

In our prayers we remember.....

Recent Death: Sylvia Joyce Carroll, Maree Lamb, Cathy Jones Anniversaries: Brian Perkins Unwell: We pray for Waffa Ghali, Brian (Jack) Patton, Ray, Kateri Byrnes, Ann Coswello, Carmel Doherty, Pat Hogan, Heather Healy, Cathy Jones, Peter Martin, Margie Wilmott, John Beattie, Letitia Simmons, Anthony Holdsworth and all who are unwell.

This weekend we welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism:

"The Church gives the faith to your children through Baptism and you have the task to make it grow..."

May these children grow in Love and Faith with the support of their family and their Catholic Community (Pope Francis.)

Isabelle Therese Trengrove daughter of Clare and Heath

Ellyse Slater daughter of Jason and Talia

Isla and Bonnie Casella daughters of Stacey and Christian



Project Compassion Virtual Immersions – Week 2

Each week during this Lenten season, Caritas Australia is holding Virtual Immersion opportunities for parishes via Zoom video conferencing. These digital engagements will allow participants to focus on prayer and reflection, Catholic Social Teaching and an interview and Q&A with Caritas International Program staff. **Week 2: Margaret's Story (Solomon Islands)** on Tuesday, March 2 at 7.30pm (VIC). You can register for a Virtual Immersion by going to <u>https://lent.caritas.org.au/virtualimmersions</u>.



Upcoming Dates in the parish community

		March		Dates
2^{nd}	Liturgy Meeting	5.00pm	St Alipius Presbytery	- Cullo
	Reconciliation Info Night	7.00pm	St Alipius Church	tor vour
3^{rd}	Reconciliation Info Night	7.00pm	St Alipius Church	i or jour
4^{th}	Baptism Preparation	7.00pm	St Patrick's Cathedral	DIARY
10 th	Anointing Mass	2.00pm	St Alipius Church	Diere

World Day of Prayer Services - Friday, March 5, 2021
10.00am at Patrick's Cathedral, corner Sturt & Dawson Streets, Ballarat.
2.00pm at St James' Parish Church, corner Albert & Vale Streets, Sebastopol.
7.00pm at Ballarat South Uniting Church, 305 Scott Street, Buninyong.
7.00pm at St John's Anglican Church, 103 Napier Street, Creswick.

Planned Giving

Due to the capped numbers for Mass, should you wish to continue your Planned Giving or contribution to the First Collection, please place your offering in an envelope into the mailbox near the front door of the Presbytery. Any queries regarding Planned Giving, please phone our Finance Officer Kerrie McTigue, on 53 312 933 or via email: <u>ballaratoffice@ballarat.catholic.org.au</u> <u>St Alipius Parish collections last weekend:</u>

Presbytery \$1,146.05 Direct Debit \$ 570.00 Envelopes \$ 570.00 Credit Card \$ 570.00

Thank You!

We thank you for your continued support

The Caring Group

The Caring Group will gather for a meeting and afternoon tea on Friday 5th march at 2pm. Please ring Margaret Tuddeham 53303379 or Kath Bevelander 53301519 if attending. Thank you.

Lenten Resources - Week 2:

The Sandhurst Diocese kindly shares their Lent 2021 leaflets which invite reflection on excerpts from Pope Francis' "Let us Dream", together with insights and suggestions for action from one of the Australian Plenary Council Thematic Discernment papers. The leaflets are for individual reflection or small group reflection and discussion.

The theme for week 2 is, "How do we find the way of mercy and love that can usher forth a revolution of tenderness?" These leaflets are available for download from the diocesan website Liturgy Resources page

<u>https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/liturgy-</u> <u>resources/</u>. Copies are also available in the foyer of the church.

