

St Columba's Parish, Ballarat North

Parish Centre: 306 Gregory St, Nth. Ballarat

Ph: 5331 7131

Email: office@stcolumbasparish.org

Web: ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Office Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 8.30am - 4.00pm

We are Eucharistic People, who Love, Pray, Serve,

Hope and follow Jesus



Supervising Priest: Fr Peter Sherman

Pastoral Leader: Judith O'Sullivan

Priest in Residence: Fr. Barry Ryan

Parish Secretary: Genevieve Willmott

School Principal: Kim Butler

21st February, 2016

Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil: 6pm

Sunday: 10am

Wednesday: 9.30am

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

DEATHS: Frank Godfrey, Brian Schreenan, Mark Sculley, Mary Jane Calvert, Alby White, Bishop Barry Jones (Christchurch NZ)

ANNIVERSARIES: Rod Lacey

PROJECT COMPASSION

Running through the six weeks of Lent each year, Project Compassion is an extraordinary, ongoing demonstration of faith, love and generosity of caring supporters, all in the name of justice and peace. It is the lifeblood of Caritas Australia; without it, we could not do the vital work.

With limited support services for children living with intellectual disabilities in Laos, Duangmala feared that her eight-year-old son, Hum Noy, would never reach his full potential because he has Down Syndrome. However, Hum Noy now has the chance to learn and thrive at a school for children with intellectual disabilities, supported by Caritas Australia.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help people with intellectual disabilities in Laos learn, grow and reach their full potential.

There are envelopes and money boxes available in the church foyer if you are able to support this worthy cause.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Praying the Stations of the Cross during Lent is a great exercise to align our hearts of the Passion of Christ. Join us in the church on Friday, 26th February at 7pm and Friday, 4th and 18th March at 7pm.

Stations will be followed by a time of quiet prayer in the church.

BEING LOST.....BEING FOUND GOSPEL REFLECTIONS FOR LENT BOOKLETS

Please feel free to take a copy for your own reflection during Lent. Prayer cards are also available for each of the weeks during Lent.



CARING CIRCLE

If you know anyone in the Parish who would like a visit from the Caring Circle please contact Bernadette Clark ph: 5331 4631

CUPPA AFTER MASS

We are looking to start a cuppa tea after Mass on a regular basis. If you are available to help with this please speak with Judith or Colleen. The next morning tea will be after the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Masses.

OVERHEAD PROJECTOR TRAINING IN THE CHURCH

Kathleen Keogh has generously offered to train any interested persons in operating the overhead projector in the church. Please contact Judith in the Parish Office if you would like to be involved.

ANOINTING MASS

Thursday, 25th February at 11am. This is a Healing Mass for all, not just the elderly. If you know anyone who would like to come, please invite them and offer them transport. A light lunch will follow the Mass. If possible, please bring a plate to share.

PARISH RECONCILIATION

Wednesday, 16th March at 7pm – in preparation for Easter.

**IN FEBRUARY PRAYER VIDEO
POPE FRANCIS PLEADS FOR CREATION
CARE,
'A NEW WAY OF LIVING'
By Brian Roewe – Feb 5th, 2016**

Pope Francis reinforced core messages of his major encyclical on the environment in his video prayer for February, asking people across the globe to do their part in "caring for our common home," and to discover "a new way of living."

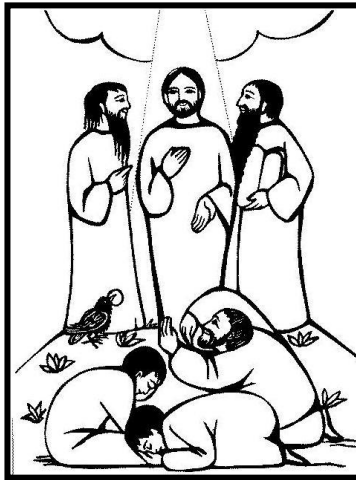
The video, the new medium for the monthly prayer intentions, opens with dawn breaking through a forest. Images of majestic mountains follow, along with a school of fish and budding plants.

"Believers and unbelievers agree that the earth is our common heritage, the fruits of which should benefit everyone," he said.

"However, what is happening in the world we live in?" Francis asked.

