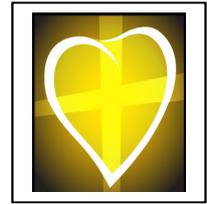


St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com



5th Sunday of Easter (C)
Sunday 24th April 2016



Scripture Reflection by Sr Veronica Lawson RSM

The literary context for today's gospel reading is Jesus' final meal with his disciples. Jesus has washed the feet of his foot-weary table companions, and has thus provided an example of what it means to love. What he has done for them, they are to do for one another. In other words, no form of service is too menial for a Christian disciple, and privileged exemption from service of others has no place in gospel living or in gospel leadership. Pope Francis has witnessed powerfully to this from the beginning of his papacy and in diverse ways over the past three years.

Jesus is troubled in spirit (v. 21) at this meal. There is a sense of foreboding in this statement. He knows that membership of the group is no guarantee of fidelity or of sustained goodness. All are capable of betrayal and Judas, who has been one of his closest companions, is about to hand him over to the authorities and ultimately to death. Another, Simon Peter, after protesting undying loyalty will proceed to deny him three times (vv. 37-38). Though troubled and no doubt disappointed by the failure of his friends and the dire consequences for himself, Jesus continues to teach the way of discipleship.

The betrayer's departure from the meal, Jesus informs them, signals the imminent arrival of the moment of glorification. Events have been set in train that will culminate in God's victory over evil and death. But this is not the end of their association with him. He will leave them very soon and they are to continue on the way of discipleship. His legacy to them is "a new commandment" – to love one another just as he has loved them. If they do that, everyone will know they are his disciples. To love as Jesus loved, however, is no small thing: it is to be willing to give one's life for the sake of "the other".

This new commandment to love one another is also Jesus' legacy to us, the successors of those early disciples. Loving care of the broken-hearted, of the war-ravaged and displaced, of the sick and the weary; providing shelter for the homeless; attentiveness to those grieving the loss of loved ones or of livelihood; a restorative gesture or word; a change in lifestyle or a tree planted in the interests of planetary survival - these are some of the ways of love and of discipleship. In our times, we have come to realise that "the other" embraces the more-than-human and that love of all God's creation is part of the new commandment.

Recent Deaths: Marlene Bruhn, Kevin Doyle, Maise Egan, Lorna Nihill

Anniversaries: Anton Brandenburg, James & Elizabeth Cloney, Maria Jarema, Helen Lange, Mary Smerdon, Kathleen Torriero, Sally Vawdrey

Next week's readings: *Sunday 1st May 2016* *6th Sunday of Easter (C)*
Acts 15:1-2. 22-29 Ps 66:2-3. 5-6. 8. R. v.4 Apocalypse 21:10-14, 22-23 John 14:23-29

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Eden Joan Brady-Walker daughter of Jacob & Leandra
Millicent Katherine Pilkington daughter of Timothy & Katherine
Oscar Leo Walsh son of Michael & Sacha
Jackson Shane Whelan son of Jacob & Samantha

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



Ballarat YCW Harriers 70th Anniversary Reunion

Saturday April 30th at the Mecure Inn 613 Main Road \$70 @ head. For tickets and inquiries ring Natalie Atherton 0409 024 055 Kelly Dawe 0413 570 822 Ian Higgins 0427 301 160

Nazareth House Holy Hour

Holy Hour for Vocations next Thursday 28 April 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm in the Chapel at Nazareth House. All are invited. The sacrament of Reconciliation will be available and a cuppa afterwards.

Alpha in a Catholic Context

Alpha will commence in the Cathedral Parish this coming Thursday evening (April 28th) at 7.00 pm and will continue each Thursday evening. So far 12 parishioners and friends have registered for this adult faith development opportunity. Alpha is for adults seeking to explore the Christian faith. It is a parish tool for evangelisation based on welcome and hospitality, sharing and prayer. Each session includes a meal, a talk and small group discussion, where no question is too simple and no answer prepackaged. Guests are welcomed into a relaxed and friendly setting and have the opportunity to get to know one another. After the meal, a short talk is given on the Christian faith. The talks are based on the teaching of the Church, the Bible, and the personal testimony of the speaker. Topics vary from 'Who is Jesus?' to 'How Can I Make the Most of the Rest of My Life?' The small groups provide the opportunity to build trust and friendship. Within the group, guests learn the art of listening, reading the Scriptures and praying. Alpha will be offered in the Cathedral Parish for those who express interest in being part of this adult faith opportunity – contact the Parish Office if you would like to be part of Alpha in our Parish over the coming months which will be conducted on Thursday evenings in the smaller hall at the Cathedral.

