



If you look up on a clear night around Easter, you will see that the moon is close to full. This is no coincidence. The date of Easter is actually linked to the full moon. Easter is celebrated on the Sunday after the full moon after the northern hemisphere's Spring equinox.

Why this link to the moon? It is because Easter developed from the Jewish feast of Passover, a Spring time festival celebrated according to a calendar based on the phases of the moon. Yet the link between Easter and the moon is not only a matter of ancient calendars. The Easter full moon also suggests a very important element of the Christian feast.

The light of the moon is not dazzling like the light of the sun. Rather, the light of moon is more serene. The moon sheds a beautiful soft light into an otherwise dark night. In some ways, Easter celebrates this kind of serene, beautiful light. At Easter, Christians celebrate the resurrection of Christ and we can compare his rising to the rising of the moon.



A song that has been sung for centuries at Easter tells of Christ "who, coming back from death's domain, has shed his peaceful light on humanity." Easter is a time to give thanks that Christ has risen from the dead and that he offers his peaceful light to all the world.

Our times are often dark and troubled. May the peaceful light of the risen Christ shine upon us. Where there is darkness, may Christ bring a gentle light. Where people are troubled, may Christ bring them peace.

Happy Easter!

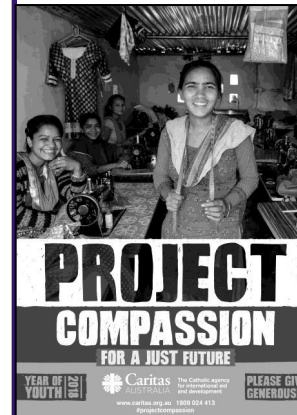
*Paul Bird CSsR - Bishop of Ballarat  
March 2018*



**To remain in communion with the Catholic Church each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday (March 1) and Trinity Sunday, (June 11), unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year.**



**Easter Sunday  
1<sup>st</sup> April 2018**



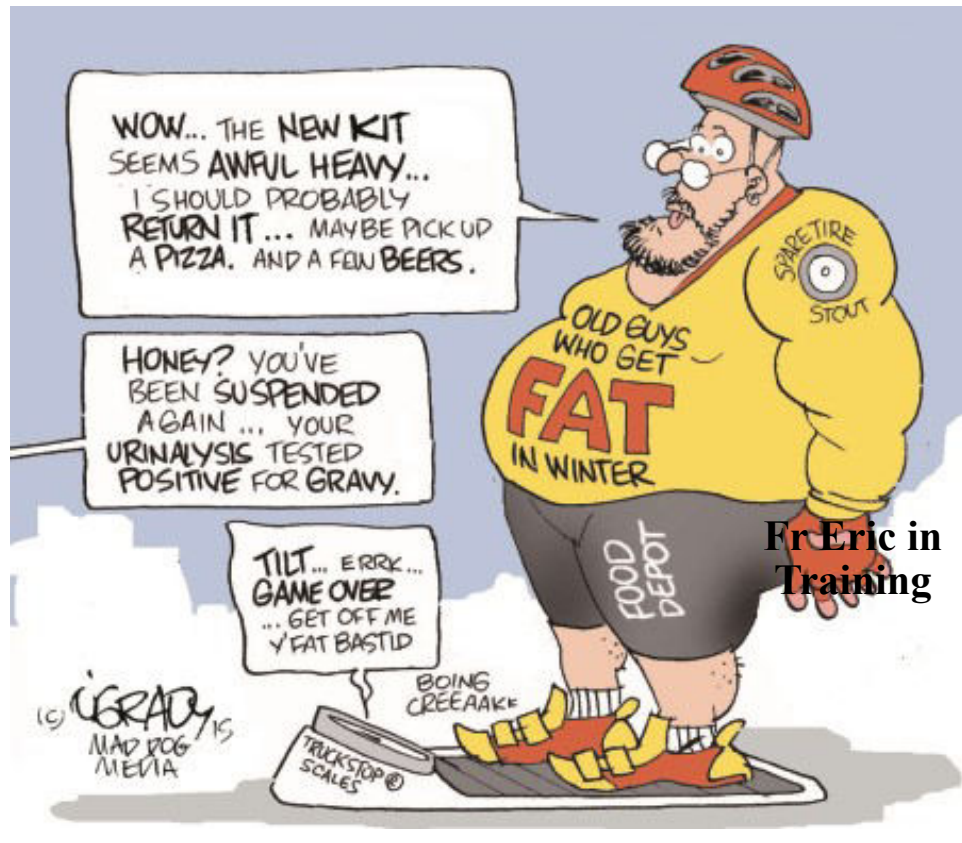
Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

