



**St Patrick's Cathedral**  
3 Lyons St South,  
Ballarat VIC 3350  
Ph: 53 312933  
ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au



**St Columba's Church**  
306 Gregory St,  
Ballarat North VIC 3350  
Ph: 53 311012  
ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au



**St John the Baptist**  
11 Leichardt Street,  
Beaufort VIC 3373  
Ph: 53 311012  
beaufort@ballarat.catholic.org.au

## BALLARAT CATHEDRAL PARISH

**St Patrick's Primary**  
Principal: Ben Shields  
Ph: 53 327680

**St Columba's Primary**  
Principals: Shaun Mohr &  
Bambi Afford  
Ph: 53 324894

**St Thomas More Primary**  
Principal Simon Duffy  
Ph: 53 342244

**Siena Primary**  
Principal: Shelley Ryan  
Ph: 53 343096

**Bishop Paul Bird CSsR**

**Administrator: Fr Edward Moloney**

**Assistant Priests:**

Fr Francis Kureeckal MST

Fr Abraham Thomas MST

Fr James McKay

Fr Alex Valliyamthadathil (Syro Malabar)

**Finance Officer: Jackie Wrigglesworth**

### **St Patrick's Cathedral**

Parish Coordinator: Antony Beggs

Tues – Thurs 10am-3pm

Safeguarding Officer: Antony Beggs

Safeguarding Officer: Maria Noonan

### **St Columba's Church**

Parish Coordinator: Lia Andanar Yu

Wed 10am-2pm (St Columba's)

Thu 10am-2pm (Cathedral Office)

Fri 10am-2pm (Cathedral Office)

Safeguarding Officer: Anthea Hinchey

### **St John the Baptist Church**

Safeguarding Officer: Sandy Watkins

Parish Support:

Gail Hall & Bernadette Franc

### **MASS TIMES**

#### **St Patrick's Cathedral**

Monday: 12.05pm

Tuesday: 7.00am, 12.05pm

Wednesday: 7.00am, 12.05pm

Thursday: 7.00am, 12.05pm

11.00am St John of God

Friday: 12.05pm,(10.45am

Reconciliation)

Saturday: 10.00am,(10.30am

Reconciliation)

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm

Sunday: 8.00am, 10.30am, 5.00pm

#### **St Columba's**

Wednesday 10.00am (10.30amReco)

Sunday 10.00am

#### **St John the Baptist Beaufort**

2nd & 4th Sunday 8.30 am Mass

1st / 3rd & 5th Sunday 10.00 am LLA



### **TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year C)** **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

Lord, come to my aid

#### **Readings for Next Weekend**

Isaiah 66:18-21

Ps 116. R. Mk 16:15

Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

Luke 13:22-30

#### **WE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED:**

Maureen Duke, Francis Gallagher, Julia Curie

#### **WE REMEMBER THE ANNIVERSARIES:**

Marita Barnes, Harold Bromley, Elsie Butler, Eileen Caelli, Antonio Churkovich, Leda Chwesik, Maree Clifton, Theresa Joan Edgar, Laurie Franklin, Elizabeth Goodwin, David Griffiths, Rosalie Henseleit, Kirk Kelevitz, Monica Lange, Irene Loverso, Rita Madden, Francis McAloon, Douglas McIntosh, Albert Myles, Mary Nunn, Jack Nuttall, Irene Parkin, Philomena Reidy, Kevin Ryan, Leo Taylor, Mary Thomas, Wanda Westenberger, Michael Wethling

Terry Beggs, Mary Clark, Kevin Eddy, Michael Kennedy, Bill Maguire, Tess Maguire, Peter McMahan, Noel McNulty, Frank Nicol, Gwen O'Connor, Zac Perovic

#### **Season of Creation 2025 – Peace with Creation**



The Season of Creation is a time

(September 1 - October 4) for Christians  
to come together in prayer and action for

Creation. The theme for Season of Creation this year is  
“Peace with Creation”.

Resources to celebrate the Season of Creation are available  
at <https://seasonofcreation.org/>

## Reflection on the Gospel-20<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time C

(Luke 12:49-53) - Veronica Lawson RSM

There is a sense of urgency in today's gospel. Jesus feels constrained or under stress until the "fire" he has come to cast on the earth is kindled and the baptism of fire that John the Baptist foreshadowed earlier in this gospel takes effect. Elsewhere in Luke's writing, fire is associated with judgement (Luke 3:9, 17; 9:17; 17:29), and with the presence of the Holy Spirit (3:16), especially in the Lukan story of Pentecost (Acts 2:3) where "tongues as of fire" appear and rest on all those assembled in the upper room. Fire is a sign of the end times when the Spirit of prophecy will come upon all God's people (Acts 2:18-19). Those who have experienced fires in Australia and California, as well as those presently suffering the effect of fires in western Europe, can appreciate the power of this image. The climate crisis is undoubtedly increasing the risk of destructive fires across the globe. Drier conditions wither plant life that then becomes fuel for the fires. Fire can take all before it. It can also bring the most astonishing new life in its wake. We have much to learn from First Nations peoples on this score.

