

Pre-School Easter Celebration

You're invited to St Patrick's Cathedral Preschool Easter celebration. A fun filled morning of Easter crafts, singing, story time, Easter egg hunt, and socializing with other families. Please bring a plate of morning tea, to be shared with children and parents (nut-free food is greatly appreciated) St. Patrick's Hall, Thursday 17th March 10am- 12noon.

Legion of Mary

The Acies Ceremony, Consecration to Our Lady will be held on Saturday 19th March, after the 10.00 am Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral. All are welcome to participate.

10th Anniversary of Ordination for Fr Matthew Thomas

Mass will be held at St Patrick's Church, Camperdown on March 17, 2016 at 7.00pm to celebrate Fr Matthew's 10th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood. Supper will follow. RSVP to Michael McKenzie, ph. 0409 962148

Walk for Justice for Refugees 2016

Palm Sunday, March 20, 2016 at 2.00pm at the State Library, cnr Swanston and La Trobe Streets, Melbourne. More information at www.facebook.com/palmsundaywalk.

Prayer of Trust (Michael Herry)

You know the way for me you know the time, Into your hands I trustingly place mine.
Your plan is perfect born of perfect love You know the way, your way is love.
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Psalm (Paul Bird)

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

Make our hearts (Michael Herry)

Make our hearts O Lord, rich soil for your word. Plant new seeds of hope and love,
Make our hearts O Lord rich soil for your word. Welcome to the Word of God.
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Heart of Jesus, Heart of Mercy - A hymn for the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

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

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. ceive 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.
This is my body, given for you. I have no hands but yours.
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St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com

5th Sunday of Lent (C)
Sunday 13th March 2016



Gospel Reflection – © Veronica Lawson RSM

On Ash Wednesday, we were reminded to turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel. Turning away from sin means different things for different people. Some are sinners like the woman in today's gospel who finds forgiveness. Others are like her critics: not even recognising that they are sinners, they seem less inclined to turn away from sin.

Every woman in first century Palestine was the possession of a man: of her father initially; and then of her husband or successive husbands. Slaves, both men and women, were the property of the head of the patriarchal household and were expected to be sexually available to the master who was also husband and father. Even free women had fewer choices than men in regard to such matters as choice of life partners and social contact outside the family. In the context of Second Temple Judaism, a woman's sexual liaison with another man was a sin against her husband. Her shame was of less consequence than her husband's loss of status and honour.

We are told nothing of the circumstances of the woman "taken in adultery". We do not even know her name. We know that she could not have been alone in her adultery: there is a man involved who is at least as guilty as the woman. But only the woman is "brought" to Jesus in the public arena, as a spectacle for the assembled crowd. Ironically, the lawyers have little interest in the woman or in her fate. Their interest is in Jesus. They want to test him and catch him out on his attitude to the Law of Moses. They objectify the woman in the interests of their legal debate.

In other words, Jesus is the one on trial in this public setting, and the woman is no more than a dispensable object in the process, a means to a sinister end. Her life is of little concern to her accusers who ask Jesus for a legal opinion on her case. Should the full force of the law be exercised? Should she be stoned to death? Jesus does not dignify their manipulation with a response. Rather, he takes away their power over the woman by bending down and writing with his finger on the ground. What does he write? We can never have an answer to that question. Her accusers keep asking Jesus to provide a ruling. He subverts their ploy by confronting them with their own sinfulness: let the one without sin cast the first stone. They move off one by one and the woman is finally accorded the dignity of responding for herself. She is freed from the burden of condemnation. She can move forward with a strong sense of her worth and the realisation that she has encountered the mercy of God in the person of Jesus.

Recent Deaths: Nick Bomitali, Max Gilbert, Peg Giuliano, Barbara Gleeson, Patricia Pearce, Barry Ridsdale, Patricia Torpey

Anniversaries: Barry Davies, Jack & Alan Flynn, William & Charlotte Holmes, Michael Mahar, Fr. John McGannon CSsR, Michael McLaughlan, Les Pearce, Marge Welsh

Next week's readings: *Sunday 20th March 2016 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (C)*

Isaiah 50:4-7 Philippians 2:6-11 Luke 23:1-49

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Charlotte Elizabeth Rippon Daughter of Jacob & Louise
Bonnie Anne Smerdon Daughter of Mathew & Bridie
Thomas Joseph Forster Son of John & Samantha
May he grow in faith in his loving family and our Catholic Community.



Choir Practice For Triduum

The Liturgy Committee is inviting all those in the music ministry - choir, ensemble, cantors, organists - and any member of the Cathedral community, to combine in a Choir to lead the singing for the celebration of the Triduum. Practice for the Choir will be held on 16th March at 7.00 pm in the Cathedral.

