

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat

www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com

10th September 2017

23rd 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	16 th /17 th September	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	12.05 pm	Cathedral		
Tuesday	12.05 pm	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

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

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

Charismatic Prayer Group Tuesdays at 7.00pm in the MacKillop/Glowrey rooms

Next week's readings: Sunday September 17th 2017

Ecclesiasticus 27:30 – 28:7 Ps 102:1-4. 9-12. R. v.8

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A,)

Romans 14:7-9

Matthew 18:21-35

Recent Deaths: Paul Aitken (Funeral Mass Tuesday 10.30 am), Catherine Garvey, Fr Peter Taffe

Anniversaries: Rosina (Rosa) Mondini, Adrian Mulally, Anne Nuttall, Patricia Scott, Golino Simmaco, Stanislaw & Franciszka Stodolny

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 October 5th

Celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation

Over these two weekends 104 children from our Parish will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. Fr Justin will be the celebrant this weekend and Bishop Paul Bird next weekend. These celebrations will be at the 6.30 pm, 10.30 am and 5.00 pm Masses. Welcome to the children, their parents, sponsors, families and friends who are with us for these celebrations. Many thanks to Anita Houlihan, our Family Ministry Coordinator and the members of the Cathedral Parish Sacrament team.

Alpha Adult Faith Opportunity

Thursday evenings, 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm in the Cathedral presbytery, you are invited to join with others to explore your own adult faith. This week's presentation is How can I make the most from my life?

Parish Liturgy Team

The team will meet this coming Wednesday, September 13th at 5.00 pm in the Parish Office. Members of the team are Susan Crowe, Kay Curran, John Davis, John Forster, Kathleen Hayes, Helen Lee, Les Stewart and Deneise Walsh together with Frs Anthony, Sajan and Justin.

Funeral Ministry Team

The team will meet this coming Tuesday, September 12th at 2.30 pm. Over recent weeks there have been many funerals which members of the team have been involved in preparing together with the families. The team will be planning the annual All Souls Day Mass, Thursday November 2nd at 7.00 pm in the Cathedral which will be followed by supper.

Spiritual Care Program

A second program for parishioners engaged in pastoral ministry commences on 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 beginning at 9.00am. 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.

Palms Australia Ballarat Information Sessions

Communities in Asia, the Pacific and Africa are looking to provide mentoring opportunities for local personnel and improve processes and procedures for organisations vital to reducing poverty. To ensure sustainable development they prefer those willing to come for two years, but accept that some are only available for 12 months. If you are an experienced professional, business or trades person, in any area, but especially education, please consider volunteering with Palms Australia. An information session will be held on Thursday, September 14th 5.30pm-7.00pm at the Australian Catholic University, Building 100 Torney Room, 1200 Mair St, Ballarat. RSVP joey@palms.org.au or call 02 9560 5333. Can't make it? Call now about applying for positions currently available or look first via Palms' [two-week Encounter](http://palms.org.au/encounters/) (palms.org.au/encounters/)

Centenary of Fatima apparitions of Mary

Holy Hour in the Cathedral, Wednesday September 13th 6.00 pm.

Mass in the Bendigo Cathedral, October 8th 11am (bus will leave Ballarat at 8.45am. BYO lunch. Contact Joan 5338 2484 or Maureen 0431 273 953 by 25th September to book)

Evening of Recollection and Devotion - Fr Gerard Ryan will lead this evening in St Patrick's Cathedral on Friday October 13th, commencing with Reconciliation from 6.30 pm, 7.00 pm Fr Gerard introduces the evening, 7.30 pm Mass, 7.45 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament concluding with Benediction.

The Legion of Mary express their thanks to all who support the Novena preparing for the centenary of Mary's apparitions at Fatima, Portugal.

30th Anniversary of Ordination of Fr Gary Jones

The Parish of St Peter's Daylesford will be celebrating the 30th Anniversary of Fr Gary's Ordination at 10.30am Mass on Sunday, October 15th 2017 followed by morning tea in the Parish Centre.

All welcome. Please RSVP to daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au to assist with catering.

Bikes for Humanity Collection Day

International charity *Bicycles for Humanity* gives old bikes a new home. They collect old bicycles, refurbish them and send them to Africa where the shipping container they came in transforms into a bike workshop providing employment, skills, training, economic development and ongoing benefits to the local community as well as all the 'new' bikes! Collection of your old bikes and parts Thursday October 6th, 9am -3.00pm St Patrick's Cathedral car park.

Ballarat Catholic Secondary College Information evenings

Loreto College Tuesday October 24th 7.00pm

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

Collections Envelopes \$2,446.00 Parish Loose \$417.60 Presbytery \$1,868.05

Counters 10th September Team 1 Next week team 2. Thank you to all contributors and counters

The Moorabool Light Orchestra Presenting a "Spring Festival of Sacred Music" concert on Sunday September 17th 2017 @ 2pm in St Bernard's Catholic Parish Church, Lerderderg Street Bacchus Marsh.

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. 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



Ballarat Clergy Support Fund

The collection in our parish this year has raised \$1,786.90 to date, thank you. The Ballarat Clergy Support Fund relies on your generosity to enable it to continue supporting our sick and retired priests. You are still able to contribute, by using the special envelope provided, or in an envelope marked "Ballarat Clergy Support Fund."

50 year celebration of Mercy education at Damascus College Mt Clear site

Past students and staff of Damascus College and the three foundation Colleges, Sacred Heart College, St Paul's Technical College and St Martin's in the Pines are invited to the opening of the Commemorative Walk, a 240 metre bush walking track. Please register your attendance by Friday 27th September, by going to the Damascus website: <http://www.damascus.vic.edu.au/news-and-events-50-year-celebrations>

Gospel Reflection

Veronica Lawson RSM

What does a just society or community do with its persistent offenders, with those whose behaviour continually disrupts or even destroys the unity of a group? This is an age old question that has no easy answer. The people of South Africa in the wake of apartheid and Timor Leste after twenty-five years of oppression recognised that a too easy amnesty is no solution for violent and destructive behaviour. Offences need to be named and acknowledged by their perpetrators for the sake of community reconciliation and for building the trust essential to the creation of a new future.

The processes followed in South Africa and in Timor Leste were similar to those proposed in today's gospel for members of the church community. The power to deal with transgression is firmly in the hands of the community members. All care must be taken to allow an offender to acknowledge the offence in private. If that fails, the matter is referred to a group of two or three witnesses, in line with Israel's ancient legal practice (Deut 19:15). The next step is referral to the assembled community. A person who refuses to listen "to the church" is to be treated as a Gentile or a tax-collector. The meaning here is not at all clear. Some scholars suggest that the Matthean Jesus is proposing exclusion from the community of those who refuse to listen. Others consider that he is advocating the sort of compassionate approach that Jesus has personally shown to outsiders, to those in need of conversion.

If our personal efforts to resolve conflict are unsuccessful, we do well to seek the wisdom of others. Jesus, God-with-us, is present in the assembly. We have that assurance. We also have the assurance that our failure to deal with transgression can leave a person unreconciled. We need to "loose" the sins of those who acknowledge their offences. In other words, we are called to forgive them and thus set them free from the burden of their sins against us. This does not mean that we overlook or in any way condone offences. Forgiveness is needed at every level if we are to be in right relationship in the Earth community. Most global tensions have their origin in the unresolved conflicts of the distant past. Our future on this planet depends on our capacity to "surrender to the sky [our] heart of anger" (James K. Baxter) even as we do all we can to ensure that the mistakes of the past are never repeated.

