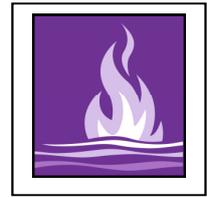


St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com



3rd Sunday of Advent (C)
Sunday 13th December 2015



Gathering Hymn –Lighting of the advent candle

" Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus. You are the way, the truth and life.

Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus. You are the way, the truth and life."

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Dates for Advent

- Advent Reflection 5.15 pm Wednesday (*Laudato Si*)
- Reconciliation 2nd Rite 7.00 pm Thursday December 17th
- Reconciliation 1st Rite 11.00 am Fridays, 5.30 pm Fridays, 11.30 am Saturdays
- Morning Prayer 8.00 am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
- Weekday Masses 12.05 pm Monday – Friday
7.30 am special advent Mass on Friday mornings (Cathedral)
10.00 am Saturday

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve Thursday December 24th 6.30 pm, 9.00 pm, 12 Midnight

Christmas Day Friday December 25th 8.00 am & 10.30 am, 5.30 pm Syro Malabar Rite (Indian)

Christmas Mass Rosters

If you are available for ministries at one of the above Christmas Masses please place your name on the roster sheet on the table in the south transept. Thank you.

Masses during the coming week

Monday	12.05 pm	Cathedral			
Tuesday	9.30am	Redan	12.05 pm	Cathedral	5.30 pm Loreto Sisters
Wednesday	9.30am	Sebastopol	12.05 pm	Cathedral	
Thursday	9.30am	Redan	11.30am	St John of God	12.05 pm Cathedral
Friday	7.30 am	Cathedral	12.05 pm	Cathedral	1.30 pm Benediction
Saturday	10.00 am	Cathedral			

Anniversaries: Michael Duffin, Rita McMullen, Eileen O'Donnell, Loui Saric, Christopher Storey,
Bob Stout

Next week's readings: Sunday 20th December 2015 4th Sunday of Advent (C)

Micah 5:1-4 Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19. R. v.4

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-45

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Eli Neill & Amelia Maree Sharer

children of Mark & Sara

Harper Karen Stephens

daughter of James & Sarah

Harry Justin Miller

son of Liam & Catherine



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

Pre-Christmas Working Bee

To be held on Friday 18th December at 9.00am, to clean the Church in preparation for Christmas Celebrations, your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

St Vincent de Paul Society Jesse Tree Christmas Appeal 2015-Non Perishable Food Items

The Cathedral Parish Conference of the Society will again be distributing hampers this Christmas. Over the years Parishioners have been extremely generous when we have sought your assistance not only at Christmas time but also with our Winter appeal. Last Christmas we were able to provide support to over 100 families and individuals as a result of your generosity.

Jesse Tree symbols will be distributed after each Mass throughout the Season of Advent. We again ask that you support our Jesse Tree Appeal through the donation of non-perishable food items.

Visiting Team

During this past week the Parish Visiting team met and celebrated their year together – thank you to the members of this team for their ministry of visiting and hospitality. Visiting team members are willing to visit parishioners in their homes (with the permission of the parishioner). A certificate of appreciation was presented to Ann McNulty for her service to our Cathedral Parish in a variety of ministries throughout the years.

Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

During this week of the Royal Commission hearing, **evening prayer** will be prayed in the Cathedral each evening commencing at 5.30 pm, Monday – Friday

Responding to Sexual Abuse

Police Ballarat Sexual Offences & Child Abuse Units (SOCA) phone 5336 6055

(CASA) Ballarat Centre Against Sexual Assault Ph. 5320 3933 or Free Call 1800 806 292

Towards Healing Helpline – ph.1800 816 030 (free call) or towardsh@ncable.com.au

Collections Envelopes \$6,764.00(includes direct debits)

Parish Loose \$377.00 Presbytery \$1,921.05

Counters 13th December Team 3 Next week team 4

OLHC Wendouree Christmas Day Lunch

You are invited to join us on Christmas Day for Lunch (no cost) 12.00 Midday -2.00 pm (Meal at 12.30 pm) at OLHC Parish Hall 482 Gillies St. Wendouree. Transport provided Bookings by 24th December (please specify any special dietary requirements) 0419 975 914

Parish Office hours Monday - Friday 10.00 am – 5.00 pm Phone 5331 2933

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au



Clergy Frs Justin Driscoll, James Kerr, Anthony Nagothu SDB
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	December 19 th /20 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

Celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the Year of Mercy

On Thursday December 17th at 7.00 pm, Bishop Paul will lead the Cathedral Parish in our Advent celebration of the Rite of Penance with the 2nd Rite of Reconciliation.



Opening of the Door of Mercy for the Jubilee Year of Mercy

This jubilee calls on Catholics to reflect on the theme of mercy. Holy doors will be opened at Cathedrals around the world starting Sunday. At the opening of the Holy Door of Mercy in Rome this week, Pope Francis said: "You cannot conceive of a true Christian who is not merciful, just as you cannot conceive of God without his Mercy. Mercy is the key word of the Gospel. ... We should not be afraid: We should allow ourselves to be embraced by the mercy of God.

Bishop Paul will open the Door of Mercy in our Cathedral at the 10.30 am Mass. With a sense of gratitude for the gift of the council and for all the gifts the church has received from God, Pope Francis invites us to enter into the Jubilee of Mercy. "With these sentiments of gratitude for everything the Church has received, and with a sense of responsibility for the task that lies ahead, we shall cross the threshold of the Holy Door fully confident that the strength of the Risen Lord, who constantly supports us on our pilgrim way, will sustain us. May the Holy Spirit, who guides the steps of believers in cooperating with the work of salvation wrought by Christ, lead the way and support the People of God so that they may contemplate the face of mercy." (para 4) Welcome to all who are joining us today for the opening of the Door of Mercy, all are invited to the Hall after the 10.30 am Mass to share in a cuppa.

A Hymn of Healing for the Church

Here we stand in silent witness to the Church we love and name.
Hearing please of children's voices, for our part in sin & shame.
Father we have hurt so deeply; trust betrayed, dark secrets kept.

Now the truth cries out in daylight.

Tears of old now freely wept.

Stir in us a deep compassion, firm resolve to heal the past.

Help us understand the darkness, lest again it comes to pass.

Lord we pray for those so wounded, hear the cry of victims' pain.

Help us seek the path of justice.

Finding hope in Jesus' promise,

"I am with you. Do not fear."

Striving through storm and struggle,

Knowing still our God is near.

Loving God, your mercy send, and like the fires that rake this land,

May new life in wondrous colour,

Through the ashes bloom again.

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VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis is calling for more emphasis on tenderness, including in the Catholic Church, in a world he said was marked by cruelty and atrocities. He took his Church to task in an interview published Wednesday in *Credere*, a Catholic magazine reporting on the Holy Year of Mercy, called for by Francis and starting Dec. 8. Francis lamented that the Church itself “falls into the temptation to take a hard line, the temptation to stress only the moral laws.” He wondered “how many people are left outside” the Church by that emphasis. The pope said the world needs a “revolution of tenderness” because, “from here, justice and all the rest derives.” He added: “We are used to bad news, cruel news and to even bigger atrocities, which offend the name and life of God.”