Thank you for supporting us this year as we demonstrate how A Just Future is possible for all generations, backgrounds, cultures and communities, who are part of one human family. You are empowering young people to build a just future for themselves, their families and their communities. A Just Future has started with your support!

Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2018 Lenten appeal.

# Stawell Gift

*A very special welcome to those visiting Stawell this weekend, and especiall to any competitors*



**Fr Eric in Training**

Walk for Justice for Refugees.

Among those processing from the cathedral to the library were groups drawn from the Catholic education and wider social justice community.

The Walk for Justice for Refugees rally was supported by over 100 advocacy, faith and welfare organisations, including the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, Catholic Alliance for People Seeking Asylum, Jesuit Social Services, National Council of Churches of Australia and Refugee Council of Australia.

In Bendigo, about 50 people from church and refugee support groups held a “gathering of peace and justice” at Charing Cross, the Bendigo Advertiser reported.

They listened to speeches, and poems from people currently detained were read out.

Ken Rookes, of the Rural Australians for Refugees, said the movement would never go away – and the imagery of Jesus riding in to Jerusalem on a donkey remained as important now as it did more than 2000 years ago.

“It was a political act, an act which directly challenges the leadership of his nation,” Mr Rookes said.

“Jesus saved his sharpest condemnation for the powerful men who ruled his nation, denouncing them as hypocrites for pretending to follow God and yet being indifferent in their attitudes towards the poor, the weak and the vulnerable.

“A week later ... those same leaders would falsely accuse him, discredit him, and see him condemned to death.

“Two thousand years later nothing much has changed.”

Meanwhile, 95 advocate groups across Australia banded together yesterday to oppose planned eligibility changes to a program that provides an allowance, casework support, housing assistance and counselling to potential refugees on temporary visas.

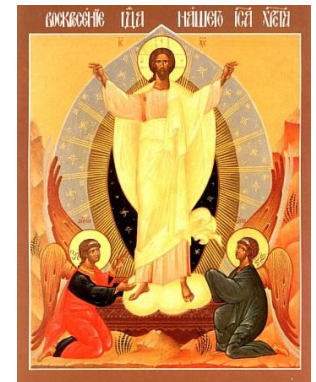
The changes by the Turnbull Government could result in homelessness and destitution, refugee advocates including Catholic Social Services Australia and the St Vincent de Paul society said yesterday.

## **SCRIPTURE REFLECTION:**

*Easter is the season of mystagogical catechesis, that instruction that unpacks the hidden mystery of the experience of the sacraments of initiation received or renewed at Easter. The readings of each Sunday concentrate on some aspect of this mystery. The central theme of this Sunday is newness of life in Christ. This newness is not without its historical context. It burst forth first in the resurrection of Christ, and then through the preaching of the first Christians.*

*The readings testify that if we die with Christ, we will appear with him in glory; if we cast out the old yeast, we will be fresh dough. And when this wondrous transformation takes place, everything is new; everything is fresh. To what newness are we called? To what must we die in order to rise transformed? What old yeast of corruption must be cast out in order that we might be fresh dough? At Easter we renew our baptismal vows. What is it that we really renounce? Ours is a world of violence, of prejudice, of indifference. Too often we harbour feelings of anger and resentment, of selfishness and disdain. Easter proclaims that Christ has died and has risen; with him we die to all of the wickedness in our lives and in our world, and we set our hearts on higher things, on sincerity and on truth.*

