

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

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The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ (C)

Sunday 29th May 2016



Scripture Reflection by Sr Veronica Lawson RSM

The gospel for today brings together elements that have traditionally formed part of Christian worship. In the first part of the story, Jesus welcomes those who follow him. He then speaks to them of God's kin-dom and heals those in need of healing. In the second part, he takes the loaves, blesses them, breaks them and puts them before the disciples who distribute the bread to the assembled people. All eat and are satisfied.

The second part of the story is full of Eucharistic symbolism. The setting is a "desert" place, recalling the wanderings of the Israelites in the desert of Sinai. The hunger of the people recalls God's care of Israel in the wilderness. God feeds God's people in the deserts of life, but only if those called to be disciples recognise their responsibility to be the hands of God. "Send them away" is one solution, clearly not the one preferred by Jesus. Rather, he says, "You give them something to eat". When the people sit down in circles and share their food, they find there is more than enough for everyone. They gather up the broken pieces, just as we must remember to gather up the pieces that so often go to waste.

Jesus' actions and words over the bread [and the fish] are echoed in the account of his final meal with the disciples: the bread broken and shared becomes his body broken and "given" for them. [In Mark's account, this final meal has been foreshadowed in the story of the unnamed woman whose actions of breaking an alabaster jar and pouring the precious ointment on the head of Jesus parallel Jesus' actions of breaking and pouring.]

In the context of Eucharist, bread broken and wine poured out change their meaning. While all analogies fall short, we might begin to understand this mystery by thinking of the Eureka flag. The flag is constructed of fabric and thread, but it is no longer only the sum of its material parts, precious as these may be. The restored flag is housed in a special place in the Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka and protected with the utmost care. Because of its associations with the Eureka rebellion and what that stands for in Australian history, it has taken on a meaning other than the goodness of the materiality of fabric and thread. In the celebration of Eucharist, the God-given gifts of bread and wine likewise become more than their material parts. They are Life for us, the shared life of the Risen Christ. Eucharistic life is covenanted life. Sharing in Eucharist means giving life for the sake of the many, sometimes to the point of heroism, sometimes simply by sharing our resources or our left-over pieces with others in need.

Recent Deaths: Loyola McKenzie (Funeral Prayers 2.00pm Tuesday 31st May in the Cathedral), John Kennedy, Mary McInerney, Michael John Myers, Jessie Nestor, Stanley Alfred Russell

Anniversaries: Frank Callahan, Sunday Nwanoro, Bryan & Kevin O'Loughlan, Maria Schildt, Bernard Vaughan.

Next week's readings: *Sunday 5th June 2016* *10th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)*
Kings 17:17-24 Ps 29:2. 4-6. 11-13. R. v.2 Galatians 1:11-19 Luke 7:11-17

First Communion Celebrations

This weekend (Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ May 28th-29th) at the 6.30 pm, 10.30 am and 5.00 pm Masses, first communion will be celebrated with the 91 children who are part of the Parish Eucharist program. Welcome to all!!

Catholic Women's League

General members meeting at the Presbytery at 1.30pm June 1st. Please bring a plate.

Fr Anthony Nagothu SDB will be our guest speaker at 2.15pm and will talk about his life in India and his vocation to the priesthood. This will be followed by afternoon tea. Interested parishioners very welcome to join us. Enquiries to Sheila Wilton 5342 9678.

Positions Vacant

Cathedral Parish Finance Officer

The position is part time (20 hours per week) and requires skills in finance, administration, occupation health and safety and human resources. This position also serves as the finance officer for the parishes of St Aloysius' Redan, St James' Sebastopol and St Peter's Linton. A complete position description is available from the Parish Office. Applications to be forwarded to Fr Justin by Friday June 10th. Both a current Working With Children Check and Police Check are required.

Pastoral Care – Ballarat Health Services

For many years, the Cathedral Parish has employed a pastoral carer to serve the pastoral needs of the Catholic patients and their families who are in the Base Hospital. Sr Paula Fleming SJG, Kathy Pollard and Kaye Stringer have each served in this pastoral care ministry. The current position is 12 hours per week and will become vacant when Kaye concludes in mid-June. Applications may be forwarded to Fr Justin by June 10th with the resume to include skills, qualifications (ideally a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education) and pastoral experience as well as referees. A current Working With Children Check and Police Check are required.