Monday April 25th is ANZAC Day which is a Public holiday – Mass will be celebrated in the **Cathedral at 9.30 am on ANZAC Day**. Thanks to Bruce Clifton who arranges this Mass each year.

Adult Faith Formation – Ignatian Spirituality and the Examen

All parishioners are invited to join the RCIA on Wednesday April 27th at 7.15pm in St Patrick's Cathedral smaller hall for an opportunity to discover more about Ignatian Spirituality and the Daily Examen. This session will be led by Ms Audrey Brown, the Diocesan Director of Catholic Education in the Diocese of Ballarat. The RCIA continues to meet with those received and Confirmed into the Catholic Church at Easter. This final period is known as the mystagogia and provides an opportunity to continue to reflect upon the great mysteries of Easter and our new life in Christ!

Apostolic Exhortation (papal document)

Pope Francis has published an Apostolic Exhortation on marriage and family life, in which he presents and develops the outcomes of the two Synods on this subject. The title of the Apostolic Exhortation is *Amoris Laetitia*, 'The Joy of Love: On Love in the Family'. The Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation was published during a press conference at the Vatican on Friday 8th April 2016. You can download the text of the Exhortation below or read the summary document and Q&A provided by the Vatican. <https://www.catholic.org.au/synod-2015/blog>

Catholic Theological College East Melbourne Annual Knox Lecture

On Monday May 16th at 7.30 pm Archbishop Mark Coleridge will present the annual Knox lecture: "*From Wandering to Journeying: Thoughts on a Synodal Church*". Journey and pilgrimage are important themes in Scripture and throughout Christianity. They provide a background for considering Pope Francis' election in 2013, his decision to convene two Synods in 2014 and 2015, his proclamation of the Year of Mercy in 2016 and his recent publication of the Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* – seeing all these as part of a process which is far from over. This gives a context for the recent proposal of the Australian Bishops to move towards a Plenary Council for Australia in 2020, seeing the preparation for the Council, its celebration and implementation as part of the same process, which seeks to make the Church more genuinely synodal in the way foreseen by Vatican II and treated more explicitly by Pope Francis. Catholic Leadership Centre East Melbourne RSVP: Wednesday 11 May jill.allen@ctc.edu.au 9412 3304.

Mass Count starts on weekend April 30/May 1, 2016

Each year in the Diocese of Ballarat, those who attend Masses (or Lay Led Assemblies) are counted. This year it is being conducted in conjunction with the Australian National Church Mass Count which is being conducted over the first four weekends of May. Within the Cathedral Parish all who attend Mass at one of our four weekend Masses (6.30 pm, 8.00 am, 10.30 am and 5.00 pm) as well as the Sunday morning Mass at Nazareth House will be counted. Sacristans will be asked to arrange with the counters to undertake the count and record the numbers!

menALIVE Men's Weekend - Hamilton

The purpose of menALIVE is to bring men together, to renew their faith in God, and to encourage them to become an active force within the Church. St Mary's Parish Hamilton is hosting a menALIVE weekend on July 30 & 31, 2016. Contact John Hockey 0439 319 823 manager@stmaryshamilton.org.au Pasquale Mammone (W/bool) 0438 247 765, pasquale_mammone@yahoo.com.au The weekend commences Saturday at 8:30am and concludes at 1:30pm on Sunday. Billed accommodation will be available. More information can be found at www.stmaryshamilton.org.au Online Bookings www.trybooking.com.au/KNVH

Council for Australian Catholic Women's Colloquium 2016

The CACW Colloquium will be held this year on September 17 & 18 at Mary Mackillop Place in North Sydney. The Colloquium theme, Women as Witnesses to the Joy of the Gospel will set the scene for theological and pastoral reflection on Pope Francis' call to "create still broader opportunities for a more incisive female presence in the Church" (Evangelii Gaudium 103). The keynote addresses and workshops will examine this theme and consider the issues facing women in the family, women in the Church and women in society. Expressions of Interest can be registered on the Colloquium web-site www.cacwcolloquium.org.au

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

Counters 1st May Team 7 Next week team 8
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

Cathedral Parish Masses	April 30th / May 1st	Smythesdale	Linton	Skipton
6.30 pm Vigil, 8.00 am, 10.30 am, 5.00 pm		7.30 pm	9.30am	10.30 am

Masses during the coming week

Monday	9.30am Cathedral ANZAC Day			
Tuesday	9.30am Redan	12.05 pm Cathedral		
Wednesday	9.30am Sebastopol	12.05 pm Cathedral		
Thursday	9.30am Redan	11.30 am St John of God	12.05pm Cathedral	
Friday	9.30am Sebastopol	12.05 pm Cathedral	1.30 pm Benediction	
Saturday	10.00am Cathedral			
Sacrament of Reconciliation	Friday	11.00 am,	Saturday	11.30 am