A beach scene with children playing in the sand and water quickly transitions to the tide receding and revealing plastic cups, bottles and other trash in its wake.

The scene brings to life a much-cited line from Francis' social encyclical "Laudata Si", on Care for Our Common Home" regarding the state of the planet: "The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth. In many parts of the planet, the elderly lament that once beautiful landscapes are now covered with rubbish."



**NAZARETH HOUSE AUXILIARY
ST. PATRICK'S DAY COFFEE PARTY**

WHERE: Nazareth House Hall
WHEN: Thursday, 17th March
TIME: 1.30pm
COST: Admission - \$5.00
Afternoon Tea, Produce and Fancy Goods Stall, Raffle and Entrance Prize. Come along, all welcome.

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER
WEEKEND**

Invest in your most precious asset.....Your Marriage!

Forget life's tensions and interruptions and rekindle the closeness, intimacy, love and romance that brought you together. Recharge your relationship batteries and explore the precious nature of your marriage. There is no group sharing. Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome. **2016 Melbourne weekend dates : 8-10 April, 17-19 June, 19-21 Aug, 11-13 Nov.** Starts 7pm on Friday. Ends 5pm Sunday. Accommodation and all meals provided. Information/Bookings: PH: Marianne & Marcel (03)

97330997 Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: www.wwme.org.au

WALK FOR JUSTICE FOR REFUGEES 2016

Palm Sunday, March 20th, 2016 at 2pm at the State Library, cnr Swanston and La Trobe Street, Melbourne. More information at www.facebook.com/palmsundaywalk.

**MASS OF THE OILS
Monday, 21st March**

The Mass of the Oils will be celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 6.30pm on Monday, March 21, 2016. This Mass is a celebration of the whole Church of the Diocese of Ballarat. We celebrate the unity and ministry of the ordained priests in the midst of the entire priestly people of God of the Diocese. This Mass also has special significance for those who will use the blessed oils in 2016 – the sick, those to be baptised and confirmed. All members of the Diocese are invited to participate in this celebration which truly expresses the unity of the Diocesan Church. Ministries required for the Mass of the Oils include Ushers, Readers, Oils Bearers, Presentation of the gifts, Collection of Oils, Musicians and Singers. For further information contact the Pastoral Ministry Office, ph. 5337 7159 or pastoralministry@ballarat.catholic.org.au

PARISH CALENDAR

Leadership Team Meeting	25 February 7pm
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CHURCH BOOKINGS

Week of: 2nd – 28th February

MONDAY	---
TUESDAY	Reconciliation Parent Info Meeting 7pm
WEDNESDAY	Mass 9.30am
THURSDAY	Anointing Mass 11am
FRIDAY	Stations of the Cross 7pm
SATURDAY	Mass 6pm
SUNDAY	Mass 10am

Thank you for your generous support

1 st Collection	For the support of the Clergy of the Ballarat Diocese	\$748.95
2 nd Collection (Envelopes)	-Last week's giving for the upkeep of the parish	\$1191.50
	-Average given weekly for this financial year (week 32)	\$2332.94
Sundry Change		\$97.40
Special Collection	Project Compassion	\$150.00

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

Colleen Wakefield, Alison Thorpe, Trish Simmons, Maureen Eddy, Kim Butler, Troy Severino, Jennifer Adams, Bruce Chapman, Judith O'Sullivan

**Reflection on the Gospel-2nd Sunday of Lent Year C
(Luke 9:28-36)**

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Last week, the wilderness was a character in the gospel reading. This week, we find a mountain and a cloud featuring significantly in the narrative. These other-than-human characters (wilderness, mountain, and cloud) and the prophets of old (Moses and Elijah) link Luke's story of Jesus to the Israelites' covenant relationship with their God. Wilderness, mountain, and cloud also remind us that God's Earth is the locus of mystery: the place where human and other-than-human Earth beings are transformed through encounter with the divine.

For Jesus, the mountain is already a place of encounter with God, a place of prayer. Luke has Jesus spending a night in prayer on an unidentified mountain before he chooses the Twelve. Jesus now takes three of his closest friends (Peter, John, and James) up another unidentified mountain where the aspect of his face changes and his clothing becomes dazzling white. Elijah and Moses, the key prophetic figures of Israel, "appear" and enter into dialogue with Jesus, God's definitive prophet.

