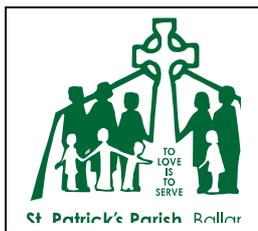


St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat



www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
Sunday 13th September, 2015



A DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE IN SYRIA

God of Compassion,
Hear the cries of the people of Syria
Comfort those who suffer violence
Console those who mourn the dead
Give strength to Syria's neighbouring countries
to welcome the refugees
Convert the hearts of those who have taken up arms
And protect those who are committed to peace.

God of hope,
Inspire leaders to choose peace over violence
and to seek reconciliation with their enemies
Inflame the Universal Church with
compassion for the people of Syria
And give us hope for a future built on justice for all.

We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the Prince of Peace and Light of the world.
Amen.

 Caritas
Prayer from Catholics Confront Global Poverty. Photo credit: Patrick Nicholson/Caritas

Retreat with Fr Brendan Murphy SDB

Fr Brendan Murphy SDB will conduct a Retreat at Nazareth House on Thursday and Friday and on Saturday morning, September 24, 25 and 26. "Who are we, Where are we going, and How will we get there?" Contact Maureen van der Linden, 0431 273 953 or email mojo6163@hotmail.com

Intensive Course - The Parables, Stories Jesus Told

Sponsored by Anima Education and Catholic Womens' League, this intensive course will study the Parables of Jesus in six sessions looking at how they were heard by Jesus' first listeners, read in the Christian tradition and how we might interpret them today. Nazareth House, Friday evening, September 18 - to Sunday, September 20. Contact Maureen van der Linden 0431 273 953.

Corpus Christi College Building Appeal

On the weekend of September 26 & 27, across all parishes in Victoria, a special appeal will be conducted to raise funds for the addition of new rooms for Seminarians at Corpus Christ Carlton.

Recent Deaths: Margaret Austin, Lorna McCormack

Anniversaries: Frank Fenwick, Maureen Hutchinson, Patrick O'Driscoll,
Stanislaw & Franciszka Stodolny, John Woodley

Next week's readings: *Sunday 19th September 2015 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)*
Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 Ps 53:3-6. 8. R. v.6, James 3:16-4:3 Mark 9:30-37

Sacrament of Confirmation

We welcome the children who are celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend. Over last weekend this, 96 children will be Confirmed by Bishop Paul. We continue to pray for these children, their families and the Parish Sacrament Team which Anita Houlihan leads.

Child Protection Week *'Be Someone Who Listens to Children'*

Francis Sullivan CEO of the Catholic Church Truth Justice and Healing Council said the 2015 campaign highlights the importance of primary prevention to reduce child abuse and neglect in Australia. "This year's theme, 'Be Someone Who Listens to Children', sends an important message that the safety and wellbeing of Australian children should be at the very forefront of our approaches to protecting children and that listening to children is central.

The Royal Commission has recently released a major research report looking at how children understand and experience safety in institutions. In the report, [Taking Us Seriously: Children and young people talk about safety and institutional responses to their safety concerns](#), children and young people have identified what institutions should do to help them feel safe and be safe.

"Hearing directly from children is key to understanding how best to prevent and respond to child abuse in its many different forms", Mr Sullivan said.

"Unless we are able to provide environments where the primary focus is on children, their participation is valued, they are safe and their carers are appropriately selected and trusted, then children will continue to be at risk," Mr Sullivan said.

National Child Protection Week is coordinated by NAPCAN (National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect) and runs from 6-12 September 2015. NAPCAN was co-founded in 1987 by Rosemary Sinclair AO and Christine Stewart OAM and has made a major contribution to the safety and wellbeing of Australia's children and young people. Over more than two decades it has raised public awareness of child abuse and neglect and its impacts, and developed and promoted effective prevention strategies and programs.

Youth and Young Adult Ministry Update

World Youth Day Registrations now open and Australian Catholic Youth Festival Group Bookings open until Friday, October 23, 2015. All details on the Diocesan Youth and Young Adult webpage www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or contact us on youth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Cathedral Precinct Group

This group recently with Wendy Clarke (Director of Dirtscape Dreaming, *gardens of spirit to nurture heart and soul*, www.dirtscapedreaming.com.au) and Maureen Auchettl of Loud Fence to explore how the Cathedral precinct can become a more hospitable, accessible, inviting and open place within the centre of the City of Ballarat that acknowledges the need for healing and reconciliation, especially as a result of child sexual abuse by clergy and religious. This conversation will continue and we invite you to join us on Thursday September 17th at 500 pm.

As part of the *Jubilee Year of Mercy*, commencing in December 2015, it is proposed to open a *Door of Mercy* making the Cathedral more accessible and welcoming from the Sturt St side. The gate from Sturt St into the Cathedral grounds, which at that point needs repair (asphalting needed to make safe) will be opened leading to the *Door of Mercy*. The Reconciliation Chapel will need to be relocated and made more transparent for access to the Cathedral from the *Door of Mercy*.

Royal Commission Hearing in November 2015

The Royal Commission will hold a joint public hearing to inquire into the Archdiocese of Melbourne and the continuation of the Ballarat hearing. The hearing will commence sometime between 23 November and 18 December 2015 in Melbourne at the County Court of Victoria.

It will hear evidence from witnesses common to each hearing with the Archdiocese of Melbourne component focusing on the experience of survivors of child sexual abuse by Catholic clergy associated with the Holy Family Parish, Doveton, and Holy Family Primary School, Doveton.

In a statement in July this year the Commission said it anticipated Cardinal Pell, former Melbourne and Sydney Archbishop and Ballarat priest, and Bishop Mulkearns, former Bishop of Ballarat, would give evidence at the Melbourne hearing.

Francis Sullivan, CEO of Catholic Church's Truth Justice and Healing Council said the latest hearing would look at what has been a very confronting story coming out of the outer eastern Melbourne suburb of Doveton. "For more than 20 years, up to the late 1990s, a string of priests, who were either convicted of or charged with child abuse related matters, worked in the Doveton Parish and area. "Together they damaged the lives of countless children and young people in Doveton and other parishes in which they worked. "This hearing, which will run alongside the second stage of the Commission's inquiry into clergy abuse in the Ballarat diocese, will again reveal the detail of horrendous child sexual abuse. "It will require members of the Catholic Church to come before the Commission and explain fully and honestly their involvement with these offending priests and how they responded to abuse survivors "Again it will be a harrowing and distressing time for all involved but most particularly for the abuse victims and their families and friends as they come forward to give evidence."

The Commission has also announced that further evidence in the Ballarat hearing, including the response of the Christian Brothers, will be heard in Ballarat in the first half of next year. The scope and purpose of the Ballarat hearing remains unchanged.

