

# St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

[www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com](http://www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com)



*5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)*  
*Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2016*



## Project Compassion Sunday

### **Gospel Reflection** – © Veronica Lawson RSM

The gospel reading opens with Jesus by the lake shore looking for a little space from the people who are pressing around him to hear “the word of God”. For the gospel writer, the word of Jesus is the word of God. The listener/reader has been gradually prepared, in the baptism scene and in the synagogue at Nazareth, to receive this momentous statement. Jesus is the anointed of God who brings good news/God’s word to the destitute. The gospel narrative assumes that the crowd by the lake receives his teaching as God’s word.

Jesus spots two empty boats, gets into the one that belongs to Simon Peter, whom he seems to know since he feels free to do this and even to ask Simon to move the boat out from the shore. Having gained the distance he needs, Jesus sits down and teaches the crowd from the boat. God’s word thus comes to the people from the potentially regenerative waters of the lake. Simon no doubt has one ear on Jesus’ teaching as he and his despondent business partners clean the nets and pack up ready to go home without any fish. They have fished all night without a single catch. Evoking the creation story of Genesis where God’s spirit moves over the face of the deep, Jesus invites Simon and his companions to put out into deep water and lower the nets for a catch, even though the odds of a catch seem very slim. Simon Peter hesitates, noting that they have laboured without success all night. He nonetheless follows Jesus’ instructions. The dramatic result of his attending to Jesus’ word brings Simon to his knees: he acknowledges his limitations, his “sinfulness” in gospel terms. Jesus then commissions him to engage fearlessly in a new mission of reaching out beyond his present business enterprise to “catch people”. This commission is not to be understood as a recruitment drive for the reign of God movement. As the gospel story unfolds we discover that it is, rather, a mission to bring the vulnerable safely to shore where they can know the compassion and justice and “hospitality” of God.

While Peter and his companions are said to “leave everything” and “follow” Jesus, the subsequent narrative makes it clear that they do not abandon their fishing activities. They simply re-centre their lives on the following of Jesus. In other words, they undertake to live out in their lives the pattern of Jesus’ life amid the ordinary concerns of daily life. The previous chapter has provided glimpses of that pattern: bringing good news to the destitute, release to the shattered, healing to the sick and the broken. In our times, we are beginning to realise that the “shattered” includes the despoiled Earth and its often polluted waters.

**Recent Deaths:** Con Cahill, Elizabeth Wansink

**Anniversaries:** Sinka Mestrov, Ben Murphy, Maureen Robertson, Eileen Susic, Ken Stout, Peter Warden,

**Next week's readings:** *Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2016* *1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent (C)*  
Deuteronomy 26:4-10 Ps 90:1-2. 10-15. R. v.15 Romans 10:8-13 Luke 4:1-13

**Ash Wednesday Masses (February 10<sup>th</sup>)**

Cathedral 7.30 am, 10.00 am, 12.05 pm, 7.00 pm.

Beaufort 7.00 pm Ash Wednesday

Skipton 7.30 pm (Vigil Mass on Tuesday February 9<sup>th</sup>)

Snake Valley 7.30 pm Ash Wednesday

Lenten resources – **5 minutes with the Word**, a daily prayer guide for Lent is available for all.



Project Compassion  
Sunday



Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season as we celebrate 50 years of Project Compassion.



In Pope Francis' words, "Lent is a time for drawing near to Christ,"  
You will be helping to empower the world's poorest children, women and men with vital learning and renewed hope.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

**RCIA Rite of Acceptance**

At 5.00 pm Mass this Sunday, we celebrate the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens. This is in preparation for the Rite of Election, to be held in the Cathedral next Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 12.30 pm with Bishop Paul and candidates and catechumens from parishes throughout the Ballarat Diocese. All are welcome to the Rite of Election.

The Parish RCIA team has been accompanying Kerrie Morrison, Ali Pickles, and Daniel Ross Smith who will be sponsored by Fiona Benfield, Brooke Jess and Brian Lynch respectively.

Please pray for them as they take this next step in their faith journey towards full sacramental initiation into the Catholic Church.

