

Anne Bernadette Cheeseman Unwell: We pray for Remy Bourke, Joan O'Beirne, Waffa Ghali, Mary Hall, Betty McGarry, Valerie Reilly (UK), Anne D'Cruz (Singapore), Peter Saunders, Agnes Peters, Brian (Jack) Patton, Ray, Heather Healy, Peter Martin, Margie Wilmott, Letitia Simmons, and all who are unwell.

## Upcoming Dates in the Parish Community

		March		
NOW	Week 3 Dismissal Program	All Mass Times	All churches	
$14^{\text{th}}$	144 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of OSJ Foundation	9.30am	St Alipius Church	
$15^{\mathrm{th}}$	Stations of the Cross	7.00pm	Ss Peter & Paul's Bunin	yong
17 <sup>th</sup>	PPC Meeting	6.30pm	Ss Peter & Paul's Bunin	yong
19 <sup>th</sup>	Solemnity of St Joseph	9.30am	St Alipius Church	
19/20	RCIA First Rite of Scrutiny	All Mass Times	All Churches	
	Week 4 Dismissal Program	All Mass Times	All Churches	
26/27	RCIA Second Rite of Scrutiny	All Mass Times	All Churches	
	First Eucharist Mass	All Mass Times	All Churches	

### Thank you

We take this opportunity to welcome and say thank you to Fr Barry Ryan who will be supporting the parish during Fr Jorge's leave. Please make him feel welcome within our community.

### **Anointing Mass**

The Anointing Mass will be held on Thursday March 31<sup>st</sup> at 2.30pm. Afternoon tea will follow in the Hall. Please bring a small plate to share. Anyone requiring transport please ring the Parish Office on 5332 6611.

### Synod of Bishops

Don't miss out on this opportunity to take part in a global conversation about the Catholic Church. How are we called to walk together as Christians? How can we listen to one another in making important decisions about our faith and our mission? The deadline for online submissions in the local consultation for the international Synod on Synodality is Sunday, March 13. Find out more and share your contribution at: <u>https://catholic.org.au/synodalchurch</u>

### Invitation to Blessing of Statue of St Patrick for the Cathedral

A statue of St Patrick will be placed and blessed in St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat by Bishop Paul Bird CSsR during Evening Prayer (Vespers) on the Vigil of St Patrick's Day (Wednesday, March 16) at 7.00pm. On St Patrick's Day itself, there will be Masses at 10.00am and 7.00pm. Fr Ed Moloney and Fr Abraham Thomas will preside and acknowledge the blessing of the statue during those Masses. People of the Diocese are welcome to the Evening Prayer and the Masses. More information is available from the diocesan website <a href="https://mcusercontent.com/904e76c839232ddc552d4311d/files/dfe651b2-ca50-6e9d-4844-c24a97df8ffo/St\_Patrick\_Invitation.pdf">https://mcusercontent.com/904e76c839232ddc552d4311d/files/dfe651b2-ca50-6e9d-4844-c24a97df8ffo/St\_Patrick\_Invitation.pdf</a>

### Mass of the Oils 2022

The Mass of the Oils will be held on Monday, April 11, 2022 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 6.30pm. Supper will follow in the Hall. Any COVID restrictions applicable at this time will apply to the Mass of the Oils.

### House Wanted

A parishioner is in urgent need of a 2 bedroom house with garage. We ask all people if they have or know of anything that would be available to please Contact the Parish Office. Thank you.





### <u> Planned Giving</u>

Should you wish to continue our Planned Giving or contribute 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: *ballaratoffice@ballarat.catholic.org.au* 

Envelopes \$693.20 Presbytery \$1087 We thank you for your continued support

### 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  $\dots$ 



(Pope Francis)

Adeline Howley Daughter of Joel and Pamela

**Ronan and Emma Faustini** Children of Alana and Lawrence May these children grow in Love and Faith with the support of their family and their Catholic Community

# Congratulations

We congratulate Mariah and Lachlan who were married this weekend. We ask God to for his blessings upon them.

### **Easter Flowers**

The Parish is seeking a Volunteer who would be able to collect and arrange flowers for the Easter Mass weekend. All expenses are covered. If this is something that you may be able to assist with, please contact the Parish Office.

### **Counters Roster**

An updated Counters Roster for March through to May is now available in the Sacristy of St Alipius Church. If you would consider joining the Counting Team please contact the Parish office. Thank you

### Sacramental Program

The children preparing for First Eucharist are now in their 3<sup>rd</sup> week. We thank their families for supporting the program and in turn the Parish. We continue to ask the Parish Community to pray for these children as they prepare for the Sacrament of First Eucharist.



### **RCIA Process**

We ask all Parishioners to keep a look out for our Catachumens and Candidates and to introduce yourself to them. They will be happy to meet you.

We ask you all to keep them in your prayers throughout their Lenten journey.





Project Compassion Week Two



As a person with a disability living in remote India, Biru faced the prospect of a life of poverty and discrimination. With your support, he participated in entrepreneurship training and gained the skills to become financially independent. Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 to help young people succeed in the future and bring stability to vulnerable youth like Anatercia. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting www.lent.caritas.org.au or by calling 1800 024 413.



# Reflection on the Gospel-2nd Sunday of Lent Year C (Luke 9:28-36)

#### -Veronica Lawson RSM

 $\ll$ ast week, the wilderness was a character in the gospel reading. This week, we find a mountain and a cloud featuring in the narrative. These other-than-human characters and the prophets of old (Moses and Elijah) link Luke's story of Jesus to the Israelites' covenant relationship with God. Wilderness, mountain and cloud also remind us that God's Earth is the locus of mystery where human and other-than-human Earth beings are transformed through encounter with the divine. For Pope Francis, "[s]oil, water, mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of God" (*Laudato Si*' 84).

For Jesus, the mountain is already a place of encounter with God, a place of prayer. Luke has Jesus spending a night in prayer on an unidentified mountain before he chooses the Twelve. Jesus now takes three of his closest friends up another unidentified mountain where the aspect of his face changes and his clothing becomes dazzling white. Elijah and Moses, the key prophetic figures of Israel, "appear" and enter into dialogue with Jesus, God's definitive prophet.

This episode 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 this realisation in the wilderness and comes to terms with what it involves on the mountain. The voice of God reaffirms the identity of Jesus and calls for a response: "Listen to him". These words are reminiscent of Moses' instruction to the Israelites: "Your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet" (Deut 18:15). For Luke, Jesus is the prophet-like-Moses whom they must heed. 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. The tents evoke once more the Israelites' wanderings in the wilderness.

Like Jesus and his companions, we too need the occasional glimpse of glory. We also need the good sense to 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. If we are to hear the prophet-like-Moses in our times, we have to come to terms with the personal costs involved. Some of us actually need to go alone or together to a mountain top or place of extraordinary beauty to discover again the strength that comes from encountering the divine. I grew up in the shadow of Geboor (Mt Macedon). I once climbed within view of Everest. Every now and then, I climb Mt Buninyong. At such times, I know the wonder of God revealed in the beauty of the earth itself even as I sense its fragility and susceptibility to destruction.

### Second Sunday of Lent

**First:** Gen 15:5-12, 17-18 **Second:** Phil 3:17-4:1 **Gospel:** Lk 9: 28-36 <u>Third Sunday of Lent</u>

*First: Ex* 3:1-8, 13-15 *Second:* 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12 *Gospel: Lk* 13:1-9

