

# St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat

[www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com](http://www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com)

30<sup>th</sup> July 2017

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)



Parish Office hours  
Phone 5331 2933

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR, Priests, Frs Justin Driscoll, Anthony Nagothu, Sajan Mathew  
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	5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup> August	Smythesdale	Linton	Skipton
5.30 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	12.05pm	Cathedral		
Tuesday	12.05pm	Cathedral		
Wednesday	12 Noon	ACU Aquinas	12.05pm	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
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

**Next week's readings:** Sunday August 6<sup>th</sup> 2017

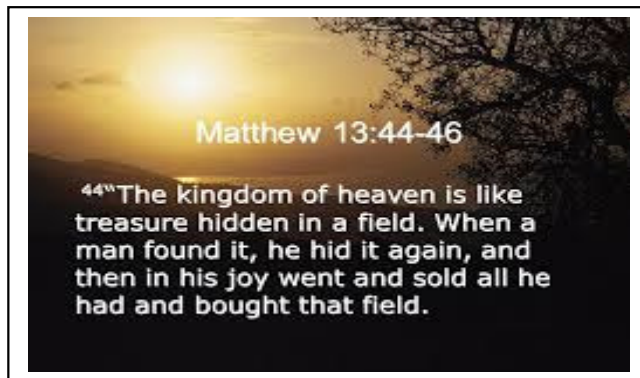
Daniel 7:9-10. 13-14 Ps 96:1-2. 5-6. 9. R. vv.1. 9.

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (A,)

2 Peter 1:16-19 Matthew 17:1-9

## Alpha Adult Faith Opportunity

Each Thursday evening, 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm you are invited to join with others to explore your own adult faith. The Alpha format is very accessible, involving a 25 minute presentation on some aspect of our faith which is followed by small group conversation, then some whole group reflection and prayer. Some of those who are inquiring into the Catholic Church and who will join the RCIA have joined the Alpha experience together with existing Catholics at every stage of the faith journey.



Tuesday - Friday 10 am – 5.00 pm  
[ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Recent Deaths:** Dave Carter, Sr Lucilla Prendiville (St John of God Sister, Perth) Ken Ryan  
**Anniversaries:** Marie Britt, Sheila Driscoll, Paschal Farren, Bill Heagney, Michael Kucina, Teresa Mitris, Noreen Sherritt

**Parish Office Closed** on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> of July.

### **Confirmation Preparation Program**

Children who are in year 3 or older and who have been baptised Catholic are now invited to enrol in the Confirmation preparation program. There will be a parent information/enrolment session held on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2017** in the small hall of St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Hall, **10.00 am or 7.00 pm**. It is an expectation that a parent/guardian attends the information/enrolment session as part of your commitment in supporting your child through the Confirmation program. Please contact Anita Houlihan, Family Ministry Coordinator at the Parish Office on 53 312933 on Tuesdays & Wednesdays 9.00 am – 3.30 pm, email anytime on [anita.houlihan@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:anita.houlihan@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or phone the parish office: Monday – Friday 10.00 am – 5.00 pm

### **Preparing for Baptism**

Clergy, Staff & Baptism Coordinators from the Parishes St. Columba's Ballarat North, Our Lady Help of Christians Wendouree, St. Alipius Ballarat East, St. Patrick's Cathedral, St. Aloysius Redan and St. James' Sebastopol have been meeting to discuss the centralisation of the Baptism preparation process. Commencing on the **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> August at 10.00 am & 7.00 pm** and monthly thereafter on the first Thursday of each month, all families wishing to have their children (under 7) baptised will be invited to attend these preparation sessions at St. Patrick's Cathedral. For any enquiries please contact Anita or Jacinta in the Parish office. A meeting of the Cathedral Parish Baptism Sponsors will be held at 6.15 pm on Wednesday July 26th in the Parish office.

The celebrations of the sacrament of baptism will continue to include the first part of the Rite of Baptism being celebrated during a Sunday Mass with the Rite of Naming, Signing of the Cross and the Profession of Faith (the Creed) with the remainder of the Rite celebrated after Mass.

### **Partnership with St Vincent de Paul**

The Cathedral Parish has recently entered into a partnership with the Society of St Vincent de Paul (North West Central Council) for the redevelopment of the downstairs rooms at the front of St Patrick's Cathedral Hall in Dawson St. The recently appointed community development worker Danielle Peters and Administrative services officer Emma Robertson will be based in one of the rooms while the other will be a room for professional development and ongoing learning. Redevelopment of this area will commence in August, costing approximately \$100,000. This partnership is in addition to the St Vincent de Paul Assistance Centre.

**Catholic Women's League meeting**, Wednesday August 2<sup>nd</sup> 1.30 pm in the Cathedral Presbytery

## **Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide Proposals**

In April this year, the Catholic bishops of Victoria published a pastoral letter in response to proposals to introduce legislation allowing euthanasia and assisted suicide. As a follow-up to that letter, you are encouraged to write to parliamentarians to express your opposition to such legislation.

***When Life Is Ending. Discussing Dying, Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia*** written by Dr Carol Ong is available to inform us. She writes that *"Instead of providing the option to end life, we need to focus on the merits of end of life care and planning, and on making continuous improvements in these areas. There is much to be done to ensure that everyone in our community can die well."*

### **How to defeat the proposed euthanasia bill**

Euthanasia is when a doctor, not an illness, kills a patient but it not only kills the patient, it also kills good medical care and remember euthanasia is not part of palliative care. Palliative Care is merciful care for people approaching their death. Euthanasia is premeditated killing.

