

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat

www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com

8th October 2017

27th 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	14 th /15 th October	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	11.30am	St John of God 12.05 pm Cathedral
Friday	9.30 am	Sebastopol	7.30 pm	Cathedral (Fatima Centenary)
Saturday	10.00 am	Cathedral		

Sacrament of Reconciliation 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 Tuesdays at 7.00 pm in the MacKillop/Glowrey rooms
Fridays at 8.00 pm in the Presbytery Meeting room

Next week's readings: Sunday October 8th 2017

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Isaiah 5:1-7

Ps 79:9. 12-16. 19-20. R. Is 5:7

Philippians 4:6-9

Matthew 21:33-43

Recent Deaths: John Cotter, Zilla Fay, Norma Horgan

Anniversaries: Pat Cashin (Ararat), Robert Conaughton, Mary Cooper, Gerard Molloy, Kevin Molloy, Kenneth Boss Plange, Maureen Watson, Paul Watson

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Lyla Kate Browning daughter of Michael & Renee
May Margaret Dubberley daughter of Gregory & Amy
Ainsley Jane & Eden Harper daughters of Benjamin & Kelly
Hannah Kate Strybosch daughter of Guy & Prue



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

Alpha - Got questions, try Alpha? Adult Faith Opportunity

Our final gathering will be held on Thursday 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm in the Cathedral presbytery, you are invited to join with others to explore your own adult faith. Those who are inquiring into the Catholic faith are part of these Alpha gathering. The format is a viewing of the session from the Alpha film series (you can view these on youtube) followed by small group conversation concluding with prayer.

Collections Envelopes \$2,660.00 Parish Loose \$325.55 Presbytery \$2,136.40

Counters 8thOctober Team 5 Next week team 6. Thank you to all contributors and counters.

Parish Mission with Fr Richard Leonard SJ

Cathedral parishioners are invited to a mission led by Fr Richard Leonard SJ which is being held across the Beaufort and Linton parishes commencing Saturday, October 14th with 6.30 pm Mass at Smythesdale, Sunday 9.00 am Mass at Skipton and 6.00 pm Mass at Beaufort. Weekday sessions will be on Monday 16th 11.00 am Skipton, 7.00 pm Beaufort, Tuesday 17th 11.00 am Beaufort, 7.00 pm Snake Valley, Wednesday 18th 11.00 am Skipton, 5.00 pm Beaufort. The morning session is repeated in the afternoon. For times and places please see the flyer on the notice boards or contact the Beaufort Parish Centre on 5349 2880.

Experience Loreto College Day – “Beyond the Historic Fence”

This is an opportunity for prospective families to visit the College in action. You will be taken on a guided tour of the College by current students and staff who will show you the grounds and facilities and share their insight into being a student at Loreto College. Wednesday, October 18th 9.00am – 12.00pm
Must register to attend www.loreto.vic.edu.au

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.

Centenary of Fatima Apparitions of Mary

Evening of Recollection and Devotion, St. Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat Friday October 13th

- 6.30pm – Sacrament of Penance
- 7.00pm – Reflection – Fr. Gerard Ryan
- 7.30pm – Mass, Exposition and Benediction

Rosary for Our Lady Saturday October 14th 11.00am in the Sturt St rotunda between Dawson & Doveton

MENTal Brekky

Friday October 20th at St Patrick's College OCA Pavilion from 7am – 8.30am, come and join a conversation about men's mental health. Tickets \$50 including breakfast. Funds raised will go to the Chris Yeung Fund which seeks to raise awareness of men's mental health issues and to support St Patrick's students impacted by it. Tickets at <https://www.trybooking.com/PJNX>

Frassati Group, Fatima Anniversary Mass and Ballarat MenAlive gathering

MenAlive and the Frassati Group will celebrate Mass at St Brigid's Catholic Church Snake Valley at 2.00 pm, Saturday October 14th. Mass will be followed by a talk by Dr Andy Mullins on *Parenting for Character*, afternoon tea and an update on the proposed opening of Our Lady of Fatima School Smythesdale (subject to VRQA approval) in 2019. More details at <http://frassatiballarat.net.au> or email admin@frassatiballarat.net.au or call 0400 874 900.

