$236.00; 2nd (Planned Giving/Parish) - \$353.00



Reflection *Greg Sunter*

Sin and temptation are the dominant themes of the readings for this first week of Lent. Indeed, they are regular themes in the season of Lent. However, the scripture passages throughout this season allow us the opportunity to think again about these themes and perhaps reconsider some traditional understandings of them.

Today's first reading and gospel give us two different takes on the notion of temptation. In the passage from Genesis, humanity is tempted to ignore the will of God and, when they succumb, they lose their innocence and become embarrassed by their nakedness. The temptation they are offered is to believe themselves above and beyond the will of God; to believe that they can judge as well as God; and to rise to an equal level of power and authority with God. Their action breaks the trusting, loving relationship between themselves and God. In the Gospel, Jesus too is confronted with similar temptations. Ultimately, the temptation that faces Jesus relates to his purpose and ministry – will he trust to God's vision of the suffering servant who will bring about a change of heart in the people, or will he be the sort of Messiah that the people hoped for: a triumphant, glorious victor over all who stood in his way. He is tempted to break his self-imposed fasting, to test God's promise of nurture and security, and to seek glory and personal power. Whilst Adam and Eve surrender to temptation, Jesus holds fast to God's vision.

The second reading from Paul ties the Genesis and Gospel readings together and injects the notion of sin into the equation. However, Paul makes it perfectly clear that the sin of Adam, though carrying great ramifications, pales in comparison to the extraordinary abundance of God's love that is expressed through Jesus Christ.

PROJECT COMPASSION 2017: Week 1

Dinia from the Philippines, Short Story

Dinia's story is a story of healing, through her own skill and perseverance, and through support from a Caritas-Australia funded program. Living in the Philippines, she struggled daily with poverty in a country with many vulnerable communities. People living in rural and coastal areas have very little access to basic services. They face extreme weather events, environmental degradation and the effects of internal conflict and have little hope of a sustainable income. For Dinia, the untimely death of her husband meant an end to his small income and a greater struggle to feed and educate her children.

She struggled alone, facing a future without hope, until her community encouraged her to participate in the Socio Pastoral Action Center Foundation Inc. (SPACFI) program supported by Caritas Australia. SPACFI's Integrated Community Development Program helped her develop diverse ways to gain a sustainable livelihood, continue to send her children to school and contribute to her community. The program foregrounds the need to work together for the common good, awakening Dinia's innate generosity and leadership qualities. She was able to learn about organic farming, managing livestock, and starting a small business.

Now she has an integral role in her community, a sustainable livelihood, and a brighter future for her children. "My life is much better now. It is much easier," she says.

