

SOUTH OTAGO PASTORAL AREA

Parishes of Balclutha, Milton and Lawrence Bulletin

6 August 2023

Patron Saint of Priests:

Parish Priest – Fr Jacob

Thevasahayampillai

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Pastoral Area Assistant:

Stephanie Swann – 03 485 9996

Reverend Deacon:

Iosefa Setu – 027 280 8772

Parish Council Contacts:

Balclutha – Pauline Dodds:

418 1230

Stephanie Bowden, Secretary:

021 238 6668

Milton – Peter Mallon:

417 8181

Lawrence – Geoffrey Blackmore:

485 9503

Mass Times:

Lawrence – 4.30pm Saturday

Lawrence – 4pm Wednesday

1st Sunday – 11am

Milton – 9am Sunday

Milton – 9am Saturday

Balclutha – 10.30am Sunday

1st Sunday – 5.30pm Saturday

Balclutha – 10am Tuesday,

Thursday & Friday

Reconciliation:

On request, or

Balclutha prior to 1st Sunday

Mass, Saturday @ 5pm

Milton after 9am Mass Saturdays

Lawrence prior to Saturday Mass

St. John Marie Vianney was born on May 8, 1786 in the French town of Dardilly, France. He was the fourth child in a humble family of six children born to Matthieu Vianney and his wife, Marie. The Vianneys were devout followers of the Catholic Faith and helped the needy.

Because the French Revolution had interrupted his early education, St. Vianney struggled in his studies especially Latin. But his deep determination to become a priest let him prevail over his difficulties.

St. Vianney attended a minor seminary at Verrieres-en-Forez and was later sent to the major seminary at Lyons in 1813.

He still struggled with his schooling but Abbe Balley persuaded the Vicar general that St. Vianney's extraordinary piety made up for his limitations. St. Vianney was finally ordained a priest on August 12, 1815 in the Couvent des Minimes de Grenoble. He was also appointed Abbe Balley's assistant. When Abbe Balle died three years later, St. Vianney was appointed parish priest of the town of Ars.

The French Revolution had made many people ignorant or indifferent toward religion and caused them to behave badly. It took St. Vianney 10 years to bring spiritual renewal to Ars but his perseverance resulted in greater attendance in his church and better behaviour in the people. Vianney found joy in teaching the children their Catechism and taught people love for the Rosary. Together with Catherine Lassagne and Benedicte Lardet, he founded La Providence, a home for girls. St. Vianney started attracting pilgrims who sought his advice. By 1855, about 20,000 people would visit him, seeking his counsel. In the last ten years of his life, he would spend 16 to 18 hours per day in the confessional. On August 4, 1859, St. Vianney died at the age of 73. St. Vianney was canonized in 1925 by Pope Pius XI and was made the patron saint of parish priests.

God bless Fr Jacob and the Priests of our Diocese as we remember and are inspired by this humble Parish Priest who so hugely served his community.



SUNDAY READINGS FOR THE COMING MONTH – Year A

6th August – The Transfiguration of the Lord – Daniel 7:9-10.13-14, 2 Peter 1:16-19, Matthew 17:1-9

13th August – 19th Sunday Ordinary Time – 1 Kings 19:9 11-13, Romans 9:1-5, Matthew 14:22-33

20th August – 20th Sunday Ordinary Time – Isaiah 56:1,6-7, Romans 11:13-15.29-32, Matthew 15:21-28

27th August – 21st Sunday Ordinary Time - Isaiah 22:19-23, Romans 11:33-36, Matthew 16:13-20

3rd September – 22nd Sunday Ordinary Time – Jeremiah 20:7-9, Romans 12:1-2, Matthew 16:21-27

We pray for those recently deceased and those whose anniversaries are at this time: **Margaret Beck, Leo Hugtenburg, Nick Wiersma, Patricia Chisholm, Bernardina Keating, Annie Allan, John Fitzsimmons, Lois Ford, Clifford Jury, Leo Groenewegen.**



Feast of Saint Mary MacKillop – Tuesday 8th August.

Mass will be celebrated in the Church of St Mary MacKillop at **10.00am.**

All are welcome to attend this Mass of the Patron Saint of the Balclutha Parish.

The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated on the 15th of August, and is regarded as one of the important Marian feast days in the Church's calendar. It celebrates Our Lady being assumed body and soul into heaven after the end of her earthly life.

Bishop Jean-Baptiste Pompallier was the first Catholic bishop of New Zealand.

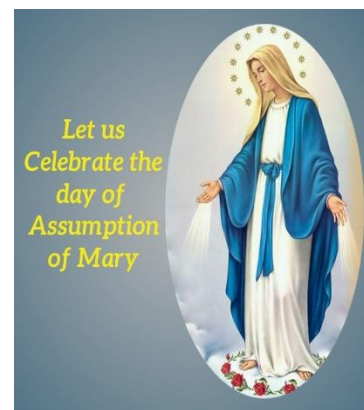
At the end of the first Mass he celebrated in Aotearoa New Zealand, on 13 January 1838, at Hokianga, he dedicated the country to Mary under the title of her Assumption.

The New Zealand Catholic Bishops' Conference, in a pastoral letter in 1988 said:

“In dedicating New Zealand to Mary in her Assumption, Bishop Pompallier placed our country under the protection of Mary as she is now – alive, body and soul, rejoicing in the happiness of God's kingdom.”

Mass of the Patron Saint of New Zealand; Blessed Virgin Mary of the Assumption will be celebrated in our Pastoral Area in **Balclutha at 6.00pm on Tuesday 15th of August.**

Pope Benedict XVI said “Mary's greatness consists in the fact that she wants to Magnify God, not herself.”



For a Synodal Church – Communion/Participation/Mission: 2021/2024

Catholics in New Zealand are being encouraged to read the working document that will guide the Synod meeting in Rome in October and help to set the future direction of the Church. Instrumentum laboris (Working Document) published by the Synod Secretariat is another step towards the future, of the Church.

Go to the Diocesan website cdd.org.nz for the link to read the document and to hear more about the next stage of the Synod.

😊 **SAVE THE DATE** 😊

FRIDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER. ‘A Pastoral Area Social and Shared Meal’

Venue: Balclutha Bowling Club, Charlotte Street, Balclutha.

Time: 6.30pm for 7.00pm dining. An evening for adults to relax & chat.

Bring your favourite dish of food to share, savoury and/or sweet: From your past, your culture or your most celebrated chef. Bar will be open to purchase drinks.