Fr Paul Mercovich RIP

Bishop Paul Bird, the priests and people of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat are saddened by the death of their brother and friend Fr Paul, who died in Alice Springs on September 22nd 2017, aged 80. Fr Paul was ordained priest for the Diocese of Ballarat at Ararat on May 31st 1969. He served as an Assistant Priest in the Parishes of Koroit, Camperdown and Colac. He was appointed Administrator of the Parish of Birregurra, followed by appointments in Inglewood and Ballarat. Fr Paul has served as the Parish Priest of the Parishes of Ouyen (1977), Charlton (1984), (2002), Ballarat East (1987) and St Arnaud (1998). He also served as Chair of the Diocesan Education Board. May he rest in peace

Funeral Mass for Fr Paul Mercovich will be celebrated in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, St Arnaud on Friday October 13th at 10.30 am. Committal will follow at the Ararat Cemetery at 3.00 pm.

Vigil Mass will be celebrated at St Joseph's Church Charlton on Thursday October 12th at 7.00 pm.

There will not be 12.05 pm Mass and Benediction at the Cathedral on Friday as the priests will be attending the Funeral Mass for Fr Paul at St Arnaud. There will be the 7.30 pm Mass in the Cathedral on Friday.

Building a Healthier Church – Where to from here?

An evening of conversation with Bishop Vincent Long, Maria Kirkwood and Francis Sullivan, asking What are the challenges that are coming from the Royal Commission? Sharing Leadership in a Collaborative Church? What sort of Church should we be? Thursday October 12th, 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm YTU Box Hill.

Bikes for Humanity

Cathedral St Vincent de Paul conference would like to thank all parishioners & friends who donated bikes.

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – now open for new participants

Low-cost opportunities for online study and formation for people of the Diocese. A wide range of subjects: Scripture, Sacraments, Social Justice, Leadership skills, Youth Ministry, many more. Registration for the October study cycle closes on **October 16th**. A study cycle means you do one subject over 5 weeks. There are 6 study cycles each year, you can start at any one. www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (link is on home page), or contact Amanda, phone 5337 7125 or email amanda.smith@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Gospel Reflection

Sr Veronica Lawson RSM

While the international community has long-since outlawed slavery, we have become increasingly aware of the persistence of a lucrative global industry structured around the sexual and labour enslavement of vulnerable people. Groups such as MGA (Mercy Global Action) and ACRAH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking of Humans) are taking action on behalf of those enslaved. Today's gospel features a parable about an absentee landowner with slaves to do his bidding. Commentators focus on almost every aspect of this parable: the landowner, the tenants, the fate of the "servants" and of the landowner's son, the interpretive comments that Jesus offers the chief priests and elders to whom the parable is addressed, the prophetic inter-texts and the allegorical elements in the text. Few consider the role or the fate of the slaves as slaves in the parable. Our contemporary sensibilities in relation to slavery invite a new reading of such texts, a reading that at the very least critiques the power that some in the Earth community exercise over others.

The frequent translation of the Greek doulos as "servant" rather than as "slave" masks the underlying reality that some members of the community, even within the circle of believers gathered at the Eucharistic table, were actually the property of others in the community. The fact is that nobody in the ancient world, not even Jesus of Nazareth, questioned this situation. It is not surprising, therefore, that the slaves in today's parable are considered by the "tenants" to be dispensable. Their role is to collect the produce from the harvest on behalf of the absentee landowner.

We can surmise that the "tenants" have legitimate grievances against the landowner. They clearly have no intention of parting with any portion of the produce, presumably the tax imposed on them as a condition of their tenancy. They react violently when confronted by the three slaves who are the landowner's emissaries. They beat one slave, kill another and stone yet another. Their treatment of the slaves is an implicit acknowledgement that the slaves represent the landowner whose demands they refuse to meet. The landowner risks the lives of other slaves by sending yet another and bigger delegation. This second group of emissaries meets the same fate as their predecessors. Finally, the landowner sends his own son in the expectation that the tenants will show him the respect they have denied the slaves, his property. In fact, the son receives the same treatment as the slaves. He too is dispensable from the perspective of those wanting to seize "the inheritance", those wishing to take control of the vineyard for their own purposes. As we reflect on gospel stories that take slavery for granted, we might commit ourselves to eliminating all exercise of power over others or over any "vineyard" entrusted to our care.