ST JOSEPH'S PARISH - WARRNAMBOOL

Parish Office: 5562 2231

E-mail: warrnambool@ballarat.catholic.org.au **Diocesan website:** www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land - The Gunditjmara People. We acknowledge their ancestors with respect & commit to working for reconciliation & justice.

PARISH STAFF:	Fr John Fitzgerald (Parish Priest)
	Barry Wolff (Business Manager)
	Leanne McElgunn (Secretary)
	Pat Negri (Gardening/Maintenance)
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER	Anne Maree Mugavin

Office Hours: Monday to Friday: 9.00am - 1.00pm; 1.30pm - 4.00pm

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS: Michael Gray (St Joseph's School) Peter Morgan (Emmanuel College)

- WEEK-END LITURGIES: Sunday: 8.30am 10.30am 6.00pm Purnim: 11.00am (Eucharist on 2nd and 4th Sundays) (Assembly of Word with Communion on 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays)
- WEEK-DAY LITURGIES: (Ash) Wednesday : 10.00am & 5.30pm (Eucharist & Ash) Thursday: 10.00am (Eucharist) Friday: 10.00am (St Joseph's School Mass)

Deaths: Pat Bourke, Mary McCluskey (Goggin)

Anniversaries: Pat Stacey, John Looney, Fr Peter McGrath CP, Mary, Tommy & Will Austen, Ilse, Bill & Billy Taylor, Eileen Arnold

Baptism: Laura Douglas is welcomed into God's Family this weekend

Publication: Autumn edition of 'Australian Catholics' is available to take home

St Joseph's School Fair: Sunday 24th March

Golden Anniversary: On March 16th 1969, 4 Redemptorists were ordained at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. Des FitzGerald (Woolsthorpe), Gerard Neagle, Frank Smith & Terence Kennedy. Fr Des will celebrate 10.30am Mass here at St Joseph's on 17th March in recognition of this special occasion.

Global Justice Course: Conducted by Caritas at Emmanuel College 18th & 25th May. Further information & registration: John O'Sullivan (5560 0848)

Stewardship - Finances

Stewardship: Weekly average contributions for the month of January Parish: \$2,321.00 Pledged Amount: (per week) \$2,820 Presbytery: \$1,575.00 NB: Parish contributions consists of envelopes, credit cards & direct debit

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Statement from Bishop Paul Bird CSsR

'The news of Cardinal Pell's conviction on historical child sexual abuse charges is particularly disturbing to the people of our diocese of Ballarat where George Pell grew up and where he served in his early years. I express my sympathies to all those who are distressed by this news, including those who have suffered so much because of abuse.

Cardinal Pell has lodged an appeal. I do not intend to make any further comment on the case while the appeal process is ongoing.

We will continue to offer help to anyone who has suffered abuse. We will also continue our commitment to keeping children safe today'.

Bishop Paul's Visit: From Friday, 29th March to Monday, 1st April (inclusive). He will meet with the Pastoral Leadership Team, Finance Committee, 'Moving Forward' Group and visit the Parish Archive Centre and any other group that desires to meet with him. He is also happy to meet any individual parishioners if they wish (contact Parish Office). Bishop Paul will also participate in:

Anointing Mass at 2.00pm on Friday 29th March Celebrate the Sunday Masses Visit residents at Mercy Place & St John of God Hospital Visit St Joseph's School and Emmanuel College

Season of Lent

Lent commences this **Wednesday** with Mass and the distribution of Ash. Mass times: Ash Wednesday: 10.00am & 5.30pm The Season of Lent is a time of prayer, self-denial and for helping others. In this way the whole Church prepares for the Great Feast of Easter. Please take home a Project Compassion Box or Envelope today Stations of the Cross: All Fridays in Lent: 7.30pm (St Joseph's Church)

Lenten Program: '*Compassion*': We are joining with Christ Church Anglican Parish again this year. The program runs from Monday 4th March during the weekdays of Lent. You may wish to join a reflection group or use the booklet for private reflection. Cost: \$8 Contact Mary (0409 158 177) or Parish Office (5562 2231) Information and sign-up sheets are in the Gathering Space.

Reconciliation: (Gr 6) students commence their formal preparation this week. The Sacrament will be celebrated Tuesday, 26th March at 5.30pm

Meetings: Tuesday: Consultors Meeting (Ballarat) Wednesday: Pastoral Leadership Team at 5.00pm