

# St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat

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

February 18<sup>th</sup> 2018 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent



Parish Office hours

Monday - Friday 10 am – 5.00 pm

[ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto: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](#) Cathy Whelan, [St Thomas More](#) Rosa Tocchet, [Siena](#) Jo Brewer

**Cathedral Parish Masses 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> February**      **Snake Valley**      **Beaufort**      **Skipton**  
6.30 pm Vigil, 8.00 am, 10.30 am, 5.00 pm      6.30 pm Vigil      8.30am      10.30 am

## Masses during the coming week

Monday	12.05pm	Cathedral		
Tuesday	10.00 am	Cathedral (St Pat's Primary)	12.05 pm	Cathedral
Wednesday	12.05 pm	Cathedral		
Thursday	9.30 am	Redan	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 10.00 am – 11.45 am, Friday 12.30 pm

## Sung Responsorial Psalm for this first Sunday of Lent

Your ways O Lord, are love and truth, to those who keep your covenant.

Your ways O Lord, are love and truth, to those who keep your covenant.

**Recent Death:** Petronella (Nell) Van Der Ploeg

**Anniversaries:** Franco Cantelmi, Peter Ryan, Paul Sargeant, Nora Scanlon,  
Debra Shea.

**Next week's readings:** *Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2017 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent (B)*

Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18 Ps 115:10. 15-19. R. 114:9 Romans 8:31-34 Mark 9:2-10

**We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;**

Fletcher Hugh & Jack Stavros Kroussoratis

sons of Lucas & Olivia

Ivy Grace Munafò

daughter of Sarah & Frank

Miles Franklin Noether

son of Luke & Lauren



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

**Stations of the Cross during Lent**

Wednesdays in the Cathedral at 11.30 am.

Fridays with Fr Sajan and the Malayalum community at 7.00 pm

**2019 Foundation Enrolments at the Cathedral Parish Primary Schools**

Enrolments for 2019 at St. Patrick's Primary School, St Thomas More Alfredton and Siena in Lucas are now open. Please contact the office of the respective school to receive more information about 2019 enrolments.

**Nazareth House Auxiliary Irish Music Afternoon**

Nazareth House Hall Friday March 16<sup>th</sup> 1:30pm – 3:00pm

Admission: \$5 Entrance prize, afternoon tea, raffle and a cake stall.

**Welcome to Caritas Lenten Visitors**

Janak Prasad Sharma, Regional Program Manager of Caritas Nepal &  
Eleanor Trinchera speaking after 5pm Mass Sunday February 18<sup>th</sup>

## **Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC)**

Following the Rite of Election held this weekend, the first gathering for children and parents will be held on Tuesday February 20<sup>th</sup> at 7.00 pm in the smaller hall at the Cathedral. Please pray for all involved.

## **Sacred Heart College Ballarat East Reunion 1962-1966**

A reunion of the class that commenced Year 8 in 1962 and concluded in 1966, the final year of students at SHC . Day pupils and boarders inclusive. April 14<sup>th</sup> Golden City Hotel RSVP ASAP.

Contact Barbara Ford (Meich) 0424503244

**Counters**      February 18<sup>th</sup>      Team 3    Next week team 4.

Thank you to all contributors and counters.

## **Collections**

Envelopes \$2,373.00      Parish Loose \$441.85      Presbytery \$1,969.20

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.

## **Project Compassion**



In Nepal, a Caritas Australia supported program has helped Janaki turn her life of poverty and disadvantage around. She is now running her own successful sewing business and has become a role model in her community. Please donate to Project Compassion 2018 and empower vulnerable young people like Janaki in Nepal to build a just future for themselves, their families and their communities. A Just Future starts with your support! You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes or by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

## Gospel Reflection

John Thornhill sm

Undertaking an important journey we must be well prepared. As we set out on our journey to Easter, we must be clear about the destination that gives meaning to this journey.

Today's gospel reading invites us to prepare ourselves in the company of Jesus. As he set out on the journey that was to lead to Easter, he prepared himself by withdrawing to some desert place, and confronting the temptation to avoid the great task that lay ahead of him. This is an astounding moment in the life of Jesus. Have we taken seriously the fact that, in sharing our human experience, Jesus knew the weight of human decisions and the temptations involved – though, of course, he was without sin in the response he made? This testing brought Jesus new strength, and he began to proclaim the Good News of the coming reign of God. In his company, during the coming days, let us recognise the nature of our temptations, and the bonds of selfishness from which we want to be freed as we make our journey to Easter.

Jesus found strength in the certainty with which he looked to the end of his journey. Though what lay ahead would not be easy, he knew that God's goodness and mercy would be victorious in the end – through his generous response to the call of his Father. The first reading from the Book of Genesis invites us to share in this hope and expectation as we set out on our journey. It is the conclusion of the story of Noah and the ark which saved him from The Flood – one of the old stories in the introductory pages of the Bible, describing a wayward humanity, in need of the salvation God was to give. The story ends on a note of hope and promise – the rainbow will be a sign of the covenant God makes with humanity, promising that he will always be merciful.

What a magnificent symbol - reminding us of the trust we can place in God, whatever our difficulties and failings! Whenever we see the rainbow and know its promise of fine, clear weather after a storm, we should remember God's promise, and renew our trust in God's mercy, and the final triumph of God's goodness.

The second reading interprets the story of the flood and Noah's being saved as a kind of foretelling of the wonder of baptism – the destination of our journey to Easter, because it is through our baptism that we share in the risen life of Christ.

The beginning of our journey is a time for personal reflection for each of us. Perhaps, however, we need to ponder more deeply the astonishing fact that Jesus knew temptation, though he was without sin in his response to its challenge.