

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat

www.stpatricscathedral.weebly.com

7th May 2017

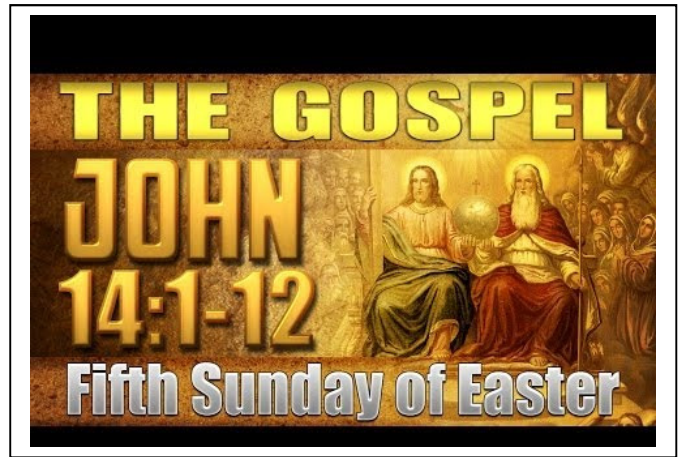


Parish Office hours

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	20th/21st May	Smythesdale	Skipton	Rokewood
6.30 pm Vigil, 8.00 am, 10.30 am, 5.00 pm		6.30 pm Vigil	9.00am	10.30 am

Masses during the coming week

Monday	10.30 am	Cathedral (Funeral Mass)
Tuesday	12.05 pm	Cathedral
Wednesday	12 Noon	ACU Aquinas, 12.05 pm Cathedral
Thursday	9.30 am	Redan 11.30 am St John of God 12.05 pm Cathedral
Friday	9.30 am	Sebastopol 12.05 pm Cathedral 5.00 pm Catholic Ed.
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

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

The Rosary is prayed in the Cathedral at 11.15 am Wednesday – Friday

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena - 7.00 pm each Wednesday evening at Nazareth House and prayers on the 1st & 3rd Friday in the Cathedral at 11.00 am.

First Saturday Devotion to Our Lady - 10.30 am in the Cathedral

Next week's readings: Sunday May 21st 2017

6th Sunday of Easter (A,)

Acts 6:1-7

Ps 32:1-2. 4-5. 18-19. R. v.22

1 Peter 3:15-18

John 14:15-21

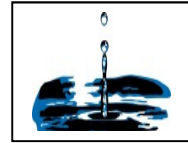
Recent Deaths: Wendy Shea, Dominic Varghese

The Funeral Mass for Emma-Kate McGrath will be held on Monday at 10.30 am (no 12.05 pm Mass)

Anniversaries: Elena Bucovaz, Ellen Fay, Bet Madden, Vin Madden, Kathleen Mary Martin,
Leon Patrick Martin, Thomas & Francis McGuinness, Tom Rees

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Mackenzie Kay Nolan	daughter of Paul & Andrea
Oscar Bennett Collins	son of Matthew & Ashlee
Oliver Paul Canny	son of Timothy & Monica
Jordan Reid Sim	son of William & Annabel



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

Formation of a Pastoral Council for the Cathedral Parish

[A Pastoral Council](#) consists of the Pastor together with a group of parishioners chosen by the parish community. The Pastoral Council's role is to promote the Church's mission to live and communicate the love and values of Christ in our world. The Pastoral Council shares in the responsibility for the ongoing life and development of the faith community, working together with parishioners to provide support for their efforts to live as followers of Christ. During the Easter season, Cathedral parishioners are invited to nominate to become members of the Council which will be convened in June 2017. The [handbook for Parish Councils](#) from the Archdiocese of Brisbane will guide the formation of our Council – please go the parish office for details.

Charismatic Prayer Group

7.00 pm each Tuesday in the front meeting room of the Cathedral Hall. Contact 0408341911.

First Spiritual Exercises (of St Ignatius) retreat in Daily Life 24th April – 20th May (in Ballarat)

The retreat will conclude this week with the final gatherings to be held on Monday May 15th.

Thank you to Doreen Roache for facilitating this retreat with Fr Robbie Sian SJ. Farewell Fr Robbie.

Bishop Peter Connors 30th Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination

Mass will be celebrated next Sunday, May 21st in St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 10.30am with Bishop Peter as celebrating and Bishop Paul in attendance. Morning Tea will follow. All welcome.

“What does it mean to be Mercy Associate?”

The Ballarat Mercy Associates warmly welcome any interested women and men to a reflection session on, “*What does it mean to be an Associate?*” 10.00am -2.00pm Saturday, May 20th with Sr Karon Donnellon rsm. Convent of Mercy Ballarat East, enter from Gent Street. A light lunch will be served. For catering purposes please advise of any allergies or dietary requirements by Monday, May 15th to 5332 8039 or 0439 355 826.

