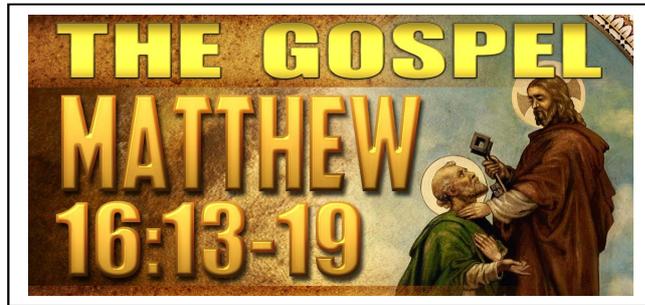


St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat

www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com

27th August 2017

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)



Parish Office hours
Phone 5331 2933

Monday - Friday 10 am – 5.00 pm
ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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	2 nd /3 rd September	Smythesdale	Linton	Skipton
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	12.05 pm	Cathedral	6.00 pm	Nazareth House (Fr Robert McCulloch)
Tuesday	12.05 pm	Cathedral	7.00 pm	Loreto College Chapel (Father's Day)
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	9.00 am	Siena @ Lucas	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

Baptism Preparation

The six parishes of Ballarat (Ballarat, Ballarat East, Ballarat North, Redan, Sebastopol and Wendouree) come together to prepare parents for the baptism of their child. Two preparation sessions are held at the Cathedral on the first Thursday of each month – 10.00 am and 7.00 pm. The next preparation session will be held on Thursday September 7th.

Saturday evening Vigil Mass - at the commencement of September, the Saturday evening Vigil Mass will be celebrated at 6.30 pm after the 3 month winter time of 5.30 pm.

Next week's readings: Sunday September 3rd 2017

Jeremiah 20:7-9 Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2 Romans 12:1-2

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A,)

Matthew 16:21-27

Recent Deaths: Lesley Bigarelli, Maree Clifton, David Griffiths, Lawrie McCartin,
Rita Madden (Funeral Mass at the Cathedral 2.30 pm Monday 28th)

Anniversaries: Rosanna Di Mattia, Malachy Hayes, Frank McAloon, Josie Micich,
Francis Reidy, Lourdes Stanislaus, Margaret Trevenen, Mary White

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Georgia, Lilley & Chloe Grace

children of Barry & Katie

Eden Joy Greenbank

daughter of Jason & Fiona

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



Some years ago the famous Italian Jesuit, Cardinal Carlo Martini, wrote:

Everything has a meaning, and this meaning is luminous and life-giving. In other words, despite the darkness of humanity's current circumstances, despite the human tragedy surrounding us, despite the trials of the Church and the well-nigh absurd situations through which the world and we ourselves have to pass, at the bottom of everything there lives a Gospel, a Gospel which assures us that there is indeed a luminous and life-giving reason for all these things, if only we know how to grasp it and let ourselves be transformed by it.

Preparing for Confirmation

This weekend at the 5.30 pm, 10.30 am and 5.00 pm Masses, the 105 children preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be dismissed after the Gospel. We welcome them, together with their families.

Dismissals for the children will occur at each of these Masses during the month of August. The dismissals will be held in the smaller hall and led by members of the parish sacrament team. It is a requirement that sacrament team members hold a current Working with Children Check. Confirmation will be celebrated over two weekends in September; 9th – 10th and 16th – 17th.

Assumption College Kilmore

Are you a former student of ACK? It will be celebrating its 125th anniversary in 2018 and there are many events being planned for former students. Please phone Maria Cleve in their Alumni office on 5783 5343 or email maria.cleve@assumption.vic.edu.au

Fatima Centenary 9 Day Novena

To celebrate the Centenary of the Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima, the Legion of Mary invite you to join a 9-day Novena commencing on Wednesday August 30th - Friday September 8th (Feast of the Nativity of Mary). A time is designated each day for Prayer in the Cathedral. Details are on the Notice Boards.

Fr Robert McCulloch (Columban Priest) visiting House

Monday, August 28th, 6.00 pm Mass in the Chapel at Nazareth House, followed by a presentation commencing at 7.00 pm "Can Christianity survive in Pakistan?" All welcome. Inquiries 0401175045.

Cathedral Parish partnership with St Vincent de Paul

Work is progressing on the upgrade of the rooms at the Dawson St end of the Cathedral hall which be leased to St Vincent de Paul North West Central Council for their development officers.

