

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat

www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com

19th March 2017



Parish Office hours

Monday - Friday 10 am – 5.00 pm

Phone 5331 2933

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au



Bishop Paul Bird CSsR, Priests, Frs Justin Driscoll, 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 March 25th/26th
6.30 pm Vigil, 8.00 am, 10.30 am, 5.00 pm **Snake Valley** 6.30 pm Vigil **Beaufort** 8.30am **Skipton** 10.30 am

Masses during the coming week

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|-----------|----------|------------|----------|--|
| Monday | 12.05pm | Cathedral | | |
| Tuesday | 12.05 pm | Cathedral | | |
| Wednesday | 9.30 am | Sebastopol | 12.05 pm | Cathedral |
| Thursday | 9.30 am | Redan | 11.30am | St John of God 12.05 pm Cathedral |
| Friday | 9.30 am | Sebastopol | 12.05pm | Cathedral |
| Saturday | 10.00 am | 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

Stations of the Cross Wednesdays 11.15 am in English and on Fridays at 6.30 pm
(with Fr Sajan and the Syro Malabar community, in Malayalam)

Fridays in Lent

The law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled through any of the following:

- (a) **Prayer:** for example, Mass attendance; family prayer, a visit to a church or chapel, reading the Bible, the Stations of the Cross, praying the rosary...
- (b) **Self-denial:** for example, not eating meat, not eating sweets or desserts, reducing time for watching TV or other entertainments (digital detox?).
- (c) **Helping others** for example, taking the family to visit the elderly, visiting the sick or someone who is lonely.

Recent Deaths: Pat O'Halloran, Jeffrey Page

Anniversaries: Olivia Banks, June Blaby, Ivan Dean, Noelene Fletcher, Alwyn Harbott, William & Charlotte Holmes, Antonio Lagoa, Mary Lee, Glenn Loader, Fr. Angelo O'Hagan, Peter Reidy, Patricia Scanlon

Next week's readings: Sunday March 26th 2017

4th Sunday of Lent (A)

1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13

Ps 22 R. v.1

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Jimmy Alexander Richardson

son of Troy & Leonie

Jack William Cavill

son of Rhys & Alyssa

Cruz David Stanford

son of Aaron & Natalie

Phillip Jay Whelan

son of Jacob & Samantha



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

The RCIA Journey Continues

This Sunday at the 5.00 pm Mass our members of the Elect, Vasudha Gill, Kate Godfrey, Jade Martin-Lench and Daska Saleeba will take part in the First Scrutiny and receive the Creed.

We ask you to continue to support our baptised candidates, Kellie Constable, Bradley Harris, Bronwyn Illingworth, Andrea Romeo and Kris Scott as they continue their journey to full reception into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil.

Feedback from the draft concepts for the Cathedral garden

Many thanks to all who have offered feedback which the precinct team have collated and offer for all to see the many and varied comments relating to the draft concept of the garden to be an **Oasis of Mercy** that will foster healing and reconciliation. Copies available and on display in the transept.

Lent & Holy Week in the Cathedral Parish

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|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Tuesday March 26 th | 7.00 pm | Children's 1 st Celebration of Reconciliation |
| Thursday March 28 th | 7.00 pm | Children's 1 st Celebration of Reconciliation |
| Wednesday April 5 th | 12.05 pm | Anointing Mass & Lunch |
| Thursday April 6 th | 7.00 pm | Parish 2 nd Rite of Reconciliation |
| Monday April 10 th | 6.30 pm | Mass of the Oils |
| Wednesday April 12 th | 7.00 pm | Tenebrae |
| Thursday April 13 th | 7.00 pm | Holy Thursday Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper |
| Friday April 14 th | 3.00 pm | Good Friday Celebration of the Lord's Passion |
| Saturday April 15 th | 10.00 am | RCIA Preparation Rites |
| | 7.00 pm | Easter Vigil |
| Sunday April 16 th | 8.00 am, 10.30 am, 5.00 pm & 6.30 pm (Syro Malabar) Easter Sunday | |

Choir for Mass of the Oils 2017

Singers and musicians are invited to join the music group which is being formed for this Mass, 6.30pm Monday April 10th. Practice times will be advised. Please contact Julie Boyd in the Pastoral Ministry Office to register your interest julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au

First Spiritual Exercises (of St Ignatius) retreat in Daily Life

24th April – 20th May 2017 here in Ballarat.

