

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat

www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com

Solemnity of Mary Holy Mother of God (A)
Sunday 1st January 2017



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

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Cathedral Parish Masses	January 8 th	Skipton	Beaufort	Snake Valley		
6.30 pm Vigil,	8.00 am,	10.30 am,	5.00 pm	6 .30 pm Vigil	8.30am	10.30 am

Masses in the Cathedral this week

Monday	10.00 am Cathedral (Public Holiday)	Tuesday – Friday	12.05 pm
Saturday	10.00am Cathedral		

Non-Violence: A Style of Politics for Peace

Pope Francis announced the theme for the 50th World Day of Peace (1st January 2017) as Non-Violence: A Style of Politics for Peace. Violence and Peace are at the origin of two opposite ways to building society. The proliferation of hotbeds of violence produces most serious negative social consequences. The Holy Father sums up this situation in the expression: "A Third World War in Pieces". Peace, by contrast, promotes social positive consequences and it allows the achievement of real progress. Therefore, we should act within what is possible, and negotiate ways of peace even where they seem tortuous and impractical. Thus, non-violence can acquire a more comprehensive and new meaning. It will not only consist of desire, of moral rejection of violence, barriers, destructive impulses, but also of a realistic political method that gives rise to hope. Such a political method is based on the primacy of law. If the rights and the equal dignity of every person are safeguarded without any discrimination and distinction, then non-violence, understood as a political method, can constitute a realistic way to overcome arm conflicts. In this perspective, it becomes important to increasingly recognize not the right of force but the force of right. With this Message, Pope Francis wants to show a further step, a path of hope, appropriate to today's historical circumstances. In this way, the settlement of disputes may be reached through negotiation without then degenerating into armed conflict. Within such a perspective the culture and identity of Peoples are respected and the opinion that some are morally superior to others is overcome. At the same time, however, it does not mean that one Nation can remain indifferent to the tragedies of another. Rather it means a recognition of the primacy of diplomacy over the noise of arms. Arms trade is so widespread that it is generally underestimated. Illegal arms trafficking supports not a few world's conflicts. Non-violence as a political style can and must do much to stem this scourge.



Recent Deaths: Dulcie Bottel, Tom Donohue, Mary Duggan, Andrew Hartwig, Maisie Lamb, Samantha McArthur, Laurie O'Shannassy

Anniversaries: Benjamin Broadribb, Stanislaw Lewshkewicz, Elizabeth Jane Lewis, Edna Rose Merrick, Kathleen Myers, Nancy Nugent, Maude Smith, Val Wood

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Ivy Rose Dorning daughter of Jonathan & Maggie

Aria Rose Seater daughter of Grant & Eliza

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



Farewell and thank you from Fr James

When I was asked by Bishop Paul to begin ministry here three years ago, I must admit I couldn't believe my luck. To be back in my home town where my vocation was nurtured was a real honour, and to work with and for so many families that I had grown up with was a great start to life as a priest. I'm very thankful of the opportunities I've had to minister here and I'll certainly miss serving in the parishes of Ballarat, Beaufort and Linton.

I would like to thank Fr Justin for entrusting me with the chaplaincies at St Patrick's College, ACU and St Thomas More, as well as with the various youth and young adult groups in our parish. He was very supportive of my work within these groups and communities and generous in the time he allowed me to give to them. I would also like to thank Fr Anthony and Fr Sajan who have been such good men to live with and fine examples of priestly life. I also need to thank in a special way our parish staff for the great work they do, as well as those staff and volunteers I have worked alongside in my chaplaincy work. I'm also indebted to all those who generously serve the parish community through the various ministries and volunteer groups; if I tried to list you all I'd end up listing half the Parish!

I've had many occasions of late to say how supportive our parishioners are of their priests. So for your many kind words, your hospitality and your prayers; thank you. Thank you too for your many and varied examples of faithfully living out our baptismal call to holiness. Your witness certainly encourages and strengthens me in serving you as a priest.

Finally, on a personal note, our family is very thankful of the tremendous support we received after the loss of my nephew Hugh earlier this year. For your ongoing prayers and consideration for my sister and her family; thank you. For those who prepared meals for her; thank you. For those who made the journey to Mornington to help us bury Hugh, thank you. It was a great help to our family to know that there were so many in support and we were certainly carried by the many prayers. Fr Mick McKinnon has been very generous in our arrangement of a starting date in Mildura. I will move up there on the 19th of January. I look forward to working with him serving the people of the Sunraysia District. I'll also be investing in a good hat.

(Offerings for a farewell gift for Fr James can be placed on the collection plate marked Fr James)

