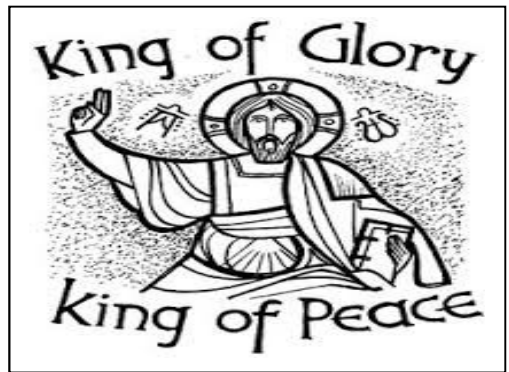


St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat

www.stpatrcathedral.weebly.com

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (C)



Sunday 20th November 2016

Parish Office hours Monday - Friday 10.00 am – 5.00 pm Phone 5331 2933

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR, Priests, Frs Justin Driscoll, James Kerr, Anthony Nagothu, Sajan Matthew
 Parish Office Jacinta Westbrook, Finance Officer Jess Salazar
 Family Ministry Anita Houlihan, Grounds Tony McVeigh
 Cathedral Parish Pastoral Carer at 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

Cathedral Parish Masses	November 26 th /27 th	Smythesdale	Beaufort	Skipton
6.30 pm Vigil, 8.00 am,	10.30 am, 5.00 pm	6.30 pm Vigil	8.30am	10.30 am

Next week's readings: *Sunday 27th November 2016 1st Sunday of Advent (A)*

Isaiah 2:1-5 Ps 121:1-2. 4-5. 6-9. R. see v.1. Romans 13:37-44 Matthew 24:37-44

Masses during the coming week

Monday	12.05 pm Cathedral	Tuesday	12.05 pm Cathedral
Wednesday	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	1.30pm 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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Monday & Tuesday 10.00 am – 11.45 am, Friday 12.30pm

Advent – our liturgical season to *prepare the way of the Lord. Next Sunday we commence the 4 week season of advent, a time to wait & prepare in joyful hope*

Events which will be happening in the Cathedral Parish during these four weeks include

Friday	December 9 th 12.05 pm	Mass of Anointing for sick and seniors, followed by lunch
Wednesday	December 14 th 7.00 pm	Concert in the Cathedral from <i>Bach to Bing</i>
Thursday	December 15 th 7.00 pm	2 nd Rite of the Sacrament of Reconciliation
Friday	December 23 rd 7.30 pm	Service of Carols and Readings

Recent Deaths: Patricia Gersch, Angus MacDonald

Anniversaries: Jean Favalaro, Peter Healy, Andrew O'Brien, John Spee, Christopher Storey,
Mollie Taffe

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Heston John Rowe son of Sam & Elise

Oliver Alan Jacobsson son of Brent & Alicia

Emma Caroline, Penelope & Adam Patrick Conway, children of Patrick & Caroline

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



Welcome to Jess Salazar

This week Jess commenced working for the Parishes of Ballarat, Linton, Redan and Sebastopol as our Finance Officer, 20 hours per week. Philip Westbrook, who had served in this position for almost 10 years concluded in June and was replaced by Ro Danski who resigned before her 3 month probation period had expired. Jess is currently working 1.00 pm – 5.00 pm Monday - Friday.

St Vincent de Paul Society Jesse Tree Christmas Appeal 2016

The Cathedral Parish Conference of the Society will again be distributing hampers to those less fortunate than most of us this Christmas. Over the years Parishioners have been extremely generous when they have sought assistance not only at Christmas but also with the Winter appeal. Last Christmas over 100 families and individuals were supported as a result of your generosity. Jesse Tree symbols will be distributed after each Mass from today and throughout the Season of Advent. Your support our Jesse Tree Appeal through the donation of non-perishable food items is again being asked for. *The Cathedral Parish thanks the Conference members for such great service*

From the Cathedral Parish Environment Group

Draft concept plans for the garden, *"an oasis of mercy,"* to foster healing and reconciliation are on display in the south transept of the Cathedral. The group is keen to hear from parishioners and receive your feedback. After each Masses this weekend members of the Parish environment group (Bernadette Brouwers, Joe De Losa, Jillian Hogbin, Frank Stuart, Leo & Patrick Styles, Deneise Walsh) will be available to walk you through the proposed area behind the Cathedral. Many thanks to those who have already provided feedback. A suggestion box is available near the display.