Alpha in a Catholic Context

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that explores the Christian faith for adults. It is a parish tool for evangelisation based on welcome and hospitality, sharing and prayer. Each session includes a talk and small group discussion, where no question is too simple and no answer prepackaged. Participants are welcomed into a relaxed and friendly setting and have the opportunity to get to know one another. Within the group, we learn the art of listening, reading the Scriptures and praying. Alpha will be offered again in 2017 in the Cathedral Parish but a different format from different locations and has younger presenters as well as Nicky Gumbel. There are also interviews with several leading Catholics, including Fr Raniero Cantamalessa & Cardinal Schonborn. The link for a preview is <http://australia.alpha.org/watch/>. For those interested in being part of this adult faith opportunity – contact the Parish Office. Alpha will be offered in our Parish over the coming months which will be conducted on Thursday evenings in the smaller hall at the Cathedral.

Budget 2017: Fairness and compassion should be the cornerstone of our society

Fairness and compassion should be the cornerstone of our society. How we treat our poorest and most vulnerable is a measure of our commitment to a fair and just society. Archbishop Denis Hart, President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference said, the Catholic Bishops welcome the government's commitment to fully fund the **National Disability Insurance Scheme** and its housing measures to help people secure more **affordable housing**. The Bishops acknowledge the government's decision to remove earlier measures from the 2014-15 budget that may have affected families and the vulnerable in our society. For **those on the very margins** of our society, especially those with no prospect of meaningful work, the budget offers no new hope. *'A lack of regard for the poor and marginalised alienates them from society rather than allowing them to participate fully within it,'* Archbishop Hart said. In relation to education, the Bishops acknowledge the overall increase in funding, including to **Catholic schools**. The Bishops however remain concerned about some of the changes to the funding model. These changes are generating uncertainty and confusion among parents who send their children to Catholic schools, and among school leaders. The changes may over time impact adversely on the affordability and even the viability of many Catholic Schools, especially in some States. This uncertainty could be resolved by greater ongoing consultation with the National Catholic Education Commission. With regards to **health**, any individual with advanced terminal disease should be considered particularly vulnerable and deserves access to affordable, **high quality end of life care**. *'While the Bishops support the \$8.3 million investment over three years in palliative care services in the home, much more needs to be done,'* Archbishop Hart said. The Bishops endorse the government's decision to allocate funds for the establishment of the **National Redress Scheme for victims of child sexual abuse** in institutions to which the Catholic Church has already committed. We call on all State and Territory governments to participate in this important initiative. *'Further diminishment of Australian foreign aid funding is a step away from our international responsibility to developing countries.'*

Collections Envelopes \$1,790.00 Parish Loose \$396.50 Presbytery \$1,772.90
Counters 14th May Team 5 Next week team 6 Thank you to all contributors and counters.
Donation from the Gentle Dove Prayer Group \$50, Thankyou

Mass Count continues this weekend May 6th – 7th

The Annual Diocesan Mass Count will take place over the 4 weekends of May commencing on the weekend of May 6th – 7th at each of the four Masses celebrated each weekend.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSS

The gospel readings for the Sundays just before the feast of Pentecost are all taken from Jesus' last discourse in the Gospel of John. In them, Jesus prepares his followers for his death and resurrection and his ultimate exaltation.

This Sunday Jesus says that it is through his death that he goes to God. However, it is as he is raised up in crucifixion that he is exalted. The author of the epistle declares him 'chosen and precious in the sight of God' but it is as the stone that was rejected that he is so honoured. If we ever wonder how the exaltation of Jesus will effect us, we have Jesus' own words of explanation. He promises to go ahead of us and make arrangements for us to share in his exaltation in the house of the one he calls Father. All we need do is follow him.

Today's readings suggest that the exaltation of Jesus is most dramatically manifested in the character of the community of those called by his name. It is revealed in the way Christians settle their differences so that all parties are treated fairly. Jesus is the cornerstone upon which this community is built, and the community mirrors his influence in its life. Christians also participate in the exaltation of Jesus by spreading the good news to others. In Acts we see how the witness of life and the preaching of the word of God increased the number of believers.

A Prayer for Mothers

All-loving God, we give you thanks and praise for mothers young and old.

We pray for young mothers, who give life and count toes and tend to our every need; May they be blessed with patience and tenderness to care for their families and themselves with great joy. We pray for our own mothers who have nurtured and cared for us; May they continue to guide us in strong and gentle ways.

We remember mothers who are separated from their children because of war, poverty, or conflict; May they feel the loving embrace of our God who wipes every tear away.

We pray for women who are not mothers but still love and shape us with motherly care and compassion.

We remember mothers, grandmothers, and great-grandmothers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen