

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat

www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com



Sunday September 16th 2018 24th Sunday (Year B)



Parish Office hours: Monday - Friday 10.00am – 5.00pm

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ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR, Priests, Frs Justin Driscoll, Anthony Nagothu, Sajan Mathew
Family Ministry Anita Houlihan, Grounds Tony McVeigh
Cathedral Parish Pastoral Carer at Ballarat Health Services Tracy Sillekens

Principals of our three Parish Primary Schools

[St Patrick's Primary](#) Cathy Whelan, [St Thomas More](#) Rosa Tocchet, [Siena](#) Jo Brewer

Cathedral Parish Masses September 22 nd /23 rd	Snake Valley	Beaufort	Skipton
5.30pm Vigil 8.00am 10.30am 5.00pm	6.30pm Vigil	8.30am	10.30am

Masses during the coming week

Monday	12.05pm	Cathedral		
Tuesday	10.00am	Funeral Mass (Paul Mahar)	12.05pm	Cathedral
Wednesday	12 Noon	ACU Aquinas	12.05pm	Cathedral
Thursday	9.30am	Redan	11.30am St John of God	12.05pm Cathedral
Friday	9.30am	Sebastopol	12.05pm	Cathedral
Saturday	10.00am	Cathedral		

Sacrament of Reconciliation Friday 11.00am Saturday 11.30am

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

Sung Responsorial 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time:

Lord send out your spirit and renew the face of the earth.

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish respectfully acknowledge that the Aboriginal people of Australia are our first nation peoples and the traditional owners and custodians of this land.

Recent Deaths: Brian Collier, Elaine Le Lievre, Paul Mahar, Anny Strik

Anniversaries: Ella Franklin, Sr Imelda Gallagher RSM, Cynthia Hucker,
Margaret McManus, Steven Molloy, Brian Scarff,
Francziska and Stanislaw Stodolny

Next week's readings: *Sunday September 23rd 2018 25th Sunday, Ordinary Time (B)*
Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 Ps 53:3-6. 8. St. James 3:16 – 4:3 Mark 9:30-37

Celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation

Welcome to the children and the many families and friends who are celebrating Confirmation this weekend at the 5.30pm, 10.30am and 5.00pm Masses. We pray *Come Holy Spirit and kindle in your faithful the fire of your love.*

Parish Anointing Mass

The Anointing Mass held last Wednesday in the Cathedral Hall was again well attended. After Mass, over 70 people stayed for lunch. Thank you to all those who so generously donated food and to those who helped cater for the function, some for the first time. Your efforts are much appreciated. The next Anointing Mass will be held in the Advent Season on Wednesday, December 12th at 12.05pm.

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

Low-cost online study and formation for lay workers in parish and other ministries, employed or volunteers. Sacraments, scripture, youth ministry, liturgy, leadership - many subjects available – 5 weeks per subject. New subjects include *The Mass*. Next study cycle starts October 21. More info at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or amanda.smith@ballarat.catholic.org.au ph. 5337 7125.

Australian Catholic Church Plenary Council 2020 – Listen, Dialogue, Discern

Two gatherings here in the Cathedral Hall will provide an opportunity to hear from and meet Ms Lana Turvey-Collins, Facilitator of the Australian Plenary Council 2020 Preparation Team. She will give insights into the process of Listening and Dialogue that is now open to hear the voices of all who wish to respond. Lana will also talk about the overall three-year process of preparing for the Plenary Council 2020 and answer any questions.

Wednesday October 10th 7.00pm- 8.30pm Glowrey-MacKillop Hall Cathedral precinct,
Thursday October 11th 10.00am -11.30am Glowrey-MacKillop Hall Cathedral precinct.

These gatherings are part of a series of gatherings in Horsham, Mildura, Warrnambool.