2017 Holy Land Pilgrimage

An information evening for those interested in undertaking a two week pilgrimage with Fr Justin to the Holy Land (Israel and Jordan) in June 2017 are invited to gather in the smaller hall at the Cathedral on Thursday November 24th 5.30 pm – 7.00 pm. Contact Lifestyle Travel, 5331 8277

Making a Scene at Christmas

A display of Christmas Nativity scenes will be held in St Patrick's Hall, Ballarat from Wednesday evening December 14th – Sunday, December 18th. On display there will be more than 300 nativities from over 40 countries. Opening hours are Wednesday 6.00pm – 8.00pm, Thursday and Friday 10.00am – 5.00pm; Saturday 10.00am – 8.00pm and Sunday 9.00am – 7.00pm. The organising committee (Vin Dillon, Fr Andrew Hayes, Anita Houlihan, Bernadette Lynch, Fiona Tonkin) would like to hear from anyone who is willing to loan a nativity scene for display, in particular cribs from other cultures, previous eras or which 'have a story' would be most welcome. Security guaranteed. If you are able to assist please leave your name in the office.

Discernment retreat for young women

Nazareth House Ballarat, 7.00 pm Friday 2nd to 2.00 pm Sunday 4th December, with Fr Joseph Chua
OSCO Cost is by donation Register by 25th November, 2016 srlinh@hotmail.com or 0450 355 014

St Vincent de Paul Piety Shop

Christmas Card packs - St Vincent de Paul & Majellan, Columban Calendars are now available.

Holy Hour for Vocations

Thursday 24th November 7.00 pm - 8.00 pm at Nazareth House Chapel. All are welcome.

Counters 20th November Team 1 Next week Team 2

Stewardship Envelopes

Many thanks to all parishioners who pledge to make a regular financial contribution to the Cathedral Parish. New envelopes are available for collection in the south transept, please note that they are in **numerical** order. Please collect yours. For those who would like to join to make a regular financial contribution to the "planned giving" please contact the Parish Office.

An Invitation to join a combined Choir for Carols in the Cathedral

The Service of Carols will take place in our Cathedral on Friday December 23rd from 7.30 pm. In addition to various choirs singing, a combined choir will be formed. To prepare, rehearsals have been scheduled at St Patrick's College on the following days commencing at 5.00 pm - - 27th of November 27th, December 4th, 11th & 18th. Parishioners welcome to join the combined choir.



The Diocesan Ecological Sustainability Group (ECOS)

Good education plants seeds when we are young, and these continue to bear fruit throughout life" (LS 213.) By encouraging our children to care for God's creation as they demonstrate respect for animals, plants and each other, our future is being placed in loving hands.

Reflection : John Thurnhill

The Church's year is closing; and we look towards the glorious consummation of God's plan for creation – when the Saviour will 'hand over the kingdom to God the Father' (1 Cor 15:24), having triumphed over all evil, and (as our second reading puts it) 'made peace by the blood of his cross'.

Let us not be put off by the fact that in today's world, 'kings and queens' are no more than symbolic figures. Today we are invited to rejoice in the fact that we have the one 'in whom all things were made' as our leader. The incident remembered in our first reading – when the tribal chiefs of old Israel proclaimed David to be their leader - reminds us how important leadership is in our life. All the best things of life, we achieve together. Good leadership makes this possible; bad leadership creates most of the world's greatest problems. Our Saviour is far more than a symbolic figure, we know; and our faith will be greatly strengthened, if we own him as the leader who can bring fulfilment to all our hopes.

'Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection; for the sake of the joy which lay ahead of him, he endured the cross, disregarding the shame of it, and has taken his seat at the right of God's throne' (Heb 12:2). This text, like our gospel reading from Luke, reminds us that all our human expectations are overturned as we come to understand how Christ the King establishes and exercises his reign. Luke's portrayal of Jesus crucified shows how well the community for which he wrote his gospel had come to appreciate this. Jesus (proclaimed 'The King of the Jews', in the inscription attached to the cross) has made himself powerless; he is rejected by 'the leaders' of the people (while 'the people', foreshadowing those who are to find faith, stand watching in silent awe); he is mocked and ridiculed by the leaders, by the brutal soldiers, and even by one of the criminals crucified with him. Ironically, their jeers give expression to what the crucified one really is - 'the Christ of God', 'the Chosen One', the 'king' the nation longs for, the one who 'saves'.

And then, as if to reduce them all to silence, the other criminal crucified with him makes his submission of faith in Jesus crucified – as the one who would fulfil the hopes of Israel: 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom'. And Jesus responds with the first pronouncement of an everlasting reign that will be shaped by the generous and merciful ways of his Father: 'I promise you, today you will be with me in paradise'.

The first Christians were to glory in the reign of Christ – so different from the ruthless regimes of their familiar world. In today's reading from the letter to the Colossians, we have a hymn from their early liturgies, celebrating the Saviour whose leadership 'holds all things in unity'.