

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat

www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com

26th November 2017

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (A)



Parish Office hours

Monday - Friday 10 am – 5.00 pm

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au



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 Cathedral

Our Parish Safeguarding Officer is Jess Salazar who may be contacted through the Cathedral Office

Principals of our three Parish Primary Schools

[St Patrick's Primary](#) Mark Hogbin, [St Thomas More](#) Rosa Tocchet, [Siena](#) at Lucas Jo Brewer

Cathedral Parish Masses

2nd/3rd December

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	5.30 pm Cathedral (Damascus Graduation)
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
Saturday	10.00 am	Cathedral	

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Friday 11.00 am

Saturday 11.30 am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Monday & Tuesday 10.00 am – 11.45 am, Friday 11.00 am

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.

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

Fridays at 8.00 pm in the Presbytery Meeting room

1st Saturday Devotion to Our Lady of Fatima

Next week's readings: *Sunday December 3rd 2017* 1st Sunday of Advent (A)

Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8 Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. v.4 Cor.1:3-9 Mark 84:8

Recent Deaths: Sally Begbie, Margaret Little, John McDowell, Ted Murphy,
Franka Zelencich (Funeral Mass Monday 10.00 am)

Anniversaries: Eileen McDonald, Kevin John Woof.

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Levi Michael Morritt son of Christopher & Stephanie

Darcy Thomas Quinn son of Nicholas & Kathryn

Jenson Alexander Bell son of Kyle & Courtney

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



Celebrations during Advent as we end our year and prepare for Christmas

Preparations for the season Advent are underway with the Anointing Mass scheduled for 12.05 pm Mass on Thursday December 14th. This Mass, held in the Cathedral Hall, followed by lunch.

The 2nd Rite of the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated at 7.00 pm on Wednesday December 13th Mass will be celebrated at Kallara Special Accommodation facility, Cuthberts Rd Alfredton on Wednesday December 13th at 10.00 am.

Masses celebrating the end of the school year for our Parish Primary Schools and Secondary Colleges:

Damascus College Year 12 Graduation Mass 5.30 pm Monday November 27th

St Patrick's Primary End of Year School Mass 6.30 pm Tuesday December 5th

St Thomas More End of Year School Mass 6.00 pm Wednesday December 6th

Siena Primary End of Year School Mass Friday December 15th

St Vincent de Paul Cathedral Conference will hold its end of year bbq on Thursday December 14th 6.30 pm

A morning tea will be held in the Cathedral presbytery on Friday December 22nd at 10.30 am for all parishioners who are engaged in the many parish ministries. Please RSVP to Jacinta in the Cathedral office if you would like to attend this pre-Christmas gathering.

St Patrick's Cathedral Preschoolers Christmas Gathering - Thursday December 7th 9.30 am – 11.30am in St Patrick's Hall. Parents and pre-schoolers all invited. Please bring a plate of morning tea for parents and children to share (nut-free food greatly appreciated) Please RSVP by text to Sarah 0408122173.

St Vincent de Paul Society Jesse Tree Christmas Appeal 2017

The Cathedral Parish Conference of the Society will again be distributing Christmas hampers to those less fortunate than most of us. Over the years as a Parish you have been extremely generous when we have sought your assistance not only at Christmas time but also with our Winter appeal. Last Christmas we were able to provide support to over 130 families and individuals as a result of your generosity.

Jesse Tree symbols will be distributed after each Mass commencing this weekend the Feast of Christ the King and throughout the Season of Advent. We again ask that you support our Jesse Tree Appeal through the donation of non-perishable food items. Vinnies Christmas Appeal envelopes are available in the pews for those wishing to make a cash donation to the appeal. Hampers will be delivered on Wednesday December 20th 2017 therefore it would be appreciated if non-perishable food items could be placed under the Jesse Tree prior to this date.

Youth Every Second Sunday (YESS)

The final YESS Youth for the year will be held this Sunday November 26th after the 5pm Mass. Twenty young people from the Cathedral Parish have registered to attend the Australian Catholic Youth festival being held in Sydney, December 7th – 9th. The Diocese of Ballarat will be providing the funding for bus transport of the young people to and from Sydney. The Cathedral Parish will contribute \$5,600 to cover the accommodation costs to stay in Sydney.

The Youth Festival will be the first event in what will be the Year of Youth with the theme *Opening new horizons for spreading joy: Young people, faith and vocational discernment*.

At 5.00 pm Mass next Sunday (December 3rd), Bishop Paul will commission those attending the festival.

What next after the Royal Commission?

