

## St MALACHY'S PARISH

APSLEY \* EDENHOPE \* GOROKE \* MINIMAY

**27th August 2017, 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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### Recent Deaths:

**Anniversaries:** Mary Dishon, Gerard Cranage,  
Peter Cassidy, Eileen Peterson, Val Bull

**Next weekend Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

9am Mass

### Church Collections from 20.8.2017

Priests Fund: \$176.00

Planned Giving: \$321.00

**Total for this PG Financial year: \$2,903.00**

### Parish Diary

<b>Sun Aug 27</b>	5pm Mass
<b>Sun Sep 3</b>	9am Mass
<b>Sun Sep 10</b>	10:30am SAWC
<b>Sun Sep 17</b>	11am Mass
<b>Sun Sep 24</b>	5pm Mass

<b>This Week</b>	<b>MINISTRY ROSTER</b>
Reader	P Clarke
Prayers/Psalm	A Wait
Gifts	R & M Burgess
Ministers	P Clarke
Cleaning	C Middleton
Linen	M Burns
Lawns	D Brook
Collection	R Burgess, D McDonnell

<b>Next Week</b>	
Reader	C McCann
Prayers	R Rokebrand
Gifts	A Wait Family
Ministers	C Heenan
Cleaning	C Middleton
Linen	C McFarlane
Lawns	A Wait
Collection	D Brook, T Heenan

### CHILD PROTECTION SUNDAY SECOND WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER:

In response to a request from Pope Francis, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has earmarked **Sunday 10 September**, Child Protection Sunday, as a Day of Prayer and Penance for Victims and Survivors of Sexual Abuse. Resources are available from the diocesan website under "Liturgy Resources" [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au).

### This week at St Malachy's

**Monday** Prep Information Evening

**Tuesday** e-smart session with Julie Bruce

**Wednesday** Junior Planning Day in Edenhope

**Friday** Father's Day – 1:30pm BBQ, footy and games

### FR. JOHN'S CORNER

- Friday September 1st- 6pm Mass Goroke
- Thursday August 31st- 10am Mass Edenhope

### PRIESTS SUPPORT COLLECTION, FIRST WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER:

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 the 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. The Clergy Support Fund's Fathers' Day collection will be held on Sunday 3rd September. Collection Envelopes will be available on this Sunday.

### TODAY'S SAINT- AUGUST 27

#### **ST MONICA OF HIPPO**

*Patron Saint of Difficult Marriages, Widows, Alcoholics, Abuse Victims and Difficult Children.*

Saint Monica was an early Christian saint and the mother of St. Augustine. She is remembered for her outstanding Christian virtues, particularly the suffering caused by her husband's adultery, and her prayerful life dedicated to the reformation of her son, who wrote extensively of her pious acts.



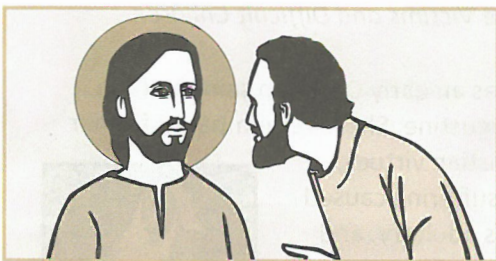
Eternal Father, you gave St. Monica a spirit of selfless love, manifest in her constant prayer for the conversion of her son, Augustine. I ask you for your help that I may also grow in fidelity by prayer. Amen.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.*

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said, 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

#### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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# Reflections on the Gospel



# THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

27 AUGUST 2017

## JESUS' IDENTITY

In biblical times, a man was judged and given status according to the village he was from, the family he belonged to, and the trade he carried out. Oftentimes this ascribed personality – what people thought of the person – was considered to be more important than what the individual thought about himself or herself.

Jesus' stereotypical identity would have been: 'Jesus of Nazareth'. This would have accorded him little honour because the stereotypical image of that village's inhabitants was 'worthless and inconsequential'. In fact, Nathanael from nearby Cana remarks: 'Can anything good come from Nazareth?' (*John* 1:46) Even Jesus' occupation was humble: he was a carpenter (*Mark* 6:3), a carpenter's son (*Matthew* 13:35). The Israelites stayed close to the adage: 'Like father, like son'. Both Jesus and Joseph were *tehtonai*, 'stone or wood workers'.

Jesus, however, did not conform to his stereotype. Instead of engaging in the same profession as Joseph, he became an itinerant preacher. He did not stay in his home town and marry as was expected of him. After he preached the word of God and showed that he was mighty both in word and in deed, the people began to attribute to Jesus honourable opinions.

In today's Gospel, the disciples tell Jesus that people perceive him as John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah, or another of the prophets. These are all honourable perceptions, but still inadequate. Simon Peter then confesses Jesus to be 'the Christ (Messiah), the Son of the living God'. No human being could arrive at this knowledge without a revelation of God. Peter expresses Jesus' true identity: not ascribed to him by human beings, but by the Father himself.

Fr Gil Alinsangan SSP

## FIRST READING

Isa 22:19-23

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.*

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office,  
I remove you from your post,  
and the same day I call on my servant  
Eliakim son of Hilkiah.  
I invest him with your robe,  
gird him with your sash,  
entrust him with your authority;  
and he shall be a father  
to the inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and to the House of Judah.

I place the key of the House of David  
on his shoulder;  
should he open, no one shall close,  
should he close, no one shall open.  
I drive him like a peg  
into a firm place;  
he will become a throne of glory  
for his father's house.

#### ■ The word of the Lord.

## RESP PSALM

Ps 137:1-3, 6, 8. R. v. 8

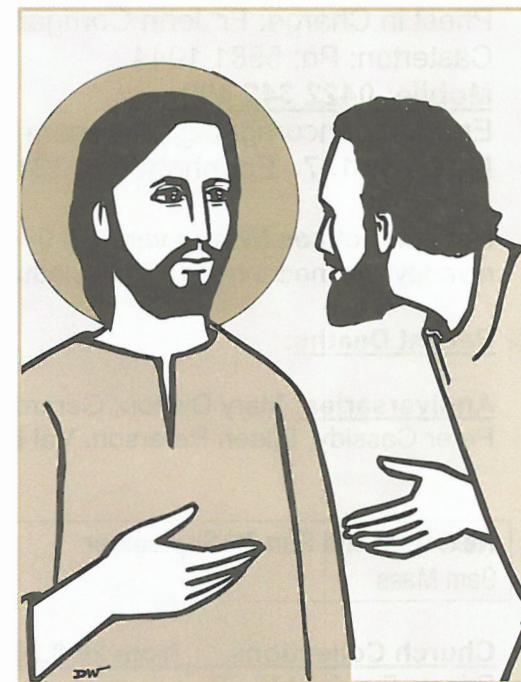
**R. Lord, your love is eternal;**

**do not forsake the work of your hands.**

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, / you have heard the words of my mouth. / Before the angels I will bless you. / I will adore before your holy temple. **R.**

2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love / which excel all we ever knew of you. / On the day I called, you answered; / you increased the strength of my soul. **R.**

3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly / and the haughty he knows from afar. / Your love, O Lord, is eternal, / discard not the work of your hands. **R.**



## SECOND READING

Rom 11:33-36

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*From him, through him, and in him are all things.*

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

#### ■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 16:18

**Alleluia, alleluia! / You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church / the gates of hell will not hold out against it. / Alleluia!**