

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

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22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Sunday 28th August 2016- Migrant & Refugee Sunday



Reflection by Fr. Gabriele Bentoglio

Our readings for today, especially the first reading and the gospel, talk about humility and its importance. What is humility? I will tell you a story. Three persons were boasting to each other on who had the best Bible translation. The first said, "Mine is the best translation because this is a New American Bible. This is being used in the Mass. The words used are modern and easy to understand." The second man boasted, "Mine is the best because this is Jerusalem Bible. Very poetic and it is used in our charismatic group meeting." The third man said, "I like the Bible translation of my mother because she translated it into her concrete life; she lives everything written on it." The other two were silent. The story summarizes the challenge of Jesus Christ in our gospel today. Jesus challenges us to translate the word of God into our daily lives. Challenging us to make the Bible alive in our hearts, minds and deeds. This is one way of being humble, and humility could be understood as a synonym of mercy. Today this is indeed challenging, as we celebrate Migrants' Day following the guidelines given to us by Pope Francis in his Message delivered for this occasion on the theme: Migrants and Refugees Challenge Us. The Response of the Gospel of Mercy. This message coincides with the celebration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, strongly desired by Pope Francis. That is why the Papal Message puts in close connection the protagonists of the phenomenon of migration, migrants and refugees, but also the international community, both strongly invited to answer to this burning issue through the answer of the Gospel, which is condensed in the theme of mercy. This year, Migrants' Day comes during one of the most critical moments in the history of contemporary migrations. In fact, we live in a phase in which the despair of millions of migrants and refugees has captured the attention of global public opinion. I mean the tragedy of mobility, especially that of forced mobility, and at the same time, the limits of the systems of protection of the international community. Today the global phenomenon of human mobility changes its face very quickly, involving all areas of the world. Because so-called "mixed flows" are now a daily reality, it prevents the distinction between economic and forced migration. The trafficking of women, men and children is growing atrociously, present in almost all countries of the world either as lands of origin, transit or destination for the victims. It is estimated that trafficking is currently the third source of income for organized crime, after drugs and weapons. Pope Francis' Message speaks of this world. In the document, the Pope reiterates the key principles of the Teaching of the Church on this matter, insisting on the dignity of every human person, regardless of its legal status. Special emphasis is given to what I would call the prophetic significance of migrants and refugees who, as stated in the text of the Message, "*challenge individuals and communities, and their traditional ways of life; at times they upset the cultural and social horizons which they encounter.*" We can end up becoming accomplices of traffickers of human beings, "*the tragic stories of millions of men and women daily confront the international community as a result of the outbreak of unacceptable humanitarian crises in different parts of the world. Indifference and silence lead to complicity whenever we stand by as people are dying of suffocation, starvation, violence and shipwreck. Whether large or small in scale, these are always tragedies, even when a single human life is lost.*"

Recent Deaths: Jenny McKenzie

Anniversaries: Mary Baldock, Bruno Bulich, Bonnie McDermott, Peter Fanning, Helen O'Neil, Francis Reidy, Pat Roberts, Margaret Trevenen, Mary White

Next week's readings: *Sunday 4th September 2016* *22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)*
Wisdom 9:13-18 Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1 Philemon 9-10, 12-17 Luke 14:25-33

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Harrison Cole & Evelyn Marion Taylor children of Bradley & Naomi
Lana Victoria Tupas daughter of Julius & Lyra
Poppy Lou Duffy daughter of Jason & Lisa



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

Ballarat No Interest Loans Scheme

Ballarat NILS is looking for volunteers to assist in the administration of the No Interest Loan Scheme, which provides loans for low income persons throughout the Ballarat Diocese. The position requires approximately 3- 4 hours per week and is in the Ballarat area. Persons with a bookkeeping, banking or accounting background would be especially suited. If you are interested, more information about the position can be obtained by contacting Richard, 0422 753 729 or Peter, 0413 145 108 .

Expression of Interest – Passionist Family Groups

Currently there are 6 Family Groups in the Cathedral Parish. Basically a group meets once a month for social activities which in turn enable support and enrich the community.

We have a young family wanting to be involved in Family Groups and are asking for expressions of interest for more 'families' to form a new group in September. For information please contact - Michael & Marica Hingston 0407 350 702 hingston.m@gmail.com Parish Office 5331 2933 parish website, School office or www.pfgm.org

Celebrating Confirmation

105 children from our Cathedral Parish are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation which is coordinated by Anita Houlihan and the Parish Sacrament Team. These children are using the revised material in the resource *Let the Children Come*, provided by the Diocese of Ballarat. On Wednesday of this week Bishop Paul will meet the children preparing for Confirmation – visiting our two Parish Primary Schools, St Thomas More Alfredton and St Patrick's Drummond St as well as meeting the children from government and independent schools enrolled in the program when they will gather after school at 4.15 pm – 5.00 pm on Wednesday August 31st. Confirmation will be celebrated at the 6.30 pm, 10.30 am and 5.00 pm Masses on the first two weekend of September, 3rd – 4th and 10th – 11th.

