

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat



www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
Sunday 2nd August, 2015



Reflection by Veronica Lawson rsm

We have become so familiar with the sayings of Jesus that we can easily fail to notice the earth elements in the text or the constructed environment and treat them simply as backdrop for human activity rather than as having value in themselves. Jesus' claim "I am the bread of life" invites us to consider bread as matter essential to life as well as a metaphor for the God's Word become flesh. It invites us to consider what both material and symbolic dimensions of the statement might mean for living a gospel way of life.

We might note the close attention in this passage to the material and social context of Jesus' words. Boats, a town (Capernaum), the sea (of Galilee), the land on the "other side" all feature in this text. For those who have visited Galilee and seen the first century boat preserved in Kibbutz Ginnosar, reference to boats might evoke the diversity of wooden materials used in boat construction, in this case mostly oak and cedar. It might also alert us to the human communities that interacted with the material world to build the boats so integral to the life of the lake communities.

Those who have seen images of Capernaum will be aware of the basalt building materials used in the construction of the houses and might be led to wonder at the extraordinary processes of rock formation. The Sea of Galilee has agency in so many gospel stories. Here it is mentioned in passing, but must not be ignored, especially as we become aware of how perilously endangered it is since its waters have been exploited for irrigation over several decades. The "other side" evokes the rich agricultural land generally referred to as the "bread-basket" of the region. Mention of the crowd introduces children as well as women and men searching for Jesus. In other words, the text invites us into the whole Galilean world encoded in the text.

The question, "Rabbi, when did you come here?", is about time and place Jesus is addressed as teacher, as one who can lead his questioners from one physical and metaphorical place to another. It is his response to this question that introduces the discussion about bread. This in turn opens up a whole world of earth activity, of sun and soil and seed and plant, a world of planting and harvesting, of processing and cooking. Ironically, the words of the Johannine Jesus with their focus on the symbolic meaning of the bread turn his questioners away from the physical, material Earth elements that constitute both bread and flesh. Pope Francis invites us in his recent encyclical, *Laudato Si*, to value and respect the material world. The more we do so, the more attuned we will be to the challenge of Jesus' claim for our living of the gospel.

Recent Deaths: Joan Densley, Moira Lewis (Funeral Mass at the Cathedral 2.00pm Monday),
Geoff Richmond, Joan Sinnott

Anniversaries: Bryan (Joseph) Dowling, George Morrison, William Raymer,
Maria Sabo, Noreen Sherritt

Next week's readings: *Sunday 9th August 2015* *19th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)*
1 Kings 19:4-8 Ps 33(34):2-9 Ephesians 4:30 -5:2 John 6:41-51

Parish Confirmation Preparation

Welcome to the children and their families who commence preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation. We pray for all of these children participating in the program which is open to all – those attending our Parish Schools of St Thomas More & St Patrick's, those who are home schooled, and those children attending a government or independent school. Bishop Paul will Confirm these children at Masses over two weekends in September, 5th – 6th and 12th – 13th.

Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Saturday August 8th – Mass celebrated at 10.00 am

Feast of the Assumption of Mary - Saturday August 15th (Holy Day)

Masses	Vigil (Friday evening)	Cathedral	6.30 pm
	Saturday	Cathedral	8.00 am
		Cathedral	10.00 am

Cuppa & Chat in the Presbytery after 10.30 am Mass this Sunday. All welcome.

Homelessness in Ballarat

The Ballarat interfaith network will hold a forum on Friday August 21st at 6.15 pm to focus on the issue of homelessness in Ballarat

Bishop's Secretary

The secretary in the bishop's office, Bernadette O'Loughlin, will soon be retiring from this position. Bishop Paul is seeking expressions of interest in this secretarial role. An application package can be accessed on the website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au – Our Diocese – Employment. Inquiries can be directed to Cathy Dunbar, phone (03) 5337 7131 or email cdunbar@ceoballarat.catholic.edu.au Applications will close at 10 am on Monday, August 10th.

Responding to Extremism - Fr Robert McCulloch

6.00 pm Mass at Nazareth House on Friday August 21st followed by 7.30 pm Presentation in Nazareth House Hall. Entry by donation. Please bring a plate of supper to share.