© Dianne Bergant CSS

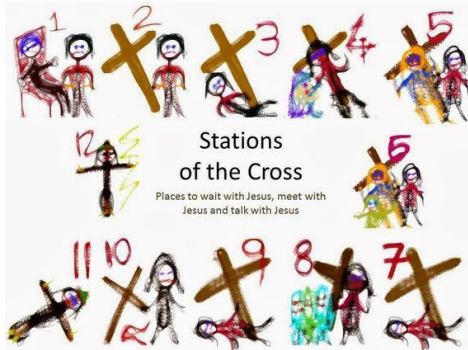


**PLEASE NOTE:**

**There will no Mass on Tuesday 7.  
Wed, Thurs, Fri, 10.00am.**

**WELL DONE St Patrick's School  
Children and teachers for the  
wonderful celebration of The  
Stations of the Cross on Thursday  
afternoon.**

**Every blessing, now, for a very  
happy and safe holiday.**



Stations  
of the Cross

Places to wait with Jesus, meet with  
Jesus and talk with Jesus

**HUMOUR:**

An elderly woman walked into the local country church. The friendly usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps, "Where would you like to sit?" he asked politely. "The front row please," she answered. "You really don't want to do that," the usher said "The pastor is really boring." "Do you happen to know who I am?" the woman inquired. "No." he said. "I'm the pastor's mother," she replied indignantly. "Do you know who I am?" he asked. "No." she said. "Good," he answered.

**NEWS:**

**MARCHERS SEEK JUSTICE FOR REFUGEES**

Published: 27 March 2018



Thousands of people rallied around the country on Sunday demanding the closure of Australia's detention centres on Manus Island and Nauru. Source: SBS News.

The "welcome refugees" rallies coincided with Palm Sunday, and were organised by several church and refugee rights groups.

Protesters say those in offshore detention are being ignored after Immigration Minister Peter Dutton called for white South African farmers to be fast-tracked through Australia's refugee program.

Melbourne Catholic reported two archdiocesan offices, the Office for Justice and Peace and the Melbourne Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office, joined forces to hold a prayer session for asylum-seekers and refugees at St Patrick's Cathedral, followed by a procession to the State Library for the

