



St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat

www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
Sunday 11th September 2016

Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter

The parable of the lost son is usually taken in isolation and rarely is heard in the full context of the three parables of the lost being found. We need all three to recognise the ridiculous nature of the celebration of the forgiving father's actions. All three parables display great folly. What shepherd would leave 99 of his sheep in the wilderness to go in search of just one? Similarly what woman is going to reveal to her friends how poverty-stricken she really is by inviting them to rejoice with her at the finding of one lost drachma – the least valuable of coins. When we come to the father rejoicing at his son's return, this too would have seemed a ridiculous folly. Because of his actions, the son completely shamed himself and his father. The father's expected and justified response would have been to turn his back on his son and banish him forever. To welcome him back would have been unthinkable to Jesus' audience. In an echo of God's ridiculous and unbounded loving forgiveness, the father welcomes his son with open arms and reclaims him as his own.

Child Protection Sunday

The images of child sexual abuse have continued to affect our entire community and diminish the trust some have placed in our Church. That trust has been further eroded when the institution has failed to appropriately respond to the victim's needs. Yet the Catholic Church is in unique position to offer much within this focus of creating stronger communities, safer Children. One such example can be seen in Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*, in which families and consequently communities are encouraged through love, strengthened by the virtues of generosity, commitment, fidelity and patience to become stronger more capable and more resilient. Stronger families and Church communities can then help to keep our children safe.

As the Royal Commission begins to finalise hearings and close registration for private sessions, Child Protection Week, and in particular Child Protection Sunday provides a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the steps we have taken to make children safer in our communities; at home, in our churches, schools and Catholic agencies

Here in the Cathedral Parish we can see evidence of the strength of our community providing support, protection and opportunities to help keep our children safe through the commitment to implementing the policy [Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults](#).

Recent Deaths: Joseph Graafmans, Fr Bob Markey, Danielle Sartori, Elizabeth Triado

Anniversaries: Margaret Austin, Tom Conroy, Cynthia Hucker, Lorna McCormack, Tony McLean, Patrick O'Driscoll, Stanislaw & Franciszka Stodolny, Garry Twyford

Next week's readings: *Sunday 18th September 2016* *25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)*

Amos 8:4-7 Ps 112:1-2. 4-8. R. see vv.1. 7 Timothy 2:1-8 Luke 16:10-13

Cuppa & Chat There will be no cuppa after 10.30am Mass today.

Celebrating Confirmation *"Be Sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit"*

Welcome to all of those who are celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation. Over last weekend and this weekend Bishop Paul will Confirm 105 children from our Cathedral Parish who have been preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation, coordinated by Anita Houlihan and the Parish Sacrament Team. These children have used the revised material in the resource *Let the Children Come*, provided by the Diocese of Ballarat. Confirmation is being celebrated at the 6.30 pm, 10.30 am and 5.00 pm Masses this weekend.

Parish Anointing Mass September 14th

On Wednesday September 14th our Mass of Anointing for the Parish will be held in St Patrick's Hall at 12.05 pm. It has been the custom to serve lunch to the Parishioners following Mass. Donations of cakes or slices would be appreciated for this occasion. If convenient they could be left at the Hall before Mass and assistance to help serve the lunch would be gratefully accepted. This is a great opportunity to catch up with other parishioners and have a chat over lunch. If you require transport on the day do not hesitate to phone Jacinta in the Parish Office on 53312933.

St Vincent de Paul Society

The St Patrick's Conference of the Society wishes to thank Parishioners for their generous support of the Winter Appeal. A total of \$4,246 was contributed through the envelopes returned locally and those forwarded to our Head Office at Box Hill to be credited to our account.

As well, the support from both our Parish Schools in the form of donations of non-perishable food, clothing and blankets was once again extremely generous.

The ongoing anonymous contributions through the Poor Box are also greatly appreciated. Such wonderful support from our Parishioners enable us to provide some material assistance, as well as our support and encouragement to the many people who seek our help. Thankyou

Thankyou

Many parishioners of the Cathedral Parish assisted in making the Funeral Mass for Fr Bob Markey a very prayerful celebration of the paschal mystery of Christ. Thank you to all who participated through music and song, the Cathedral environment with flowers and décor and the setting up.

Concert in the Cathedral *Mozart Requiem*

Sunday 18th September at 3.00pm in St Patrick's Cathedral. Victoria Chorale, Ballarat Choral Society & Ballarat Wind Orchestra. Tickets \$35 Full, \$30 Concession

[Bookings trybookings.com/MELG](http://Bookings.strybookings.com/MELG) or Her Majesty's Theatre Box Office Phone 5333 5888

Mary in the Bible" A Weekend Seminar in Ballarat (23-25 September 2016)

The Catholic faith has many well-developed traditions and doctrines about Mary, the mother of Jesus. Where did these come from? Protestants and Catholics alike are often surprised to learn that everything we teach about Mary comes *from the Bible*. In this course you will meet Mary in the source-book of Divine revelation, the Holy Scriptures. You will meet the Blessed Virgin Mary as the Apostles and Evangelists knew her and through God's Word your devotion to Mary will be deepened. Nazareth House, Mill Street, Ballarat, Friday 23 to Sunday 25 September, beginning Friday at 7.30pm and ending on Sunday at 4pm. \$95 payable in advance. Morning and afternoon teas provided. Lunch \$10 extra per person, per day. RSVP and Enquiries Maureen van der Linden Ph 0431 273 953
Email: mojo6163@hotmail.com Lecturer David Schütz BTh BA GradDip.

Beyond the Year of Mercy

A retreat afternoon, which is open to all adults, is to be held at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, on Sunday, October 30th from 1.30pm concluding with 5.00pm Mass. The afternoon will be led by Sr Veronica Lawson, a Sister of Mercy from Ballarat, biblical scholar and author of "*The Blessing of Mercy*." Register through the Cathedral Office ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au or 5331 2933.



Siena Catholic Primary School, Lucas

Progress toward the opening of our third Cathedral Parish Primary school for the 2017 school year continues with the appointment of the staff to join the Principal Jo Brewer. The foundation staff members will be -

Genevieve Willmott (Administration) and the teachers Danielle Brennan,

Michael Ross, Ben Stott and Mark Tanis. To date, approximately 65 children have been enrolled. Cathedral parishioner Wendy Graham has been appointed to be the independent Chair of the Lucas School Community Council. The next Siena community dialogue will be held on Tuesday September 13th at 7pm in the Lucas Community Health Centre. The school buildings are being constructed by Swanbuild in Swan Hill and are due to arrive on site in the coming days!

One Humanity Shower Bus

Launch dinner for the bus on Thursday 15th September at 6.30pm for 7.00pm, Federation University Albert Coates Complex University Dr Mt Helen. Neat Casual Dress, Guest speaker Fr Peter Day (founder of "Home" in Queanbeyan for those with mental illness) \$50 per person for a 2 course meal, bar will be open. www.eventbrite.com search keyword: Humanity Shower Bus.



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.

Collections Envelopes \$1,270.00 Parish Loose \$282.00 Presbytery \$2,135.30

Counters 11th September Team 5 Next week Team 6

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

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 (Anointing Mass & Lunch)

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 17th/18th **Smythesdale Skipton Rokewood**

6.30 pm Vigil, 8.00 am, 10.30 am, 5.00 pm 7.30 pm 9.000 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 of our three Parish Schools

[St Patrick's Primary](#) Mark Hogbin, [St Thomas More](#) Rosa Tocchet, [Siena](#) at Lucas Jo Brewer