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse will sit on December 14th to publicly mark the conclusion of the five-year long inquiry. Royal Commission CEO, Philip Reed, said the sitting will be a chance for Commissioners to thank the community for their continued support of the Royal Commission and its work. "When we began in 2013, we had no idea just how widespread or prevalent child sexual abuse in institutions was in Australia, or how many people would come forward to share their story," Mr Reed said. "Since then we have held 57 public hearings, where we sat for 444 days and heard evidence of more than 1,300 witnesses. Commissioners have also listened to the personal accounts of almost 8,000 survivors of child sexual abuse in institutions through 'private sessions'. "Combined with our comprehensive policy and research program, the Royal Commission has been able to contribute to the community's understanding and awareness of institutional child sexual abuse."

Two reports from the Royal Commission, one on the Ballarat Diocese and the other on the Catholic Church in Australia are expected to be released in the coming weeks before December 14th.

Building a Healthier Church

These conversations which commenced followed the presentations at YTU Box Hill by Maria Kirkwood, Francis Sullivan and Bishop Vincent Long will continue in the Cathedral presbytery with the next gathering on Thursday December 7th at 4.00 pm. All are welcome to join this open dialogue.

Discerning a Parish Pastoral Council

Following the initial gathering of parishioners with Sr Marg Carmody SGS to discern their membership on the Pastoral Council, those present agreed to continue this discernment process, seeking to clarify the role and purpose of the Pastoral Council and its relationship with existing parish groups, ministries and organisations.

Legion of Mary

All Parishioners are welcome to the screening of the DVD, The Song of Bernadette (apparition of Our Lady of Lourdes) on Tuesday December 5th at 1.30 pm in the smaller hall. Light lunch provided after Mass.

Working Bee in the Cathedral

There will be a cleaning working bee in the Cathedral on Friday December 15th at 9.00am any assistance on the morning would be greatly appreciated.

What next after Alpha?

Following the success of the Alpha adult faith education program, a regular Thursday evening adult faith formation opportunity is open to all Cathedral parishioners and friends. Fr James Mallon's Divine Renovation will be the focus for the coming weeks. A shared meal, presentation and open dialogue is the format to be held from 6.30 pm in the Cathedral Presbytery, next Thursday November 30th. All welcome!

Collections Envelopes \$2,002.00 Parish Loose \$220.45 Presbytery \$2,061.35

If you would like to join the Stewardship by making a regular financial contribution to the Cathedral Parish, you can do so by either direct debit or the envelopes. Please contact Jess Salazar in the Parish Office.

Counters 26th November Team 5 Next week team 6. Thank you to all contributors and counters.

Gospel Reflection:

Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

"It has long been a common custom to give to Christ the metaphorical title of King." These are the words of Pope Pius XI who established this feast between two world wars in the hope of counteracting the growing secularism "in public affairs and politics" and finding a way towards global peace. Peace would never be achieved, wrote Pope Pius XI, until and unless individuals and nations accept the "rule of our Saviour".

In some ways, hope for the global reign of the Prince of Peace seems more remote than ever. For many peace-loving people, the rise of the so-called Islamic State and of Boko Haram marked new low points in more than a century of violent and ongoing conflict which has claimed the lives of some 160 to 180 million people across the globe. From a Christian perspective, the world needs the sort of leadership that Jesus of Nazareth advocated in first century Palestine, the kind of leadership that Pope Francis is offering our world. The gospel for today provides a blueprint for Christian living in general and for leadership in particular. Matthew presents Jesus as both shepherd and sheep: as judge and king on the one hand and as suffering humanity ("the least") on the other. Works of mercy are the measure of justice or righteousness. Those who feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, and set the prisoners free are "the righteous/the sheep" who will inherit God's empire or kin-dom and have life. Those who fail in these respects are the unrighteous/the goats who fail to recognise the presence of the shepherd/king in the suffering of "the least". Why sheep and goats? While goats grazed with the sheep, they were never imaged as God's people, somewhat unfairly, I suggest. "Sheep", on the other hand, is a frequent biblical designation for the people of God's fold.

This gospel story is replete with mixed metaphors. It is the gospel source of the seven spiritual and corporal works of mercy that have informed the Christian way of life for centuries. It focusses on suffering humanity. In proclaiming an eighth work of mercy, care for our common home, Pope Francis has asked us to expand our horizons and to extend our concern to the suffering of the whole Earth community, human and other-than-human.

The Feast of Christ the King brings the church year to a close. It invites us to consider ways to achieve the things that make for peace. If we wish God's reign of peace to be realised on planet Earth, then we might heed the invitation of Pope Francis to care for our common home: to engage in "grateful contemplation of God's world" on the one hand and in daily gestures that "break with the logic of violence, exploitation and selfishness" on the other.