**Cuppa & Chat after Mass**

There will be an opportunity for a cuppa & a chat after 10.30am Mass today in the smaller hall. Everyone is most welcome

## **Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA)**

A review of the RCIA will take place on Sunday evening February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6.00 pm in the smaller hall at the Cathedral. Parishioners who have been involved in any way as catechist, sponsor, team member, or who have come through the RCIA as a baptised candidate or catechumen are welcome to join us to contribute to the review and planning for the 2016 year. A byo shared meal will commence the proceedings which will follow 5.00 pm Mass

## **Children Becoming Catholic**

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC) is a process for children who haven't been baptised Catholic or have been baptised in another Christian tradition (Anglican, Lutheran, Uniting) A parent information session for families of children aged 7 and older seeking for their child to be either Baptised or received into the Catholic Church will be held on: Tuesday February 9, 2016 at 7.00pm in St Patrick's Cathedral Hall (smaller hall)3 Lyons Street South, Ballarat. Please call Anita Houlihan, Family Ministry Coordinator, at the St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Office on 53 312933 for further information or to register your attendance.

## **Reconciliation – Part 1 (Junior)**

Reconciliation (part 1 – junior) is for baptised Catholics around primary year level 4 or older who have already celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation; it is a requirement before preparing for and celebrating First Eucharist. A parent information session will be held on Tuesday February 16, 2016 at 10am and 7pm in St Patrick's Cathedral hall (small hall). Families must attend one session for their child to be included in the program of preparation for this sacrament. For further information or to register your attendance, please call Anita Houlihan, Family Ministry Coordinator at the Cathedral office on 53 312 933.

**Playgroup** Weekly on Thursdays 10.00 am- 12 noon in the Cathedral Parish hall, gold coin donation and please bring a piece of fruit to share. Enquires phone Karia 0407423682

## **Best wishes to Matthew and Bill**

We wish the best to Matthew Restall and Bill Lowry who will begin their studies for the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Melbourne at Corpus Christi College in a few days. Matthew has been living in working in Ballarat for the last few years and Bill was studying at ACU. Both have been enthusiastic members of our parish, particularly with our various youth groups. Our prayers go with them as they generously seek to take up the Lord's call.

**New Stewardship Envelopes** are available for collection from the Parish Office.

**Collections**   Envelopes \$2,233.00   Parish Loose \$321.00   Presbytery \$2,046.65

**Counters**   7<sup>th</sup> February   Team 3   Next week team 4

## **Counters required**

If you are available to join a counting team that counts the Sunday collection (rostered on Sunday evenings once every 8 weeks) we would welcome your contribution. Contact the Parish Office.

## Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission

Bishop Paul Bird invites expressions of interest from parish communities, organisations and individuals in regard to persons who could contribute to the work of the Diocese of Ballarat as members of the BDSJC. During February all Expressions of Interest for membership will be considered and the composition of the Commission finalised. The Social Justice Commission will meet on March 5, May 14, August 27, November 12. The link to the Expression of Interest form is <http://tinyurl.com/bdjsc2016> any queries, please contact Vin Dillon, member of the BDSJC 0409175273 [vindillon@gmail.com](mailto:vindillon@gmail.com)

### Let them Stay Rally

Following the High Court ruling on Wednesday the Ballarat Grandmothers Against the Detention of Refugee Children (GADRC Ballarat) will stand in protest from 10.00 am for an hour or so outside the office of Catherine King MP on Monday 15th February. Please come and join the Ballarat grandmothers and friends when we ask our elected representative to take our message to the Federal Parliament. Please extend this invitation as far and wide as possible.

Let them stay rally Monday 15th February 2016 at 10am 5 Lydiard St North Ballarat.

Why? No child should be held in detention

### Masses during the coming week

Monday	12.05 pm	Cathedral				
Tuesday	9.30am	Redan	12.05pm	Cathedral		
Wednesday	Ash Wednesday	7.30 am,	10.00 am,	12.05 pm,	7.00 pm	
Thursday	9.30am	Redan	11.30 am	St John of God	12.05 pm	Cathedral
Friday	9.30am	Sebastopol	12.05 pm	Cathedral	1.30 pm	Benediction
Saturday	10.00 am	Cathedral				

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** 11.00 am Friday 11.30 am Saturday

**Morning Prayer of the Church** 8.00 am Monday – Friday in the Cathedral

**Stations of the Cross** 11.15 am on Wednesdays during Lent

**Holy Hour** 12.30 pm Fridays concluding with Benediction at 1.30 pm

Cathedral Parish Masses	February 13 <sup>th</sup> /14 <sup>th</sup>	Skipton	Beaufort	Snake Valley		
6.30 pm Vigil,	8.00 am,	10.30 am,	5.00 pm	7.30 pm Vigil	8.30am	10.30 am

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

[ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto: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  
Principals St Patrick's Primary Mark Hogbin, St Thomas More Rosa Tocchet