**THIS WEEK:**

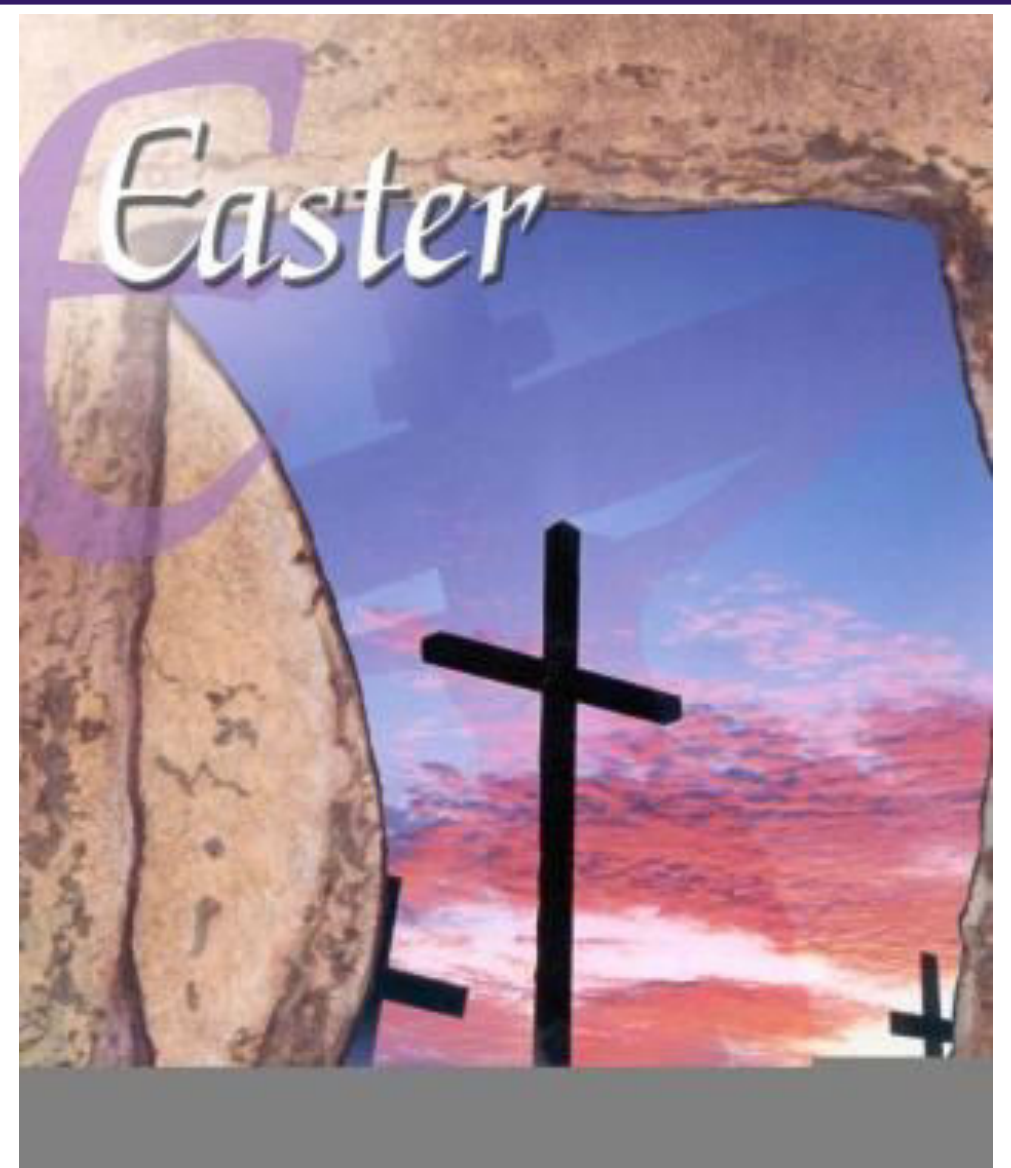
**WEEKDAY MASSES THIS WEEK:**

**Wed, Thurs, Fri 10.00am**

**NO MASS TUESDAY**

**WEDNESDAY - CENTERING PRAYER IN  
THE PARISH HALL, 2.00PM.**

**CONFESSIONS —Before or  
after 10.00am weekday Masses by  
request (i.e. – just ask Fr Eric.) ;  
10.00am 1st & 3rd Saturdays;  
Landsborough—before Sunday Mass.  
Any other time contact Fr Eric 0419 597  
063**



**A very blessed and happy Easter  
to all parishioners and visitors**

**ROSTERS:**  
**LANDSBOROUGH (8.30AM):**  
This Week (April 1) Easter Sunday - no Mass  
Readers:  
Procession of Gifts:  
Ext Minister:

Next Week (April 8)  
Readers: C Browne/M Browne  
Procession of Gifts: R & C Brown  
Ext Minister: C Browne

Church Care: C Browne (NEED MORE CLEANERS)

Church Grounds— FEBRUARY: VOLUNTEER PLEASE

**STAWELL:**  
This Week (April 1) 6.00PM  
Welcomer:  
Readers: As per roster  
Ext. Ministers:  
Procession of Gifts:

Readers:  
Ext Ministers:  
Procession of Gifts:

Next Week (April 7).  
Welcomer: M Cray  
Readers: T Brady/J Raeburn  
Ext. Ministers: M Maestros/D Jones  
Procession of Gifts: J Allan

(April 8) 10.30AM  
Readers: L Morgan/K Dalton  
Ext. Ministers: G Comitti/M Rowe/S Enriquez  
Procession of Gifts: Cain/Rutter Family

