# St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

Sunday December 16<sup>th</sup> 2018 3rd Sunday of Advent Year C





St Patrick's Cathedral Parish respectfully acknowledge that the Aboriginal people of Australia are our first nation peoples and the traditional owners and custodians of this land.

# Recent Deaths: Margaret Roberts, Fr. Jim Victory (Wilcannia-Forbes)Anniversaries Jack Coffey, Ronald Leslie Edgar, Ronald Mark Edgar, Christopher Fay, Sheila Veronica Gregory, Frank Tagliabue

# We Welcome through the Sacrament of Baptism this Sunday

Sadie Ellen Hanrahan Madeline Phyllis Hart Matilda Jane Mellington Addyson Mae Plover daughter of Damian and Ellen daughter of Darren and Katherine daughter of Troy and Jessica daughter of Jason and Karly



May they grow in faith in their loving families and our Catholic Community

# Advent in the Cathedral Parish

Sunday December 16th	5.00 pm	Prayer of Sorrow & Promise @ Mercy Place	
	7.00 pm	Anglican Cathedral Carols and Readings	
Wednesday December 19th	7.00 pm	Advent Second Rite of Reconciliation	
Friday December 21st	7.30 am	Advent Mass in the Cathedral	
	10.30 am	Cathedral Volunteers Morning Tea	
	7.00 pm	Cathedral Service of Carols and Readings	
Saturday December 22nd	11.00 am	Working bee to clean the Cathedral	

# **Cathedral Christmas Mass times**

Christmas Eve (Monday December 24th) 6.30 pm, 9.00 pm, 12 Midnight Christmas Day (Tuesday December 25th), 8.00 am, 10.30 am, 5.00 pm (Syro Malabar) (Christmas Eve 6.00pm Skipton, 7.30pm Smythesdale, 8.00pm Beaufort, 9.30pm Snake Valley, Christmas Day 9.00am Linton, 10.30am St John of God Hospital Chapel)

# **Cathedral Cleaning working Bee in preparation for Christmas**

Saturday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11.00 am. If you have time, please come and join in.

# St Vincent de Paul Society Jesse Tree Christmas Appeal 2018

Thank you to all who have contributed to the Jesse Tree Appeal through the donation of non-perishable food items. Vinnies Christmas Appeal envelopes are available in the pews for those wishing to make a cash donation to the appeal.

## **Ministers of Holy Communion**

Would parishioners who minister Communion to the sick and housebound please contact the Parish Office (<u>ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au</u> 53 312933) with the name/s of those to whom you take Communion? We will develop a contact list for all involved.

Following the Parish Expo, the liturgy team welcome the expressions of interest to be commissioned as ministers of Holy Communion from Priya Allencherry, Krys Antosiewz, Juliana Betts, Elizabeth Bingham, Marlan Gonsalves, Brad Harris, Trish King, Carol Lam, Emma Liston, Damian Liston, Cherie Robinson, Andrea Romeo, Dallas and Kevin Wilkinson. A formation afternoon for this ministry will be held in the Cathedral Office on Sunday January 20th, 2.30 pm – 4.30 pm.

#### Ballarat Rural Australians for Refugees' Pizza Lunch December 16th 12noon

All are invited to support a refugee family, at 136 Bogong Avenue, Invermay Park for a Pizza Lunch. Eat in or take away. \$15 per adult, children \$5. (Carmel Moloney)

#### **OLHC Wendouree Christmas Day Lunch**

Christmas Day Lunch (no cost), 12.00 Midday -2.00 pm (Meal at 12.30 pm) to be held at OLHC Parish Hall, 482 Gillies St. Wendouree. Transport available. 0419 975 914

#### Thank you for contributing to the collections last weekend

Envelopes	\$1,515.00	Parish Loose \$416.05	Presbytery \$2,430.15
Counters	Team 4	Next Week Team 5	

#### **Parish Finance Committee**

Thank you to retiring members of the Finance Committee – Joe Ballinger, Di Hanlon, Jamie Mulcahy and Jim Watson. These retiring members have given many years of service to our Parish through this committee which meets quarterly. We welcome Ed Browne, Cheryl McIntosh and John Mulcair to the committee who will join Andrew Ballesty, Geordie Charles, Michael Kearney and Cathy Oakley together with ex-officio members Kerrie McTigue and Fr Justin. Any parishioner interested in joining the Parish Finance Committee is invited to contacted Kerrie McTigue or Fr Justin.

#### Parish Expo Follow-up

The Parish Pastoral Council (Leo Styles, Susan Crowe, Trudie Dickinson, Bethany Pennington, Tommy Theckamurry & Fr Justin) thank all parishioners who took the time at the recent Parish Expo to record ideas, suggestions and comments for the Council to consider. Some of the themes suggested were: Concern to provide for the youth in the parish, music, opportunities for prayer, emphasis on the sacraments (particularly reconciliation), a need to treasure the Word of God. The Council will publish contributions in more detail at a later date.

# Closing Mass for St Patrick's Church Springdallah

Following the sale of the Church at Springdallah last weekend, there will be a final Mass in the Church on Sunday January 27th 2019 at 10.30am. All former parishioners welcome.

# Gospel Reflection © Dianne Bergant CSS

We are at the midpoint of Advent. Today we celebrate *Gaudete* Sunday. The principal theme of the day is joy. According to Paul, joy is one of the fruits of the Spirit (cf. Gal 5:22). Such joy is a religious sentiment, not emotional happiness. Along with gratitude, it is the heart's response to God's goodness. Zion is told to shout for joy because it has been saved by God from its enemies and because God is in the midst of the people. The psalm response proclaims the same message; the reading from Philippians announces that the LORD is near. This is cause for joy.

Advent is a time for joy, not primarily because we are anticipating the anniversary of the birth of Christ, but because God is already in our midst (Immanuel). The readings for this Sunday assure us that God is with us, not as a judge but as a Saviour. We rejoice over the saving acts of God that make us confident of God's care and unafraid of whatever may cross our paths. We rejoice in the peace of God that surpasses all understanding. Advent joy is like the delight that fills a woman who has just given birth, even if it occurred in the throes of birthpangs. Advent joy springs from the realisation that the presence of God in our midst can so transform our lives that the promises of peace and security will be fulfilled. Advent joy is the way we live in the tension between already and not yet.