This episode seems to point to a time in Jesus' ministry when he accepts his likely fate: if he continues to challenge oppression and injustice, he is certain to encounter opposition, even death. He struggles with this realisation in the wilderness and comes to terms with what it involves on the mountain. The voice of God reaffirms the identity of Jesus and calls for a response: "Listen to him". These words are reminiscent of Moses' instruction to the Israelites: "Your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet" (Deut 18:15). For Luke, Jesus is the prophet-like-Moses whom they must heed. Peter wants to hold on to the experience of glory, to "make tents" and settle down. He prefers not to face the difficulties involved in fidelity to the mission. But that is not the way of discipleship. The tents evoke once more the Israelites' wanderings in the wilderness.

Like Jesus and his companions, we too need the occasional glimpse of glory. We also need the good sense to follow through on the path that brings life, despite the pain. We can feel overwhelmed by the enormity of the challenges facing us and by the opposition we sometimes experience. If we are to hear the prophet-like-Moses in our times, we have to come to terms with the personal costs involved. Some of us actually need to go alone or together to a mountain top or place of extraordinary beauty to discover again the strength that comes from encountering the divine. I once climbed within view of Everest. Every now and then, I climb Mt Buninyong. At such times, I know the wonder of God revealed in the beauty of the earth itself even as I sense its fragility and susceptibility to destruction.

DATE: FEBRUARY 20 & 21		
DUTY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
WELCOMER	Margaret Schreenan	Bernadette Beseler
COMMENTATOR	Shirley Edgar	Kierce O'Loughlin
PROCLAIMER 1	Kate Lawrey	Kim Butler
PROCLAIMER 2	Jim Kierce	Anthea Hinchey
GIFTS	Simmons Family	Sharon De Beer
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	J Van de Laar, A Lacey, T Simmons	I Monigatti, K Bennetts, J Brown
LITURGY PREPARATION		Kathleen & Tom Keogh
ALTAR SERVERS	Volunteer please	Gabrielle Arrieta
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Volunteer please
CHILDREN'S LITURGY		Megan Bourke
SACRISTAN	Sullivan Sisters	Megan Bourke
ALTAR & FLOWERS	Margaret Ranger	Margaret Ranger
DATE: FEBRUARY 27 & 28		
DUTY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
WELCOMER	Greta Kelly	Adele Carter
COMMENTATOR	John van de Laar	Pat Kenna
PROCLAIMER 1	Jim Waight	Derek Streulens
PROCLAIMER 2	Frank Sheehan	Brian Kennedy
GIFTS	Edgar Family	Lorna Batty & Carmel King
MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	P Marquand, R Marquand, A Marquand	C Fuller, E Kennedy, M Martino
LITURGY PREPARATION		Pat & Bernie Kenna
ALTAR SERVERS	Volunteer please	Gabrielle Arrieta
OVERHEADS	Volunteer please	Volunteer please
CHILDREN'S LITURGY		Alison Thorpe
SACRISTAN	Maree Phelan	Maureen van der Ploeg
ALTAR & FLOWERS	Margaret Ranger	Margaret Ranger

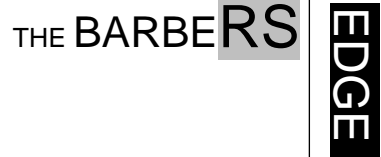
Please remember it is your responsibility to find a replacement if you are unable to fulfil your role

JOHN THOMAS ELECTRICAL
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A.B.N. 63 927 625 970

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bryan@johnthomaselectrical.com.au



home appliance & furniture rentals
Carl Symons: 0408 663 831
R4K Office: (03) 5339 2392
Ballarat



Natasha McLachlan
603a Landsborough St, Ballarat Nth
No appointments required



Address: 139 Bogong Ave,
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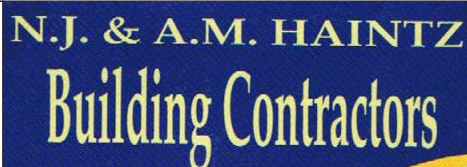
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Ph: (03) 5331 2200



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