

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

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1st Sunday of Lent (C)
Sunday 14th February 2016



Gospel Reflection – © Veronica Lawson RSM

Lent is a time for personal as well as group reflection, a time for entering into the “wilderness” or “desert place” and grappling with the mysteries of life. While deserts are often depicted as uninhabited or desolate regions, anyone who has spent time in such places knows that the desert supports a rich diversity of other-than-human life. Human retreat to the wilderness can be an opportunity to encounter God in the unfamiliar and self in relation to the other-than human. It can reveal to us our capacities for right relationship with God, with each other, and with the Earth. Right relationship resides in “power-with” rather than “power-over”.

In Israel’s story, the wilderness is the place of testing for God’s people: “Remember the long way that your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness... testing you to know what was in your heart” (Deut 8:2). Jesus is “filled with the Holy Spirit” and, like so many human beings before and since, is “led by the Spirit” into the wilderness to be “tested” there. [“Tested” is a more accurate translation of the Greek *peirazein* than the usual “tempted”].

The three-fold testing of Jesus in the wilderness is about the proper exercise of power and about trust in a loving God. In refusing to turn the stones of the wilderness into bread in order to satisfy his own hunger, Jesus demonstrates that he is not prepared to exercise power over the other-than-human Earth, even if he had the capacity to work such magic. By refusing to accept the “glory of all the kingdoms of the world”, he shows that power over the human communities of the Earth is not “of God” and that worship belongs to God alone. Finally, in refusing to cast himself from the parapet of Israel’s holiest shrine, the Jerusalem Temple, he makes it clear that he is not prepared to test the power of God to rescue him from a self-inflicted death or to use God’s holy place to such ends. The Lukan Jesus passes the tests that the people Israel failed in the wilderness of Sinai.

Adelaide priest, Michael Trainor, in a wonderfully sensitive reading of Luke’s gospel, detects three ecological ethical principles in today’s gospel reading: 1) Earth is to be cared for and treated respectfully, not ravaged through greed; 2) All ecological and environmental engagement is grounded in and enhanced by one’s communion with God; and 3) Earth’s resources are to be respected by all and not usurped as a means of power and control by one over another (About Earth’s Child 2012, pp.107-109). These principles derive from the story as a whole with its three-fold testing and from Jesus’ three-fold response to these tests.

Anniversaries: Margaret Hennessey, Sinka Mestrov, Eileen Stout, Strecko (Johnny) Uljanic

Next week's readings: *Sunday 21st February 2016*

2nd Sunday of Lent (C)

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 9:29-36

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Tilly Rose McKay

daughter of Christopher & Rebecca

Angus John Ryan

son of Peter & Jane

Cooper James New

son of Benjamin & Nikola

Evie May Morrison

daughter of David & Kim

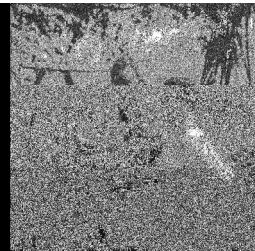


May they grow in faith in their loving families and our Catholic Community.



**First Sunday
of Lent**

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF
**PROJECT
COMPASSION**



Like many families in her remote village, Doney and her family have often gone months without enough to eat. But with the support of Caritas Australia and local partner CADECOM, the people of Doney's community have learned to harness their strengths. Today they are building new livelihoods, improving health and growing literacy to create paths towards a better future.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help people in remote areas of Malawi harness their strengths and pave the way towards a thriving future. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

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

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 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

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

Collections Envelopes \$4,913.00(includes direct debits) Parish Loose \$351.50
Presbytery \$2,171.50

Counters 14th February Team 4 Next week team 5

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.

Masses during the coming week

Monday	12.05 pm	Cathedral		
Tuesday	9.30am	Redan	12.05pm	Cathedral
Wednesday	9.30am	Sebastopol	12.05	Cathedral
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

7.00 pm on Thursdays during Lent

Holy Hour 12.30 pm Fridays concluding with Benediction at 1.30 pm

Cathedral Parish Masses	February 20 th /21 st	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

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
Principals	St Patrick's Primary Mark Hogbin, St Thomas More Rosa Tocchet

During Lent there will be Stations of the Cross in the Cathedral on Wednesdays at 11.15 am and Thursdays at 7.00 pm. Mass will also be celebrated on Friday mornings at 7.30 am in the Cathedral



The Royal Commission will hold the third part of the public hearing regarding the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat commencing February 22nd 2016 at the Ballarat Magistrates Court with a focus on the Christian Brothers. Bishop Mulkearns will also give evidence via video link. Cardinal George Pell will give evidence from February 29th 2016 by video link from Rome concerning Case Study 28: Catholic Church authorities in Ballarat and Case Study 35: Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. The Royal Commission will sit in Sydney commence at 08:00am AEDT. The Trench Room at Ballarat Town Hall will be made available for members of the community during the public hearing, including Cardinal Pell's evidence.

Response to Psalm

With you O Lord there is fullness of redemption;
With you O Lord there is mercy for all.

Gospel Acclamation

Make our hearts O Lord, rich soil for your word
Plant new seeds of hope and love, bearing grain a hundred fold.

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Heart of Jesus, Heart of Mercy

A hymn for the Jubilee Year of Mercy. (Michael Herry)

1) I will take you from the nations and gather you from the world; I will bring you into your own land and you shall be my people and I will be your God and in mercy my love will hold the world.

Refrain: *Give us new hearts O Lord. Give us new hearts O Lord.
Give us hearts of flesh, remove our hearts of stone.*

2) Through your spirit deep within us, we become your loving face, and our grasping hands will open in compassion and our frowning eyes will widen to see and know again all the beauty in every human heart **Refrain**

3) Heart of Jesus, heart of mercy, loving face of God revealed. You proclaimed the word, not sacrifice but mercy. For in you we see the father who longs for our return. Ever faithful His covenant of love. **Refrain** (Copyright. Aust. Agent Word of Life. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Lic. No. 97).

Taste and See (Michael Herry)

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord, taste and see the goodness of the Lord, taste and see the goodness of the Lord. Come receive the living bread of heaven.

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This is My Body (Michael Herry)

This is my body, given for you. Go now and serve in my name. I have no hands but yours.

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