A Jesuit Tertian priest, Fr Robbie Sian (from Cebu in the Philippines), together with Doreen Roache will be leading this retreat that is open to all - Men and Women; Young and Old; Married or Singles... It is designed for people just like you. The retreat allows you to continue your ordinary daily life with its usual round of going to work, caring for the family or whatever is the shape of your busy life. The retreat will guide your prayer and reflection on life within your daily routine. For more details contact Jacinta in the Cathedral Office 5331 2933 (10am – 5.00 pm).

Syro Malabar Retreat

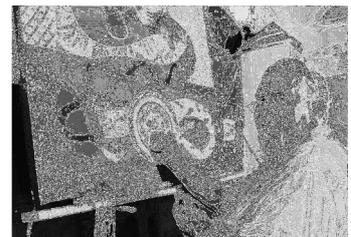
Our prayers are with our Syro Malabar community for their days of retreat, Tuesday – Thursday



Third Sunday of Lent
19th March 2017



Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation offers Uncle Richard and other former Stolen Generations survivors the chance to heal after a childhood of suffering, and manage the intergenerational effects of their pain.



Please donate to Project Compassion 2017 and help members of the Stolen Generations support each other on the journey to wellbeing.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning

1800 024 413.

Child Safety Standards

New state government legislation has come into effect with the New Year which sets standards for child safety. The Cathedral parish has appointed Mr Jess Salazar as our Safeguarding officer and have a [Child Safety Policy](#) to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children in our care.

A [Child Safety Code of Conduct](#) has been adopted for all who work with children in the Parish.

Legion of Mary

The Acies Ceremony, Consecration to Our Blessed Mother will be held on Saturday 25th March, after 10.00am Mass, followed by light refreshments in St Patrick's Small Hall.

All are welcome to participate.

Pre-School Easter Celebration

You are invited to St Patrick's Cathedral Preschool Easter celebration. A fun filled morning of Easter crafts, singing, story time, Easter egg hunt, and socializing with other families. Please bring a plate of morning tea, to be shared with children and parents (nut-free food is greatly appreciated) St. Patrick's Hall, Thursday 30th March 10am- 12noon.

Reflecting on John 4:5-42

Veronica Lawson RSM

Those privileged to act as catechists in the RCIA program over the Lenten period will be introducing the candidates to some of our most treasured gospel stories. In 1963, Vatican II's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy called for the restoration of certain early Church practices. The two main features of Lent, baptism and penance, were to be given greater emphasis in the liturgy and in liturgical catechesis. More use was to be made of the baptismal elements proper to the Lenten liturgy. Some features that were part of an earlier tradition were to be restored. In response to this call, John's stories of the Samaritan woman, the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus were moved from the weekday to the Sunday liturgy. Thus, three weeks into Lent, the liturgy invites us to take a faith journey in the company of a courageous outsider, an unnamed woman from a despised religious group.

A woman of Samaria comes to draw water from the well of Jacob, Israel's great ancestor in faith. She belongs in a long line of women whose lot as women is to undertake the burdensome, often dangerous, daily toil of carrying water so that their families might simply survive. Jesus asks the woman for a drink and elicits a bewildered response. Her response, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?", provides the opportunity for Jesus to move into an extended and constantly deepening exchange in which the woman proves herself a knowledgeable and worthy dialogue partner. The pursuit of water, a key baptismal symbol in the gospel tradition, provides the catalyst for her journey to faith in Jesus as the Messiah or Christ and her engagement in the mission of proclaiming the good news to her people. Commentators tend to focus on the woman's marital status, usually in negative terms. Because she has had five husbands, many presume that she is a sinner although there is nothing in the text to support this position. Successive husbands may have died. Financial, religious or societal constraints may have functioned in her decision to remarry. The "husbands" may refer to the strange gods that claimed the allegiance of the Samaritans. There is no consensus among scholars.

At the outset, the woman views Jesus simply as a Jew who breaks with established custom by asking her for water. She comes to accept him as the provider of living water. Jesus understands her life story and opens up the way for her to accept him as a prophet. She risks sharing her own convictions about the locus of worship and is gifted with new understanding and Jesus' further self-disclosure. She leaves her water jar behind and brings others to faith in Jesus as Messiah and saviour of the world.