

# St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat

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4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent (A)

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2016



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

[ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto: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



## Fourth Sunday of Advent

*Lighting of the fourth candle - the Angels' candle*

**Presider:** God our Father, may the light that Jesus your Son brings to us all, dispel any darkness in our lives and make us aglow with the light of his Spirit. We make this prayer in Jesus' name.

Amen

*The angels have a special place in the Scriptures. They announced the birth of Jesus, first to Mary, then to the shepherds, after which they sang their song of praise: "Glory to God in the highest".*

*Wait in joyful hope, a Saviour will come, Jesus Christ, the light of the world.*

*Wait in joyful hope, a Saviour will come. Welcome to the Word of God.*

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## Clergy Appointments

Bishop Paul has appointed Fr James Kerr as Assistant Priest to the Sunraysia Parishes of Mildura, Merbein and Red Cliffs. Fr James has been with us at the Cathedral for the past three years, beginning his ministry as a priest. We thank Fr James for his ministry with us.

Fr Peter Sherman has been appointed Parish Priest of St Alipius' Parish Ballarat East and Buninyong, replacing Fr Adrian McInerney who is retiring in January. The appointment of a Parish Priest to serve the Parishes of OLHC Wendouree and St Columba's Ballarat North is yet to be made.

## Christmas Mass Times

### Christmas Eve (Saturday)

6.00pm	Ballarat East
6.00pm	Ballarat Nth
6.00pm	Clarkes Hill
6.00pm	Redan
6.00pm	Skipton
6.00pm	Springbank
6.00pm	Wendouree
<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Cathedral</b>
7.00pm	Buninyong
7.30pm	Gordon
7.30pm	Sebastopol
7.30pm	Smythesdale
8.00pm	Ballan
8.00pm	Ballarat Nth
8.00pm	Beaufort
8.00pm	Learmonth
9.00pm	Ballarat East
<b>9.00pm</b>	<b>Cathedral</b>
9.00pm	Redan
9.00pm	Rokewood
9.00pm	Snake Valley
9.00pm	Wendouree
10.00pm	Bungaree

### 12Midnight Cathedral

### Christmas Day (Sunday)

<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Cathedral</b>
9.00am	Ballarat East
9.00am	Ballarat Nth
9.00am	Linton
9.00am	Redan
9.00am	Sebastopol
9.00am	Waubra
9.00am	Wendouree
9.30am	Dunnstown
<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Cathedral</b>
10.30am	St John of God
<b>12.00pm</b>	<b>Cathedral</b>
	(Syro-Malabar Rite Indian Mass)

**Recent Deaths:** Thelma Bogers, Gwen Calf, Tony Debono, Teresa Kingston

**Anniversaries:** Ian Bartlett, Fr Raphael Beltrame, Frank Giuliano, Sheila Veronica Gregory, Eileen O'Donnell, Michael Mennen, Mary Sheen, Maude Smith, Frank Tagiabue,

### We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Leo Alexander McGregor son of Rhys & Katie  
Hamish Patrick McVeigh son of Lachlan & Renee  
May they grow in faith in their loving families and our Catholic Community.



### Christmas Mass Rosters

Thank you to those who have offered to serve in ministries.

We have vacancies for Christmas Eve Masses:

9.00pm – Welcoming, Midnight – Welcoming & Extraordinary Ministers  
Christmas Day 8.00am – Welcomers, 10.30am - Readers, Extraordinary Ministers & Welcoming. If you are available please put your name on the sheet in the south transept.

### Making a Scene at Christmas

A display of Christmas Nativity scenes will be held in St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, this weekend.

### Working Bee

To prepare the Cathedral for the Christmas celebrations a working bee will be held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December following 12.05 pm Mass. All assistance will be greatly appreciated. All welcome!

### Carols in the Cathedral

The Service of Carols will take place in our Cathedral on Friday December 23<sup>rd</sup> from 7.30 pm.

Music by: Regina Caeli Choristers, St Patrick's Cathedral Choir, Vox Vocal Ensemble, Victoria Welsh Male Choir, Creswick Brass Band, Guest organist – Mr Leigh Askew, Christ the King, Anglican Cathedral Choir Ballarat. Bishop Paul Bird will preside at the Service.

**Counters** 18<sup>th</sup> December Team 5

## **Cathedral Office Closed**

The Parish office will be closed from Friday December 23<sup>rd</sup> until Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> of January.