Parish Coordinating Team

Fr Justin has invited a contact from each of the Parish groups, organisations and ministries to come together to meet on Wednesday August 12th at 5.00 pm as the first step in forming a Parish Coordinating Team. While there are many active and vibrant groups and ministries in the Parish there is no coordination of these to bring cohesion, unity and shared mission. It is hoped that this first step may lead us in that direction. This will also be part of our Parish preparation for the next *Looking Forward* gathering, to be held on Tuesday September 1st 7.00 pm at OLHC Wendouree.

Cathedral Precinct

This group (Joe De Losa, Jillian Hogbin, Bethany Pennington, Frank Stuart, Jo, Leo & Patrick Styles, Deneise Walsh & Fr Justin) met during this past week as part of their ongoing consideration of the Cathedral precinct. It is proposed to open the gate from Sturt St into the Cathedral grounds which at that point needs repair, so work will need to be done to asphalt and make safe. It is also proposed to open the Sturt St side Door to the Cathedral as part of the *Jubilee Year of Mercy*, which Pope Francis has called, commencing in December 2015.

Building works continue on site with the redevelopment due for completion by the end of August! This will enable St Vincent de Paul to operate their Relief Centre from the front (Dawson St entrance) then the new toilets as well as the former smaller hall which will now have the capacity to be divided to form two meeting rooms. We have partnered with the Catholic Education Office in this project which will give them priority use for 65 days each year (booked the previous year). As we prepare to open these facilities, suggestions for naming of these rooms is invited. The whole facility will be the Cathedral complex, but it will be important for users and bookings to identify the different spaces. Several suggestions for room names have already been put forward which include **Lisieux** (to acknowledge the former St Therese of the Little Flower Church on Wendouree Parade) and **Glowrey** (to recognise Dr Mary Glowrey, declared a Servant of God on the path to canonisation, she was born and raised in the Ballarat Diocese, founded the Catholic Women's League, studied medicine at Melbourne Uni, entered the Sisters of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in India where she was a missionary and founding health carer). Please make your suggestions to the Cathedral Parish Office.

Laudato Si On Care for our common home, Diocesan Colloquium

Rev Dr Denis Edwards will be in Ballarat on Tuesday, August 25th to share his perspective on Pope Francis' Encyclical, *Laudato Si* at OLHC Wendouree Mercy Centre, 480A Gillies Street, Wendouree from 9.00am – 4.00pm. Local practitioners will share their experience on how the encyclical is being lived out in the local context. All from the diocese are welcome to attend. Enquiries and bookings to Sue Searls sue.searls@ballarat.catholic.org.au, 0409 401 329 or Susan Crowe scrowe@ceoballarat.catholic.edu.au, 0419 887 274. Booking is required for catering purposes. \$15.00 to cover costs for morning tea and lunch.

New Diocesan Website (google chrome) www.ballarat.catholic.org.au.

Mass at Nazareth House

2.00pm Friday August 7th *Honouring the Fatherhood of God*, Mass adoration and prayers

Stewardship – to receive your quarterly receipt via email please contact Jacinta in the office.

Counters 2nd August Team 8 Next week team 1

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Alfredton, Ballarat, Cardigan, Lake Wendouree, Lucas, Newington...

Phone 5331 2933

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish office hours

Monday - Friday 10.00 am – 5.00 pm

Clergy Frs Justin Driscoll, James Kerr, Anthony Nagothu

Parish Office Jacinta Westbrook

Finance Officer Philip Westbrook

Family Ministry Anita Houlihan

Hospital Pastoral Care Kaye Stringer

St Patrick's Primary Mark Hogbin, Principal

St Thomas More Alfredton Rosa Tocchet, Principal



Cathedral Parish Masses	August 1 st /2 nd	Skipton	Beaufort	Snake Valley
6.30 pm Vigil,	8.00 am,	10.30 am,	5.00 pm	7.30 pm
				8.30am
				10.30 am

Masses during the coming week

Monday	12.05 pm Cathedral		
Tuesday	No Mass Redan	12.05 pm Cathedral	
Wednesday	9.30 am Sebastopol	12.05 pm Cathedral	
Thursday	No Mass Redan	11.30 am St John of God	12.05 pm Cathedral
Friday	9.30 am Sebastopol	12.05 pm Cathedral	1.30 pm Benediction
Saturday	10.00 am Cathedral		
Sacrament of Reconciliation	Friday	11.00 am,	Saturday 11.30 am

This is My Body

This is my Body, given for you
Go now and serve in my name
This is my Body, Given for you
I have no hands but yours.

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Lord we Come to your Table

Lord we come to your table
Lord we hear your Word
Lord, you are our bread of life
And we, the Body of Christ.

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