Counters: Today: G Pickering/E Driscoll  
Next Week: T & A Ellis

**ALTAR SOCIETY:** April 7 Marie & Gloria

**MARY'S STATUE:**  
April 1—7 Gabrielle Comitti

*Extraordinary Ministers, part of your duty is to clean the Sacred Vessels in the sacristy after Mass and prepare them for the next Mass—fill wine and water cruets, etc. Put filled cruets in the fridge.*

**WEEKEND MASSES YEAR A:**  
Stawell: Saturday 6.00pm  
Sunday at 10.30am.  
Landsborough: Sunday Mass at 8.30am.  
**WEEKDAY MASSES (YEAR 1):**  
Tues; Wed; Thurs ; Fri 10.00am. 2nd & 4th  
Wednesday of Month-Eventide-10.30am. (Check front of Bulletin for any changes to this routine.  
Funeral Masses take the place of weekday Mass)

**RECONCILIATION:**  
Stawell: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 10.00 am, before or after each weekday Mass (by request) or by appointment at any time. At Landsborough: Before 8.20 am Sundays

**MEETINGS & GATHERINGS:**  
Prayer Group: every Monday, 1.30pm.  
Cuppa tea Stawell—2nd Sunday after Mass;  
Landsborough—3rd Sunday after Mass.  
St Vincent de Paul: 2nd & 4th Mondays 2.30pm in Parish Hall.  
CWL: 3rd Wednesday commencing with 10.00am Mass.

*The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.*

Our diocesan website:  
[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
Our parish website can be accessed through the diocesan site.  
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**Any queries relating to rosters and volunteers please contact June Raeburn on 53583506.**

**ST PATRICK'S PARISH, STAWELL**  
Parish Priest: Fr. Eric Bryant.  
Address: 27 Patrick St.,  
PO Box 87, Stawell, 3380.  
Phone: 03 5358 1119  
Fax 03 5358 3000  
E-mail: [stawell@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:stawell@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or [eric.bryant@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:eric.bryant@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
Finance Manager: Gloria Pickering (Thursdays)  
Welfare and Safety Officer: Helen Potter

**ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL**  
Principal: Mrs. Liz McIntyre  
PO Box 856  
Phone 03 5358 2493



Easter Sunday - Year B

April 1, 2018

**SUNDAY MISSAL Pg. 266; 306**



**Congratulations to Cindy Bibby who is confirmed and receives her First Communion at the Easter Vigil this weekend. Every blessing upon her and her family.**

**SICK LIST**

Noah Amarant; Kathryn Young; Glenis Leddin; Val Seear; Lourdes dela Cerna; Kath Hayes (Ballarat); John Delaney; Lynn Wright; John Jess; Simon Monas; Angela Moore; Jeff O'Donnell; Peter Duffy (Canada); Nance Rutter; Kate Sargent, Yvonne & Alf Evans; Margaret Boag; Nigel James (Canberra), Ian Kindred, Sharron Pickering; Andrew Van Diesen; Benjamin Wolfson; Bernie O'Callaghan; Patty Fenwick; Robby Laxton; Nicole Lee (Horsham); Dominic Browne; Brian O'Loughlin, Beryl Walsh; Shirley Gererts; Mary Rita Thomas; Margaret Walker; Jordan Young

**NB: A FAMILY MEMBER OF THE SICK PERSON MUST CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE TO HAVE NAMES ADDED.**

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

Alida Symons & Willem Symons  
Madge & Les Moore

**LITURGY ROSTERS AVAILABLE**

**TODAY.** Please take yours from the back of the church. Thank you

**FINANCES LAST WEEKEND:**

Presbytery Collection: \$437.05  
Parish Collection: \$ 468.00  
Loose Collection: \$ 100.80  
Collection is for the clergy stipend, presbytery costs and support of the bishop and sick and retired priests. The 2nd collection is for the upkeep of the parish.  
**ANY NEW PARISHIONERS—OR OLD PARISHIONERS, PREPARED TO CONTRIBUTE TO PARISH COSTS THROUGH PLANNED GIVING ARE ASKED TO SEE FR ERIC OR GLORIA PICKERING OR FILL IN ONE OF THE CENSUS FORMS IN THE CHURCH. THANK YOU.**