

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat



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19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
Sunday 9th August, 2015



Reflection

Jesus was a Jew, as was John, the author of the gospel. It may seem strange, therefore, that John has the “Jews” complaining about Jesus. It is indeed strange, and it has caused many a reader to wonder. John seems to use the designation “Jew” as a code word for the opponents of Jesus. These opponents are almost exclusively Jewish leaders rather than the ordinary people who followed Jesus. The designation does not include all the Jewish leaders of course: Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea stand out as leaders who came to believe in Jesus as the Christ and to take risks on account of their faith.

The complaint of the “Jews” relates to Jesus’ claim, “I am the bread that came down from heaven”. Jesus shares the world view or cosmology of his contemporaries: God is in the heavens above, so that anything or anyone coming from God in that view comes down from heaven. The problem for his adversaries is that Jesus is one of them: they know his father Joseph and his grandparents, so how can he be making such a claim? They make the mistake of thinking that is all there is to know about his origins. “Don’t complain” is Jesus’ response to them. He proceeds to tell them that there are dimensions of his being of which they know nothing. Yet they need to know, as do we. It is God who draws us to Jesus. Like the opponents of Jesus, we need to listen and to learn, to be taught by God. We need bread in order to live and we also need the bread of God’s teaching.

Jesus makes a future promise: the bread he offers is different from the bread the Israelites ate in the desert, in that those who eat of it will live forever. Furthermore, the bread that he will give for the life of the world is his flesh. This leads to further misunderstanding and the opportunity for Jesus to teach at another level. The Eucharistic overtones in today’s reading are subtle but nonetheless present, as they were in the feeding story.

John is writing some seventy years after the death of Jesus for communities that gathered every week for the breaking of the bread-in memory of him and of all that he enacted. Like the early Christians, we reflect on the meaning of Eucharist. We recognise and honour the materiality of the bread and of the flesh that Jesus shares with all living creatures. At the same time we are invited to reflect on the symbolic or metaphorical resonances of both bread and flesh in the context of the claims of the Johannine Jesus. The question for us then becomes: “How do we live into this extraordinary mystery as we face the demands of our endangered planet?” Veronica Lawson RSM

Recent Deaths: Bev Austin, Lucy Bauska, Kath Donnelly,
Shirley Swinkels (Funeral Mass in the Cathedral, Monday 2.00 pm)

Anniversaries: Reginald Carr, Des Elliott, Frances Gill, Martin Hartigan, Gregory Hayes,
Horace Jones, Theresa McKay, Wendy & Rod Page, John (Micky) Willmott, Kathleen Yean.

Next week's readings: *Sunday 16th August 2015* *20th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)*
Proverbs 9:1-6 Ps 33:2-3. 10-15. R. v.9 Ephesians 5:15-20 John 6:51-58

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Mia Rae Martin daughter of Aaron & Olivia
Mary Catherine Wilson daughter of Martin & Lauren
Sofia Violet Shorter daughter of Leigh & Belinda
Oscar Raymond Ellis son of David & Emily



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

Welcome to Fr John Fitzgerald

Fr John will celebrate the 6.30 pm, 8.00 am and 10.30 am Masses at the Cathedral this weekend. Fr John is PP of St Joseph's Warrnambool whose Parish is currently undertaking a renewal of their Stewardship. Fr Justin is celebrating their Masses this weekend at St Joseph's as part of this renewal. The Cathedral Parish will undertake a renewal of Stewardship in October this year. Parishioners are invited to consider being part of the Stewardship Team, contact the Parish Office.

Feast of the Assumption of Mary -	Saturday August 15th (Holy Day)
Masses Vigil (Friday evening)	6.00 pm Sebastopol, 6.30 pm Cathedral, 7.30 pm Skipton
Saturday	8.00 am Cathedral, 9.00 am Redan
	10.00 am Cathedral, 10.00 am Beaufort

Homelessness in Ballarat

The Ballarat Interfaith Network, in partnership with the Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council, invites you to a Community Public Forum on Homelessness, Friday August, 21st at Eastwood Leisure Complex (20 Eastwood St, Ballarat) at 6.15pm.

Volunteer Tutors Wanted

Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council's Migrant English Program is currently recruiting tutors for help with our migrants (including refugees and asylum seekers). Tutors are placed with a migrant or assist in small classes. Information Sessions are being on:

Tuesday 11th August, 10.30am - 12.30pm 2.00pm - 4.00pm
Thursday 13th August 2.00pm - 4.00pm Tuesday 18th August 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Contact Judy, 0487 173 957 or email j.brumby@brmc.org.au. BRMC on 5332 5941.

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) will meet this week with representatives of the Mercy Associates and the Sisters of Mercy to explore the Jubilee Year of Mercy and how we may develop a place of healing and reconciliation within our Cathedral grounds. 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.

Visiting the Housebound

Do you have a relative or neighbour or friend who spends a good deal of time at home and would appreciate a visit from someone else besides family and friends? The Parish Visiting Team is a group of professional women, now retired, who are ready to make friendly visits in our Parish. If you know of someone, please pass on details of name, phone number and address to Jacinta in the cathedral office. The first contact with the person will be made by phone to seek their consent.

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.

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.

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

Collections Envelopes \$2,891.15 Parish Loose \$261.50 Presbytery \$1,928.40

Counters 9th August Team 1 Next week team 2

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 15 th /16 th	Smythesdale	Skipton	Rokewood		
6.30 pm Vigil,	8.00 am,	10.30 am,	5.00 pm	7 .30 pm Vigil	9.00am	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 9.30am Redan 11.30 am St John of God 12.05 pm Cathedral

Friday No Mass Sebastopol 12.05 pm Cathedral 1.30 pm Benediction

6.30 pm Cathedral (Assumption Vigil)

Saturday 8.00 am Cathedral 10.00 am Cathedral

Sacrament of Reconciliation Friday 11.00 am, Saturday 11.30 am