Adult faith opportunity in the Cathedral Parish

Following the conclusion of the Alpha adult faith program (Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation) the program was evaluated by participants. Some of the comments received:

- *The ALPHA topics were very pertinent, and I experienced a challenging and deepening of my Christian faith. As we gathered and connected with fellow parishioners in a more meaningful way encouraging each other, I looked forward to the Thursdays, and hope to have similar future gatherings. May the thirst and fire of God's love and understanding spread through our parishes. It has increased my enthusiasm to be part of something ongoing relating to the Word, and growing together in outreach-which many of the group also shared*

To continue this opportunity those who participated in Alpha have meet again and have agreed to a monthly adult faith gathering to be held in the smaller Cathedral hall at 7.00 pm on the first Thursday of each month. The format will be informal with conversation and hospitality with one of the participants leading with a reflection, issues, film ... followed by discussion. The Gospel for the following Sunday will also be reflected upon. Interested persons are very welcome to attend.

eConference on Mercy: A Way of Being in the World

This eConference will commemorate the Jubilee Year of Mercy and take up Pope Francis' invitation to explore this central element of our faith. Tuesday, September 20th St Patrick's Cathedral smaller hall, cuppa from 9.30am eConference 10.30am – 2.45pm. BYO lunch. Please register with Jacinta at the Parish Office 5331 2933 ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au Speakers - Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane and Member of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, Sr Veronica Lawson RSM, Scripture scholar and author of the highly praised book, The Blessing of Mercy, Mr Phil Glendenning, Director of the Edmund Rice Centre and President of the Refugee Council of Australia.

ACUFTPRSVP@acn.edu.au

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Fr Shane Mackinlay's Silver Jubilee

Fr Shane Mackinlay will celebrate his 25th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood on September 6th this year. The Bungaree and Gordon parishes will celebrate this event with Fr Shane at 10.30am Mass on Sunday 11 September, at St Michael's, Bungaree, followed by lunch in the Parish Centre; and at 10.30am Mass on Sunday 18 September, at St Brigid's, Ballan. All welcome.

Collections Envelopes \$7,015.00 Parish Loose \$221.75 Presbytery \$1,753.65

Counters 28th August Team 3 Next week Team 4

Could giver #344 please contact the office for administration reasons.



Annual Collection for Sick and Retired Priests – this weekend

Eighteen retired priests are currently supported by this Ballarat Clergy Support Fund. Some live privately, some are retired in units in Ballarat or elsewhere, others live in supported accommodation. The funding required for these commitments is ongoing. Thanks to your generosity, this collection has raised nearly 1.7 million dollars since it began in 1991, including nearly \$54,000 last year. Along with the priests’ own contribution of approximately \$38,000 per year, this annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our sick and retired clergy. A credit card facility is available for your convenience, and contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible. Envelopes are available and may be returned via the collection on Sundays.

Caring For Those Who Cared For Us – The Church Community’s Responsibility

A snapshot of our Parish 2011 (this data is taken from the 2011 National Census)

Total population of people living in the geographic area of the Cathedral Parish: 18,542

Catholic population: 5,610

Catholics make up 30.0% of total population

Median age of Catholics is 35 years

Total Catholic families: 1,903

469 Catholics live alone

436 Catholics were born overseas

24 Catholics do not speak English well

300 Catholics need assistance with core activities 2,384 Catholics changed address since 2006

Masses during the coming week

Monday 12.05 pm Cathedral

Tuesday No Mass Redan 12.05 pm Cathedral 5.30 pm Loreto Sisters

Wednesday No Mass 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

Morning Prayer of the Church 8.00 am Tuesday – Friday in the Cathedral

Cathedral Parish Masses September 3rd/4th Smythesdale Linton Skipton

6.30 pm Vigil, 8.00 am, 10.30 am, 5.00 pm 7.30 pm 9.00 am 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, Sajan Matthew

Parish Office Jacinta Westbrook, Finance Officer Ro Danski

Family Ministry Anita Houlihan, Ballarat Health Services Tracy Sillekens

Principals St Patrick’s Primary Mark Hogbin, St Thomas More Rosa Tocchet,
Siena at Lucas Jo Brewer (opening 2017)