To promote our own prayerful thinking about our responses in the Cathedral Parish to the question – what is the Holy Spirit asking of the Church in Australia? We invite the many and

varied voices of Cathedral parishioners to be heard within our Parish. You are invited to offer your 200 words to the Parish Office. **Our response this week comes from Don Kelly:**
The Catholic church needs to focus on the future and promote Christian contemporary values. We must focus on pastoral activities with less emphasis on ceremonial events. We must encourage and welcome broad involvement in church activities. We must have as fundamental principles accountability, transparency and inclusiveness to build on Christian values. We must rebuild trust. We must overcome dysfunctional governance and leadership from bishops and learn from past errors. Local laity must have involvement in selection of Priests and Bishops and hold them accountable to the community. Lateral solutions must be developed to meet local needs. For example solutions to lack of priests. Catholics must embrace inclusiveness of broad members of the community including other races and religions, divorcees, LGBTI etc. and make them welcome and involve them in activities. Women must take their place in the governance of the church and be ordained as priests. Celibacy should no longer be a requirement for priesthood. Real life relationships are an important part of life experiences. Criminal law must be maintained for all citizens and the use of Canon law to withhold criminal information should be punishable under criminal law. I have skepticism about the Plenary Council as Bishops have proved themselves incompetent in response to Royal Commission - no compassion, no remorse, no empathy, denial, cover ups, lost memory and no response. These people will have the vast majority of votes at the Plenary Council.

Meeting of the Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council

Members of the Council met during the week and are planning a forum for the coordinators, leaders and contact persons from all groups, ministries and organisations of the Cathedral Parish. This will include Parish Schools, Prayer groups, Pastoral Care, Youth Ministry, Outreach, Sacramental teams, Liturgical ministries and many more. The forum will be held on Tuesday October 16th, 7.30 pm – 9.00 pm in the smaller hall at the Cathedral. Please contact the Cathedral Parish Office to ensure that your group, ministry or organisation is included in this forum. The focus will be the Plenary Council and the Synodal style of Pope Francis. A Parish expo of all groups, ministries and organisations is being proposed for the weekend of November 17th – 18th with a Parish Assembly scheduled for Sunday 2.30pm – 4.30pm (Same day as Ballarat's [Run 4 a Cause](#) which you participate with Fr Justin, then come to Mass and join your fellow parishioners at the Parish Assembly).

Thank-you for the Collections last weekend

Envelopes	\$1,955.00	Parish Loose	\$417.35	Presbytery	\$2,248.35
Counters	Team 5	Next week	Team 6.		

Gospel Reflection by Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

Today's gospel reading leads us into a section of Mark's gospel that explores challenges confronting all disciples on their journey of faith. The first challenge is to clarify the nature of our commitment as disciples of Jesus. If we fail to understand who Jesus is, then we have little chance of understanding the nature of our own call to follow him. Two questions ("Who do people say that I am?" and "Who do you say that I am?") are addressed to our forbears in faith communities of the latter part of the first century and to Christians across the millennia. We are invited to hear these questions anew. Do we simply share what "the people" say about Jesus? Are we like Peter who has the right language but only partial insight? Or do we have the wisdom to seek a deeper understanding of the identity of Jesus? In response to Jesus' second question ("Who do you say that I am?"), Peter gets the words right: Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ, God's anointed messenger. It becomes clear, however, that Peter has a very different notion from Jesus of what it means to be the Messiah or the Christ. This is understandable since there were diverse messianic expectations within first-century Judaism. Many expected a royal militaristic figure who would drive out the Roman occupiers and restore Israel's status as an independent nation. Jesus, as God's Messiah, refuses the way of violent action. His way is to be true to his mission of bringing God's empire, even if it brings the most intense personal suffering. Peter refuses to accept a suffering Messiah. He is severely reprimanded for his refusal and instructed to get out of the way, to get back to where a disciple should be, namely behind Jesus, following him, and not in front obstructing the path to wisdom and life.

Our bitter experience of global conflicts in recent decades should make us wary of accepting militaristic messiahs. In our times, to know and follow Jesus as the Christos or Messiah is to seek and support more moderate and lasting responses to perceived injustice. It is to listen to the wisdom of those with insight and experience, to calculate with the utmost care the consequences of violent reactions to the problems in our world, in contemporary society, and in our homes. That may well involve hard work, personal misunderstanding, physical and emotional trauma or, in other words, it may mean "losing one's life" for the sake of the gospel. It certainly calls for profound trust in the saving power of God. Over the next few weeks, the Sunday gospels will call us into the ways of respect, of commitment, and of peaceful negotiation, to ever deeper insight into the ways of Jesus the Christ, the anointed agent of God's empire.