

SOUTH OTAGO PASTORAL AREA
Parishes of Balclutha, Milton and Lawrence
Bulletin – 3 July 2022

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Parish Council Contacts:

Balclutha – Pauline Dodds:418 1230 **Milton** – Peter Mallon:417 8181 **Lawrence** – Geoffrey Blackmore:485 9503
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Weekend Masses:

Lawrence – 5.30pm Saturday
1st Sunday – 11am

Milton – 9am Sunday
Saturday

Balclutha – 10.30am Sunday
1st Sunday – 5.30pm Vigil

Weekday Masses:

Lawrence – 4pm Wednesday

Milton – 9am

Balclutha – 10am Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

Reconciliation - On request, or:

Balclutha prior to Vigil Mass @ 5pm, Milton after 9am Mass Saturdays, Lawrence prior to Vigil Mass

SUNDAY READINGS FOR THE COMING MONTH – Year C

3rd July – 14th Sunday Ordinary Time – Isaiah 66:10-14, Galatians 6:14-18, Luke 10:1-12.17-20

10th July – 15th Sunday Ordinary Time – Deuteronomy 30:10-14, Colossians 1:15-20, Luke 10:25-37

17th July – 16th Sunday Ordinary Time – Genesis 18:1-10, Colossians 1: 24-28, Luke 10:38-42

24th July – 17th Sunday Ordinary Time – Genesis 18:20-32, Colossians 2:12-14, Luke 11:1-13

31st July – 18th Sunday Ordinary Time – Ecclesiastes 1:2;2:21-23, Colossians 3:1-5.9-11, Luke 12:13-21

7th August – 19th Sunday Ordinary Time – Wisdom 18:6-9, Hebrews 11:1-2.8-19, Luke 12:32-48

Saint Thomas the Apostle – July 3rd

Saint Thomas is the Patron of India, builders, architects and construction workers.

The story of Thomas's journey to India is found in an ancient Syriac document, 'The Act of Thomas', written in the 3rd or 4th Century. After the Ascension of Jesus, the Apostles drew lots to see who would go to which part of the world to preach the Gospel. India was drawn by Thomas. Thomas met a wealthy merchant with orders from Gundaphar, a king in Punjab in north-western India to bring skilled architects and builders to construct a royal palace. Thomas agreed, and when he arrived the king provided money to build it.

But when Thomas learned of the poverty of the people, he used the king's money to serve their needs instead. On the king's return Thomas explained that he had spent the money to heal the sick, drive our demons and teach the people about the one true God.

Understandably the king was outraged but Thomas was rescued from the king's wrath when his deceased brother appeared to him in a dream to say that he saw a copy of the palace in heaven.

Soon afterward the king decided to become a Christian. The people followed; were Anointed with Oil, Baptised and joined Thomas in celebrating the Eucharist. He then journeyed on to other parts of India.

Throughout the ages Thomas has interceded for the many who build churches and monasteries that hearts might turn to prayer, and for those who build hospitals and hostels, that the poor might receive the Good News. With the help of St Thomas, may our hearts remain intent on heaven, our true home.

Father of all, help me to live every day in the knowledge of the beautiful place you have prepared for me from the beginning of time.

We pray for: the recently deceased and those whose anniversaries are at this time: **Anton Wesselingh, Cor Tamis, Imelda Donovan, Ted Coll, Henry McKendrick, Gerry van der Vorn, Gladys Baird, Nola Habib, Margaret May, Timotheus Heerschop, and Eileen Storey.**

We welcome in to our Church family three youngsters Baptised in Balclutha this weekend; Catalina Bawi, Elaina Bawi and Henley Tremaine. God bless them and their families at this special time of grace.

Sacramental Programme – A new intake of children will be preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession next term and the further Sacraments of Initiation; Confirmation and Holy Communion next year. If you have children in Year 2 or aged 7 years and over who are not attending our schools, that you would like to take part, please contact the Parish so that they can be enrolled in the programme: catholicchurchclutha@gmail.com We will be in touch to give you further details. Thank you.

“Mary grew up in the home of Joachim and Anne; she was surrounded by their love and faith: in their home she learned to listen to the Lord and to follow his will. Saints Joachim and Anne were part of a long chain of people who had transmitted their faith and love for God, expressed in the warmth and love of family life, down to Mary, who received the Son of God in her womb and who gave him to the world, to us. How precious is the family as the privileged place for transmitting the faith!” **Pope Francis**

Joachim – Patron of Fathers and Grandfathers
Anne – Patron of Mothers - **Feast Day 26 July**



3 July 2022 – Media Prayer Day

It's easy to criticise the media. And it's easy to become frustrated by what we read, hear and view. Today's media wields extraordinary power in shaping the ideas and values of our culture. In New Zealand, this power to influence the national conversation is held by a relatively small number of people. **Yet, how often do we pray for these men and women?** As Christians, we are called to pray for those in places of responsibility (1Timothy 2:2)

Sunday 3rd July throughout the country, Christians of all denominations are praying for the people of New Zealand media; producers, directors, presenters, writers, editors, actors, journalists, marketers and a vast array of others. Our prayers are for them all – for God's wisdom, guidance and blessing – from the CEO to the intern; for people who are well-known, and for those behind the scenes. Take time especially today to pray for all those involved in this service.

Winter ills and health care – “Looking after ourselves and our parishioners.” And especially in this time of world-wide Pandemic COVID-19. It is advised that we continue to be masked within our churches. Infection is still being reported in our congregations.

If you are feeling ill and have the flu, please stay at home, keep warm, get better so as not to pass the flu, on to others.

To help prevent passing colds and the flu on to others, when you need to sneeze or cough, please cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or cough or sneeze into your bent arm (but not your hand). Put your tissues into the rubbish. And always clean your hands after coughing or sneezing. Use soap or an alcohol-based hand sanitiser.