Caritas responds to the Famine in Africa affecting millions of people

The world faces the largest humanitarian crisis since the second world war with more than 20 million people facing starvation and famine. Caritas Australia, as part of the Caritas Internationalis network, has helped provide lifesaving support to over half a million people impacted by the famine. We are seeking donations to scale up our efforts and get food and water to people and communities in dire need. Please support this humanitarian effort on Social Justice Sunday September 24th. Enquiries to Sue Searls, 0409 401 329 or email sue.searls@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Catholic Women League Social Afternoon

Wednesday September 6th in the Mary Glowrey Room at St Patrick's Cathedral. Diane Colbert will present "Our children and the Media". Stall and competition. All welcome. Free entry.

Inquiries - Carmel 0401175045.

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. This past week the presentation was on *Who is the Holy Spirit?* This week's presentation is *What Does the Holy Spirit Do?*

Spiritual Care Program

A second program for parishioners engaged in pastoral ministry in its many expressions in our parishes is being offered soon. Bethany Pennington will facilitate this program on the following dates – September 20th, October 4th and 25th, November 8th and 22nd. Each of these sessions will be held in the MacKillop and Glowrey rooms in the smaller hall at the Cathedral. Parishioners engaged in Funeral ministry, Visiting, Communion to those at home or in care are welcome to participate. Spiritual Care encompasses all the ways in which attention is paid to the spiritual dimensions of life. It is most commonly offered in a one-to-one relationship, is person centered.

Please register with Jacinta in the Cathedral Parish Office by Friday September 15th.



Clergy Support Fund Annual Appeal 2017

The Ballarat Clergy Support Fund Annual Appeal will be held this weekend (August 26th – 27th) with the envelopes available. Last year, Cathedral parishioners contributed \$6753.60 of the nearly \$60,000 collected throughout the Diocese in support of the ongoing care of the 18 retired priests of the Diocese of Ballarat- thank you.

2017 Mass counts (averages across weekends in May)

6.30 pm	204	8.00 am	173	10.30 am	353	5.00 pm	317
Nazareth House	86	Syro Malabar	55	St Pat's College (Boarders)	32		
Smythesdale	34	Skipton	41	Linton	20	Snake Valley	32

Ballarat Catholic Secondary College Information evenings

Damascus College Wednesday September 6th 5.00 pm Please arrive at 4.45 pm for registration

Loreto College Tuesday October 24th 7.00pm

St Patrick's College Thursday October 26th 7.30 pm Please register <https://www.trybooking.com/RCPH>

"Deësis: Prayer and Image" Exhibition

This exhibition is dedicated to the role of icons as agents of intercession. Art Gallery of Ballarat until Sunday, September 10th 2017.

National Association of Catholic Families Conference 2017

The 2017 National Association of Catholic Families (NACF) conference/retreat will be held in Melbourne (Belgrave Heights) September 29 - October 1. Activities during the weekend will include Mass, rosary procession, talks running concurrently for parents, youth and children, sporting events, workshops, and a family bush dance on Saturday evening. For more information contact Claire on (03) 9543 5613 or go to www.nacf.info. Registrations close 10 September.

Collections Envelopes \$2,683.00 Parish Loose \$269.65 Presbytery \$1,952.50

Counters 27th August Team 6 Next week team 7. Thank you to all contributors and counters

Gospel Reflection © Dianne Bergant CSS

The readings highlight two different but related themes: the character of our understanding of Christ, and our understanding of discipleship that flows from it. Christological reflections reach a climax in the question posed to the disciples: Who do you say I am? In this liturgical context, the same question is posed to us. Who is this one who multiplies loaves of bread, who walks on turbulent waters, who breaks the boundaries that separate insider from outsider? It is none other than the messiah.

When Peter testified to Jesus' identity, it was a relevant religious and political statement, for messianic expectation was a burning question at that time. But what does it mean for the average Christian today? Many believers consider messianic expectation a theological theme that belongs to the past. They feel that it is difficult to get excited about the coming of someone who we believe has already come and gone. If Jesus were to pose this question today, how would we answer?

Like Peter, we too may have good intentions, but when they are put to the test we realise that that was all that they were – good intentions. Still, we should not be discouraged by our weaknesses, for just as Peter's failure did not deter God from entrusting him with power and authority, so our failures need not be obstacles to God's grace in our lives. We watch God entrust the church to individuals who are weak and undependable, and we realise that judgments are inscrutable and God's ways unsearchable.