Lent resources are available from the diocesan website Liturgy Resources page https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/liturgy-resources/



A Pilgrimage for the Year of St Joseph

The Aussie Camino is a pilgrimage route running from Portland in Victoria to Penola in South Australia, inspired by the life and journeys of Australia's first Saint, Mary of the Cross MacKillop, and her mentor, Fr Julian Tenison Woods. On average you will walk between 20-25km per day (6-8 hours) for the eight days of walking.

Based on the traditions of the Camino de Santiago de Compostela in Spain, pilgrims receive a guidebook, passport, scallop shell and stay in the local towns along the way. Fr Justin Driscoll will accompany the pilgrims. 10 Days – Portland to Penola departing Ballarat on Friday, April 30, 2021 and returning to Ballarat on Sunday, May 9, 2021. Maximum of 12 people. An information session for this event will be held on Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 5.30pm in the smaller hall at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. To register your interest and attend the information session, please contact Leonie at Lifestyle Travel Ballarat <u>leonie@lifestyletravel.com.au</u>

National Mass Count of Attendance

The National Centre for Pastoral Research advise that the 2021 National Count of Attendance (Mass Count) will take place over the first four weekends in May (starting May 1, 2021). As in 2016, the data collected for the 2021 Count will need to be entered online. With the added advantage of mobile compatibility, data can be entered using most mobile devices.

Reflection on the Gospel-2nd Sunday of Lent Year B

(Mark 9:2-10)

Veronica Lawson RSM



The wilderness was the geographical and key symbolic focus of last week's gospel story. This week, the focus is a mountain. Wilderness and mountain remind us that God's Earth itself is the locus of mystery and grace, the place of Earth-divine encounter. The mountain, like the wilderness, links Mark's story of Jesus with the story of the Israelites. Moses' encounter with God on the mountain of Sinai was a defining moment in the life of the people: the Israelites entered into covenant with God at this mountain and received the Law that was to guide their lives as a people.

Some centuries later, at a time of crisis in Israel's life, the prophet Elijah returned to this mountain and experienced the presence of God in the gentle breeze.

In the gospel passage for today, Jesus takes Peter, James and John up the mountain and is "transfigured" before them and "his clothes become dazzling white". In the Book of Revelation, white clothes come to symbolise the clothing of martyrs, of those who die for their faith. Elijah and Moses, the key prophetic figures of Israel, appear and enter into dialogue with Jesus, God's definitive prophet. The "transfiguration" seems to point to a time in Jesus' ministry when he accepts his likely fate. If he continues to challenge oppression and injustice, he is certain to encounter opposition, even death. He struggles with that realisation in the "wilderness" and comes to terms with what it involves on this unidentified mountain.

The voice of God reaffirms the identity of Jesus that was announced in the opening words of the gospel and proclaimed at his baptism in the Jordan. It calls for a response from the disciples who have ascended the mountain in his company: "Listen to him". In the two preceding scenes, Jesus has spoken of the suffering that he and his followers will have to face. These words are crucial to an understanding, not only of Jesus, but of what it means to follow him. They fall on deaf ears.

Peter wants to hold on to the experience of glory, to "make tents" and settle down. He prefers not to face the difficulties involved in fidelity to the mission. But that is not the way of discipleship. Like Jesus and his companions, we too need the occasional glimpse of final victory. We also need the courage and the good sense to return from the mountain and follow through on the path that brings life, despite the pain. We can feel overwhelmed by the enormity of the challenges facing us and by the opposition we sometimes experience. Vaccines for Covid-19 are in process of changing our world. They have a crucial role to play in combatting infection, in casting out fear and restoring life. We too have a role to play. We must "listen" to the underlying causes of disease and come to terms with the costs involved in maintaining the struggle for a sustainable, safe, and peace-filled world.

Readings for this week: Second Sunday in Lent

First: Gen 22:1-2 **Second:** Rom 8:31-34 **Gospel:** Mk 9:2-10

<u>Readings for next week: Third Sunday in Lent</u>

First: Ex 20:1-17 **Second:** 1 Cor1:22-25 **Gospel:** Jn 2:13-25