Thankyou Agnes would like to thank the kind person who found & handed in her hearing aide.

Ballarat Annual Choral Festival Sunday May 29th at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat, at 1.30pm with choirs (including two from the Cathedral Parish) from across the region, no cost, all welcome.

St Vincent de Paul

Each year around the Feast of the Sacred Heart (June 3rd) Cathedral parishioners are invited to contribute to the St Vinnies Winter appeal through a collection. This will take place on the weekend of June 11th-12th at the 6.30 pm, 8.00 am, 10.30 am and 5.00 pm Masses.

Finance to enable the St Vincent de Paul Society to assist the underprivileged and marginalised people in our community comes from two sources.

- 1 The generous donations from parishioners and people who care, and
- 2 The proceeds of sales from our Vinnies stores.



Alpha – Adult Faith Program

Over the past 5 weeks, up to 20 parishioners have been gathering with Fr Justin in the smaller hall for the weekly Alpha course which seeks to engage participants in conversations about life, faith and God. Topics covered so far have included – Who is Jesus?, Why did Jesus Die?, How can I have Faith? Why and How should I Pray? There will not be a gathering this Thursday evening but recommencing at 7.00 pm on

Thursday June 9th with the topic Why and How Should I Read the Bible. The program for the remaining weeks will be Who is the Holy Spirit, How Can I Be Filled with the Holy Spirit, How Does God Guide Us, What about Evil & Does God Heal today, and finally What about Church & Telling Others? Parishioners and friends are very welcome to participate in any of all of these sessions.

ACBC Statement re Federal Election

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference have released a statement regarding the upcoming federal election, “Voice for the voiceless: A statement by the Catholic Bishops of Australia on the election” dated 16 May 2016 Further information, including a prayer for the election, is available from the ACBC website www.catholic.org.au



National Mass Count

Over the past four weekends the national count of attendance has been undertaken. The count was first held nationally in 2001. Thanks to all who undertaken this count for us at our Masses. The average numbers:

Saturday 6.30 pm 238 Sunday 8.00 am 164

Sunday 10.30 am 355 Sunday 5.00 pm 308

St Peter's Linton 23 St John's Skipton 33 St Brigid's Snake Valley 62

St Mary's Smythesdale 37 St Patrick's Rokewood 14

Collections Envelopes \$2,125.00 Parish Loose \$381.00 Presbytery \$2,274.15

Counters 29th May Team 4 Next week team 5

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au



Clergy Frs Justin Driscoll, James Kerr, Anthony Nagothu, Sajan Matthew
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	June 4 th /5 th	Smythesdale	Linton	Skipton		
6.30 pm Vigil,	8.00 am,	10.30 am,	5.00 pm	7.30 pm	9.00am	10.30 am

Masses during the coming week

Monday	12.05pm Cathedral			
Tuesday	No Mass 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	12.05 pm Cathedral	1.30 pm Benediction	6.00 pm Streatham	
Saturday	10.00am Cathedral			

Sacrament of Reconciliation Friday 11.00 am, Saturday 11.30 am

We Come to Your Table (Michael Joncas)

We place upon your table a gleaming cloth of white: The weaving of our stories, the fabric of our lives; The dreams of those before us, the ancient hopeful cries, The promise of our future; our needing and our nurture Lie here before our eyes.

We come to your feast, we come to your feast: The young and the old, the frightened, the bold, The greatest and the least. We come to your feast, we come to your feast: With the fruit of our lands and the work of our hands, We come to your feast.

We place upon your table a humble loaf of bread: The gift of field and hillside, the grain by which we're fed; We come to taste the presence of him on whom we feed, To strengthen and connect us, to challenge and correct us, To love in word and deed.

We place upon your table a simple cup of wine: The fruit of human labour, the gift of sun and vine; We come to taste the presence of him we claim as Lord, His dying and his living, his leading and his giving, His love in cup outpoured.

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This is My Body

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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Lord we Come to your Table

Lord we come to your table Lord we hear your Word Lord, you are our bread of life And we, the Body of Christ.

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