Linked with the image of fire is that of water: Jesus has a "baptism with which to be baptized". Once more, a sense of urgency is expressed as the power of water is evoked. Like fire, water has power to destroy and power to save. Fire and water become metaphors for the hard-won gospel path to peace. Jesus seems to be contradicting so much of what he has stood for to this point. At his birth, he is presented as the bringer of peace (Luke 1:79 and 2:14). He tells the hospitable woman of 7:50 and the faith-filled woman of 8:48 to "go in peace". He instructs his disciples to bring peace to the families they visit (10:5-6). He refuses to be a divider (12:13-14). And now he declares that he has come not to bring peace but division. His hearers can expect members of families to be divided one against another. How can this be?

The Lukan Jesus is almost certainly describing the status quo rather than prescribing what ought to prevail. In other words, by the time Luke is writing, it is clear that some have accepted the gospel way of peace and justice and compassion and others within the same families have not. Acceptance of the gospel and of Jesus as the Christ or Messiah would have involved a monumental shift for Jews on the one hand and for adherents of the diverse philosophies or faiths of the Roman world on the other. Today's families of mixed faith might be able to get inside this experience and to understand the suffering involved when a family member makes a life choice that other members of the family find hard to accept. This is not an easy text to understand or even to accept. We are invited to struggle with its ambiguity.

## Social Justice Statement 2025-2026



The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's 2025-2026 Social Justice Statement was released today. The Statement titled "Signs of Hope on the Edge: Serving People Living in Homelessness and Mental Ill-Health" highlights the experience of people living with the

challenges of homelessness and mental ill-health. Each year since 1940, the Conference has released a statement for reflection and discussion ahead of Social Justice Sunday on a key issue in Australian society. The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission invite all to a Webinar in celebration of the launch of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2025-2026, "Signs of Hope on the Edge: Serving People Living in Homelessness and Mental Ill-Health" on Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at 7.00pm – 8.15pm. The webinar will include an overview from Bishop Paul Bird CSsR and presentations from James Treloar, Senior Manager in Homelessness and Housing Support at CatholicCare Victoria, Michael Ryan, OAM, President of the Ballarat region of the St Vincent de Paul Society and Maria Noonan, CEO of St John of God Hospital Ballarat and Warrnambool. Please register via the diocesan website

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/service-and-agencies/welfare/social-justice/social-justice-statement-current/>. The Statement and more information can also be accessed <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au>

### Youth Pathways Booklet – Staying Connected in



#### Faith

The diocese has distributed the *Youth Pathways* booklet to all Year 12 students in our diocesan Catholic secondary schools. This resource is designed to help young adults stay connected with their faith as they transition beyond school. To access the booklet, click or scan the QR code. Printed copies are also available from the Pastoral Ministry Office, [pastoralministry@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:pastoralministry@ballarat.catholic.org.au).

### Employment Opportunity - Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator

The Catholic Diocese of Ballarat requires an experienced safeguarding professional to assist the Diocese to maintain and expand the existing safeguarding practices. Further information regarding this position is available at the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/employment/>

## Liturgy Formation at Terang



The Diocesan Liturgical Commission will be presenting a Liturgy Formation session at Terang THIS Sunday, August 17, 2025 on

Sunday Assembly of Word & Communion. All members of the diocese are welcome to attend. The program for the day and registration information is available from the diocesan

website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/liturgy-formation-at-terang-sunday-august-17-2025/>

## Season of Creation Outdoor Liturgy – Save the Date



The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission invites all members of our diocesan

parishes to the Season of Creation outdoor liturgy on Friday, September 19, 2025 from 10.30am – 12.00noon (location tbc). More information to follow in the coming weeks. This event will be livestreamed for participation across the diocese.

## Mass of the Oils starting time

The Ballarat Catholic Diocesan Liturgical Commission is seeking feedback on the starting time for the annual Mass of the Oils, which is held at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat. Click or scan the QR to indicate your preference.



## Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Online Study



The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF) is a growing initiative to offer adult religious education and faith formation anytime and anywhere, online.

This low-cost (\$50usd) online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parishes is available through our partner, Dayton University. The Cycle 6 begins September 8. There are 31 subjects to choose from – find one that interests you! Registrations are open now until September 4. Scan the QR code for more information or email [djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:djurджа.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or ph. 5337 7121.

## “Vatican II Keep the Windows Open”

Catholic Theological College and the Yarra Theological Union will host a symposium to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the close of Vatican II on Wednesday, September 24, 2025 from 9.30 am – 4.15 pm at Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne. To book go to [www.humanitix.com/Vatican-II](http://www.humanitix.com/Vatican-II). Enquiries, ph. 9412 3333 or email [vi.panganiban@ctc.edu.au](mailto:vi.panganiban@ctc.edu.au)

## Caritas Australia invites us to pray for the people of Gaza

If you are able to support Caritas Australia's Gaza Appeal, please donate online at [www.caritas.org.au/gaza](http://www.caritas.org.au/gaza) or phone 1800 024 413

## Caritas Australia invites us to light a candle and pray for the people of Gaza

God of light, You meet us in the darkest places.

Every year, when we light our Easter candle, we pray 'may the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our minds and hearts.'

We pray today that all people may work with you to dispel the darkness of violence and war.

May this fragile light be a sign of our hope for the people of Gaza.

May they find healing and lasting peace. Amen.

## Sew and So.....

Thursday 14th August, 2025 at 1.30pm at the St Columba's Church Foyer. Come and bring whatever craft you are working on or just join us for a cuppa and chat. Last month I had my 5-year-old Grandson, George with me. His report to the family was:- he had been to "Day Care for Grandmas". How perceptive! Enquiries Margaret 53314032.

## Caritas Australia - Relay of Hope



The Relay of Hope is a symbolic gesture on a global scale proposed by Caritas

Internationalis as part of the Turn Debt into Hope campaign for the 2025

Jubilee. Inspired by the Olympic torch, this candle-lighting activity reflects our shared mission to spread light, life and hope. Rooted in the official Jubilee theme of *Pilgrims of Hope*, the *Relay of Hope* will connect communities worldwide and symbolize our unity and solidarity in calling for debt and economic justice. This gesture was chosen because light represents hope that the Jubilee principles will inspire much-needed change. The relay signifies the Caritas family and wider global community journeying collectively to spiritual and social transformation. Each lit candle represents a call to action for debt justice and turning debt into hope. Although it can be done at any time in the *Jubilee Year*, we are invited to especially organize a *Relay of Hope* during the Season of Creation between Monday, September 1 and Saturday, October 4, 2025. This will contribute to a wave of action around the world, forming a symbolic chain of unity and solidarity. Resources are available at <https://www.caritas.org.au/resources/parish-materials/tdih-relay/>

### Confirmation Preparation Program

This weekend the Masses will include the Sacrament of Confirmation conferred on children, essentially from the following schools:

**5:30pm Saturday St Thomas More PS**

**10.00am Sunday St Columba's PS**

**10:30am St Patrick's PS**

**5.00pm Sunday Siena PS**

For children who do not attend a Catholic Primary School (parents with children) are to attend the Mackillop/Glowrey room on the following:

5:30pm Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August

For further details, please contact the Cathedral Parish Office during office hours:

(Tues – Thu 10am to 3pm) 53 312 933 or email

[ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

### Youth Music & Worship Night



The Ballarat Cathedral Parish would like to invite everyone 16 years and above to a night of music, fellowship and (free) food! Jesus Youth Australia will be leading us in a time of prayer and

sharing on the 5th of September 2025 at 6pm. Please register using the QR code so we can keep an eye out on numbers. This event will be a relaunching of the Young Adults Group in this Jubilee Year of Hope and as a lead up for the upcoming Australian Catholic Youth Festival. See you all soon!



### Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) – Melbourne 2025

ACYF will take place in Melbourne from Sunday, November 30 - Tuesday,

December 2, 2025. This national event brings together young Catholics (9–25 years) for three days of faith, fun, and community. The Festival includes prayer, Mass, talks, concerts, workshops, games, and more. Watch this video of invitation from Archbishop Comensoli, Archbishop of Melbourne

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=evbj5eFg3HM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=evbj5eFg3HM).

There is an opportunity of sponsorship from the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Foundation for pilgrims attending the Festival. If you're interested in going, please contact your school or local parish office. Learn more at

[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) or scan QR code.

### Ballarat Cathedral Parish 3<sup>rd</sup> August

First Collection - \$ 2278.70

St Columba's - \$ 400.60

(Presbytery - Priest support)

Second Collection - \$ 1001.35

St Columba's - \$ 674.40

(Parish - Online & Collection – buildings, office, admin, grounds and maintenance)

Tap n Go- \$ TBC

### Weekly Roster - St Columba's Mass (August 24)

Leader of Song: Terry Ranger

Commentator: Colleen Wakefield

Minister of the Word: Vicki Moroney

Communion Minister: Gina Hinchey

Digital Projector: Bruce Chapman

Sacristan: Josie Crowe

### CATHEDRAL PARISH CALENDAR

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August

#### Confirmation Celebrations

6.00pm Youth Group

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> August

7pm Life in the Spirit Prayer - Small Halls

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August

1pm Legion of Mary

5pm Choral & Organ Scholarship Hall

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August

5:30pm Confirmation Preparation Meeting

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August

Ballarat Baby & Children's Market

### CATHEDRAL DEVOTIONS

**Monday-Saturday** Morning Prayer 7.30am

**Monday-Friday** Evening Prayer 5.00pm

#### Monday/Tuesday

11.15am Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet

#### Wednesday

11.15am Litany to St Joseph

6.00pm – 7.00pm Holy Hour & Benediction

#### Thursday

11.15am Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet

7.00pm Rosary Julia Curie

#### Friday

**10.00am Requiem Mass Julia Curie**

11.00am to 12.00pm -

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Silent Prayer

\*changes may occur due to Funerals/Liturgical events.