You are invited to act before legislation comes before the Parliament of Victoria in early August 2017.

- Write a short letter to your MP stating your objection to the proposed legislation.
- You could also phone your MP asking for an appointment to discuss the proposed legislation.

### **Some points you may like to make**

- The Victorian Government should be spending its time tackling important issues like law and order, not pursuing radical social policies like euthanasia.
- Euthanasia turns doctors into life takers and patients into victims. It completely distorts the patient/doctor relationship and undermines the essential trust at the heart of the relationship.
- The Government used to stand for protecting society's most vulnerable, but now they are putting their very lives at risk.
- Assisted suicide sends a dangerous message that suicide is an acceptable response to suffering

### **Members of Parliament for the State of Victoria**

The Hon. Daniel Andrews	MLA for Mulgrave	Premier of Victoria
517A Princes Hwy	Noble Park VIC 3174	03 9548 5644 <a href="mailto:daniel.andrews@parliament.vic.gov.au">daniel.andrews@parliament.vic.gov.au</a>
The Hon Matthew Guy	MLA for Bulleen	Leader of the Opposition
Shop 30D, Bulleen Plaza	101 Manningham Road VIC	3105 03 9850 7983

[matthew.guy@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:matthew.guy@parliament.vic.gov.au)

### **Lower House MLAs in Ballarat**

Ms. Sharon Knight	MLA for Wendouree	
Ground Floor 17 Lydiard Street Nth	Ballarat Vic 3350	03 5331 1003

[sharon.knight@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:sharon.knight@parliament.vic.gov.au)

Ballarat Vic 3350	03 5331 7722	<a href="mailto:peter.crisp@parliament.vic.gov.au">peter.crisp@parliament.vic.gov.au</a>
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Mr. Geoff Howard	MLA for Buninyong	
Main Road Ballarat Vic 3350	03 5331 7722	<a href="mailto:geoff.howard@parliament.vic.gov.au">geoff.howard@parliament.vic.gov.au</a>

### **Upper House MLCs for Western Province**

Joshua William Morris MLC			
211 Dana Street	Ballarat Vic 3350	03 5332 9443	<a href="mailto:joshua.morris@parliament.vic.gov.au">joshua.morris@parliament.vic.gov.au</a>

Jaala Pulford MLC			
15 Main Road	Ballarat Vic 3350	03 5332 2405	<a href="mailto:jaala.pulford@parliament.vic.gov.au">jaala.pulford@parliament.vic.gov.au</a>

## **World Day against Trafficking in Persons - July 30<sup>th</sup>**

Human trafficking is a crime that exploits women, children and men for numerous purposes. The International Labour Organization estimates that 21 million people are victims of forced labour globally. Children make up almost a third of all human trafficking victims worldwide, according to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [Global Report on Trafficking in Persons](#). Additionally, women and girls comprise 71 per cent of human trafficking victims. In 2010, the UN General Assembly adopted the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, urging Governments worldwide to take coordinated and consistent measures to defeat this scourge. The United Nations designated **July 30<sup>th</sup> as the World Day against Trafficking in Persons**, declaring that such a day was necessary to “raise awareness of the situation of victims of human trafficking and for the promotion and protection of their rights.” This is an issue that affects people in Australia as well as round the world. You can find more info at:

<http://www.un.org/en/events/humantrafficking/index.shtml> and <https://acrath.org.au/>

## **National Vocations Awareness Week (NVAW): July 30 – August 6, 2017**

Each year in August the Church in Australia celebrates National Vocations Awareness Week (NVAW). This week is an opportunity for parishes, schools and other groups to pray for and to help young people discern their vocation from God whether that be to Marriage, Priesthood, Single Life, the Diaconate or Religious Life. This is also an opportunity to pray for those who are currently in formation in Religious Houses of Formation and our own Provincial Seminary Corpus Christi College.

## **“Gospel Leadership in Times of Chaos: the Hope of Pope Francis”**

The 13th Annual National eConference will be held on Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 10.30am-2.45pm. For the program to go <http://www.bbi.catholic.edu.au/short-courses/eConference-2017>. The econference will be offered here in Ballarat in the smaller hall at St Patrick’s Cathedral from 10.00 am, byo lunch. To register online go to <https://kvgo.com/creomedia/bbi13nationaleconference>.

## **Gospel Reflection**     *by Sr Veronica Lawson RSM*

Today’s gospel passage begins and ends with reference to treasure. It invites us to pause and name what constitutes the real “treasure” in our lives, to know our own hearts. What do we really want? Many of our contemporaries are asking that question in relation to a consumerist life-style that appropriates far more than our share of the world’s resources and leaves little time or energy for considering either the plight of our endangered planet or the needs and aspirations of those on the edge. There is a new realisation that standard of living and quality of life are far from synonymous.

Like Matthew’s community, we need to be “scribes” trained for or educated in the ways of God. We need to bring out of the treasury of our traditions “what is new and what is old”, wisely discerning what to keep and what to relinquish. Parables help to subvert our presuppositions, our ways of looking at the world. They disturb our complacency if we allow them to do so. The parables of the buried treasure and the pearl of great price remind us that gospel discipleship demands an all-embracing investment of heart and spirit. We don’t have to re-invent the wheel. We simply need to search our hearts to know where our treasure lies and join with others who show us how we might claim it for the common good of the entire Earth community.