Preparing for the Triduum (the great 3 days) - Fr Justin will be speaking about the Triduum and its significance in the Catholic Liturgical year, on Wednesday March 23rd at 7.15 pm in St Patrick's Cathedral Smaller Hall. All are welcome.

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Primary Schools

Now taking enrolment enquiries for Foundation (Prep) classes for next year. Please contact the school offices, St Patrick's on 53327680 to arrange an interview with the principal, Mark Hogbin. St Thomas More Primary School on 5334 2240 to make an appointment for an information session. Enrolments are also being accepted for the new Parish Primary school to be opened in Lucas in 2017. Contact the Catholic Education Office for details, cklain@ceoballarat.catholic.edu.au. The next Lucas School community consultation will be held on Tuesday April 12th 7pm (Community Health Centre), Lucas

Nazareth House St Patrick's Day Coffee Party, Thursday March 17th, 1.30 pm, Nazareth House Hall. All welcome.

St Patrick's Cathedral Community Space

In this Year of Mercy, Pope Francis has called for Churches to be "an Oasis of Mercy."

In a spirit of healing and reconciliation, the St Patrick's Cathedral Parish invites parishioners, neighbours, local community members, organisations and businesses to a community ideas workshop for the Cathedral garden and surrounds, particularly the area behind the Cathedral, on the corner of Sturt and Lyons St. The workshops will be facilitated by *Dirtscape Dreaming* (www.dirtscapedreaming.com.au) and you are welcome to attend one of the two parallel sessions offered on St Patrick's Day. Light refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP to the Parish Office.

St Patrick's Cathedral Hall (Dawson Street end), Thursday, March 17th 10.30 am-12 pm
Mechanics Institute - Humffray Room, (117 Sturt Street) Thursday, March 17th 5.30 - 7.00 pm

These community engagement forums are part of the ongoing work of the Cathedral Parish environment group (Bernadette Brouwers, Joe De Losa, Jillian Hogbin, Frank Stuart, Leo and Patrick Styles, Deneise Walsh & Fr Justin). Last year this group began to identify ways that the Cathedral precinct could become more hospitable, open, inclusive and welcoming to all. The Sturt street entrance was re-opened, with asphaltting completed and the gate of mercy opened and new seats placed around the grounds.

St John of God Past Trainees

Reunion to be held at Ballarat Golf Club Saturday April 9th. For details call Geraldine Vagg 0418554096.

St Patrick's Day Mass—12.05 pm Thursday March 17th. The school community from St Patrick's Primary will join us.



Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help First Australians in remote communities of Australia gain new skills and renewed passion to preserve and celebrate traditional culture. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion or phoning 1800 024 413. .

Mass of the Oils Monday, March 21st

The Mass of the Oils will be celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 6.30pm on Monday, March 21st. 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 significance for those who will use the blessed oils in 2016 – the sick, those to be baptised and confirmed.

Weekday Masses this week Monday - Friday 12.05 pm, Thursday 11.30 am St John of God,
Friday 7.30 am and 12.05 pm (with adoration to follow concluding with Benediction at 1.30 pm).

Morning Prayer of the Church 8.00 am Monday – Friday

Stations of the Cross 11.15 am Wednesday, 7.00 pm Thursdays

Reconciliation 11.00 am Friday, 11.30 am Saturday (Tuesday 7pm 1st Reconciliation).

Cathedral Parish Masses	March 19th/20th	Smythesdale	Skipton	Rokewood
6.30 pm Vigil,	8.00 am, 10.30 am, 5.00 pm	7.30 pm Vigil,	8.30am,	10.30 am

Holy Week in the Cathedral Parish

Palm Sunday - 9.20 am brief ecumenical service to be held in the Queen Alexandra Bandstand (Sturt St between Dawson & Doveton). All parishioners welcome with the Anglican, Lutheran and Uniting Churches.

Monday 21st - 6.30 pm **Mass of the Oils** followed by supper in the Cathedral Hall (no 12.05 pm Mass this day)

Holy Thursday, March 24th, 7.00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (9.30 pm Prayer concluding the watch)

Good Friday, March 25th, 10.00 am Way of the Cross from St Columba's Ballarat North to Black Hill
3.00 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday, March 26th, 10.30 am RCIA Preparation Rites (in the Cathedral Hall)
8.00 pm Easter Vigil Mass (commencing with fire outside)

Easter Sunday, March 27th, 8.00 am, 10.30 am and 5.00 pm Masses

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

Collections Envelopes \$6.166.00 Parish Loose \$403.50 Presbytery \$2.113.50

Counters 13th March Team 8 Next week team 1