## **OLHC Parish Wendouree Christmas Day Lunch**

12.00 Midday -2.00pm (Meal at 12.30pm) OLHC Parish Hall 482 Gillies St. Wendouree

Book Early as numbers are limited. Phone 0419 975 914

**St Vincent de Paul Piety Shop** Christmas Card packs & Columban Calendars are now available

## **Christmas Appeal 2016**

Our Christmas Appeal is one way by which the Ballarat Diocese can respond to the many communities around the world who turn to us for assistance. Often these requests come from priests and religious who have bonds with the diocese of Ballarat. Our response is an indication of our solidarity with people in need, such as those affected by natural disasters. Bishop Paul commends the Christmas Appeal to us and is aware that there are many times throughout the year when you are invited to respond to appeals for very worthy causes, but hopes the Ballarat Diocese can continue to support this particular appeal. Last year the appeal collected **\$48,000** which has been distributed to Loreto Vietnam, St Columbans Mission Society, Caritas, Catholic Mission, Refugees in the Middle East, Catholic Education in Myanmar, Aboriginal Catholic ministry, Australian Catholic Religious against trafficking in humans, Edmund Rice Centre, Nazareth House, Wendouree West Exodus Community and the 3BA Christmas Appeal.

There will be a of leaving collections after each of the Christmas Masses

## **Masses during the coming week**

Monday 12.05 pm Cathedral

Tuesday 12.05 pm Cathedral 5.30 pm Loreto Sisters

Wednesday 12.05 pm Cathedral

Thursday 9.30am Redan 11.30 am St John of God 12.05 pm Cathedral

Friday 9.30am Sebastopol 12.05 pm Cathedral

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

On Tuesday morning, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 11.00 am, parishioners who are involved in ministries of service for the Cathedral parish are invited to morning tea in the dining room of the Cathedral presbytery. This gathering is open to all and is an expression of our gratitude to all for their generosity and service. To assist with catering, please phone Jacinta in the Parish office if you are intending to come.

This past week in the Cathedral Parish we have celebrated many events, which like those highlighted last weekend, emphasise great service and generosity that is part of our being the Cathedral Parish in the midst of the City of Ballarat. The concert on Wednesday evening with David Hobson and Georgia Wilkinson brought more than 500 people into our precinct for this wonderful Christmas event. Making a Scene at Christmas (MASAC), the display of over 300 Nativity scenes that is happening in the Cathedral hall this weekend reminds us of the centrality of Christ at Christmas and the diversity of cultural expressions of the incarnation.

Our own community has celebrated another end of school year Mass with St Thomas More Alfredton celebrating the end of year Mass in the Cathedral on Tuesday evening. This year there have been over 440 students enrolled at St Thomas More with over 50 graduating Year 6 students. After the 10.30 am Mass last weekend (December 12<sup>th</sup>) morning tea was offered in the smaller Cathedral hall with many offering to ensure that this monthly event will continue on the first Sunday of the month in 2017. This highlights both the importance of hospitality in building a community of faith and the need to build teams of parishioners who are willing to work together to offer such hospitality. The Mass at Kallara Special Accommodation in Cuthberts Rd Alfredton on Wednesday morning was an extraordinary celebration of faith with the residents who gather each Sunday with our Cathedral ministers of holy communion. Our thanks to Bev Caligari, Francis Elliott, Max Smith, Trudie Dickinson and Yvonne Beaston who have committed to this ministry on our behalf at Kallara. Other parishioners ensure that those in their homes who are no longer able to attend Mass at the Cathedral are able to share in Holy Communion each Sunday. We thank Lorraine Stuart, Di Hanlon Julie Flett and Sharon Moss who are part of this ministry.

Each Sunday after 8.00 am Mass Dorothy Ludwell ministers Holy Communion to the Catholic residents at Gandarra, while Heather Miles goes to the Peter Heinz Centre, Talbot Place. Fr James will celebrate Mass there this week. The celebration of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Rite of Reconciliation on Thursday evening which developed the theme of peace as we prepare the celebration of the Prince of Peace is also an important sacramental preparation for Christmas. The final gathering for Soulfood was held on Friday evening at which our young adults gathered as they have regularly through the year for prayer, reflection and faith sharing.

The wedding of Alicia McGrath and Brad Shilton on Saturday afternoon will be the final wedding celebrated in the Cathedral for 2016. We ask God's blessing on them as they begin their married life together. All of these events, gatherings, meetings and ministries highlight the importance of people in the Cathedral Parish who are seeking to do what Pope Francis says that a parish is called to do. In his Apostolic Exhortation *The Joy of the Gospel* he says "*The parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an environment for hearing God's word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration. In all its activities the parish encourages and trains its members to be evangelizers. It is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a centre of constant missionary outreach.*"