

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

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26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
Sunday 27th September, 2015

Social Justice Sunday



The Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement for 2015–16 challenges Australians to think again about our national response to asylum seekers, especially those who come to Australia by sea. It invites us to recognise the desperation that has driven these people to seek refuge far from their homes.

The Statement's title is *For Those Who've Come Across the Seas: Justice for refugees and asylum seekers*. The title, taken from the words of our National Anthem, is intended to remind all Australians of how this nation has aspired to be a place of welcome and inclusion.

In this Statement, the Bishops address the divisive national debate over asylum seekers, especially those who arrive by boat. They confront Australia's current deterrence-based response and remind us of the needs of the nearly 60 million people who are displaced around the world.

The Statement takes its inspiration from the actions and words of Pope Francis on his 2013 visit to the Italian island of Lampedusa, where he met the survivors of a refugee tragedy and mourned for those who had died. It begins and ends with the Pope's own words and is strongly based on the Scriptures and Catholic teaching.

The Bishops' document traces the experiences of asylum seekers from their flight from persecution and danger, through their perilous journeys, to their experience in Australia of indefinite detention, deprivation and insecurity. It asks why both sides of Australian politics have felt the need to introduce such cruel and self-defeating policies as offshore processing and indefinite detention.

This Social Justice Sunday we are invited to reflect on the call of Jesus to welcome those in most need and to give comfort to those who come to us in flight from fear and suffering.

The Statement addresses the divisive national debate over asylum seekers, especially those who arrive by boat. It reminds all Australians of the need to welcome and comfort those who have fled here from terror and danger, and to live out the example of Jesus, who never turned his back on those who were lost or suffering.

For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website (www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au) or call (02) 8306 3499.

Anniversaries: Mark Bourke, Jack Burcon, Vincenza Calleja, Robert McIntosh, Albert Rose,
Soka Saric

Next week's readings: Sunday 4th October 2015 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)
Genesis 2:18-24 Ps 127. R. v.5 Hebrews 2:9-11 Mark 10:2-16

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Aurelia Quinn & Saxon John Verdoorn children of Craig & Danielle
Christian Henry Wright son of Glenn & Samantha
Jake Anthony Bossner son of Anthony & Bree
Bailey Kenneth Wilson son of Kristian & Rebecca



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

Corpus Christi College Building Appeal

This weekend, 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. Envelopes are available ???

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

St Francis of Assisi day

To celebrate St Francis of Assisi day, Professor Singarayer Florentine, Federation University, will speak on the topic of ecological restoration of landscapes October 7th from 7-9pm at St Patrick's Hall, Ballarat. All welcome Enquiries 0438 448 942_The Global Catholic Climate Movement are dedicating the prayers for this week's [#Pray4cop21](https://twitter.com/Pray4cop21) prayer chain to Pope Francis as he addresses our world leaders at the UN . Join us in praying with the Pope.

St Martin's in the Pines 1970-75 40-year Reunion

St Martin's in the Pines 1970- 1975 year group are holding their 40 Year reunion on Saturday 24th October. For bookings and further details please contact Robyn Barnett Ph. 5337 2352 or email connecting@damascus.vic.edu.au

Cathedral Precinct Group

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 will be opened leading to the *Door of Mercy*. Asphaltting has been completed this week to make the area safe. The Reconciliation Chapel will need to be relocated and made more transparent for access to the Cathedral from the *Door of Mercy*.

For who come across the sea

In October there will be an opportunity in our Parish to come together to discuss the 2015 Bishop's Social Justice Statement on the "*For those who come across the seas*". There will be three sessions, you may come to any or all of these. Be sure to collect your copy of the Statement which will be distributed at all Masses this weekend. For inquiries & details - Kath Morton 5332 3414

Faith Formation - St Luke, Evangelist of Mercy

Fr Kevin Lenehan presents reflections on St Luke, Evangelist of Mercy. All welcome on Wednesday, October 14, 7.30pm-9.00pm. Gold coin donation for Caritas Refugee Appeal. St Patrick's Cathedral (small Hall). For more information phone 5337 7154 or go to Ballarat Diocese Faith Formation at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

World Youth Day early registration is recommended!

Registrations are now open - register soon to ensure a place on the WYD Pilgrimage to Krakow in 2016. Pilgrim teachers: CEO Ballarat is supporting early-career teachers to go on the WYD Pilgrimage - contact CEOB on 5337 7131 or Amanda on 0427 748 867. More information on Diocesan Youth and Young Adult Ministry webpage at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Renewal of Parish Stewardship

The Cathedral Parish will undertake a renewal of our Stewardship commencing October 2015. Lorella Di Paolo from the Catholic Development Office in Melbourne will facilitate the program renewal over these weeks. A Stewardship Committee is being formed for the duration of the program – if you are interested in joining, please contact Jacinta in the Parish Office. The Stewardship Committee will meet on Tuesday September 29th at 7.00 pm.

A working bee to prepare material will be held on Monday 5th October at 10.00 am in the Presbytery dining room. Please contact Jacinta in the Parish Office if you are available to help out.

Liturgy of Lament and Hope

A Liturgy of Lament and Hope will be held at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 2.00pm on Sunday, November 1st. This is being arranged in the context of the hearings of the Royal Commission relating to child abuse which will continue in Melbourne in November. The liturgy will offer people from throughout the diocese an occasion to lament the wrongs that have occurred in our Church, to ask forgiveness, and to pray for healing for all involved. The liturgy will include Scripture readings and prayers. Following the liturgy there will be a cuppa and time for a chat in the Cathedral Hall.

