

# St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

Communities of Alfredton, Ballarat, Cardigan, Lake Gardens, Lake Wendouree, Lucas, Newington

**Sunday February 24th**      **Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)**

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

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Bishop Paul Bird CSsR    Priests: Frs Justin Driscoll (Administrator)

Anthony Nagothu, Sajan Mathew, Vincent Pham CSsR

Visiting Priests:      Frs Dan Arundell and Barry Ryan

BHS Pastoral Care - Tracy Sillekens, Admin, Family Ministry & Safeguarding - Anita Houlihan

Finance Officer - Kerrie McTigue, Grounds - Tony McVeigh, Admin Officer - Selina Gaden

Principals of our three Parish Primary Schools

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

**Masses March 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Cathedral**

**Smythesdale      Linton      Skipton**

6.30pm Vigil 8.00am 10.30am 5.00pm      6.30pm Vigil      9.00am 10.30am

**Masses during the coming week**

Monday      12.05pm Cathedral      2.00pm Cathedral Funeral Mass

Tuesday      12.05pm Cathedral      5.00pm Cathedral Mass for Siena Primary

Wednesday 12.05pm Cathedral

Thursday      9.30am Redan      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 & Tues. 10.00am – 11.45am, Friday 12.30pm

**Morning Prayer of the Church** Monday - Saturday 8.00am

**Next week's readings:**    *Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C*

Sir 27:4-7

1 Cor 15:54-58

Phil 2:15-16

Luke 6:39-45

**Responsorial Psalm**

The Lord is kind and merciful.

*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:** Michael Duck, Stan Izydorczyk, Mary McCluskey, Mary Mahar  
**Anniversaries:** Bryan Coffey, Nora Scanlon, William Tasse, Win Westenberger

### **Welcome to week three of our Parish Stewardship Program.**

This week celebrates the role of our parish as a **community of faith** – as an authentic community where people are **welcomed, known and loved**.

How your community is a place of pastoral care & support, including outreach to the wider community – **a place with a clear mission to live the values of the Gospel**.

This means that we have a responsibility to use our gifts and talents for the benefit of others – making our time available to be involved in one of our many Groups and Ministries. We all have a contribution to make – so please have a look at the “Groups & Ministries” form to see what best suits you.

Today we will hear from members of the Parish Leadership Team who will share with us their involvement in our parish, and how important it is for us all to make our contribution to parish community life. We thank them for doing so!

**Pope Francis says:** *“A parish is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a centre of constant missionary outreach.”* Evangelii Gaudium 28

### **Parish ‘Our Future’ Forum**

All parishioners are warmly invited to special forums as part of the Program – the Our Future Forum on Wednesday February 27<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am and 7.00pm in the small hall. This is a great opportunity to make your contribution to the discussion. Please mark this date in your calendar. Full Program details will be available on the dedicated Program page on our [parish website](#) – which will be updated regularly.

### **Our three Parish Primary Schools**

Each of the schools will celebrate an opening Mass this coming week, Siena’s will be at the Cathedral on Tuesday at 5.00pm. St Thomas More will be on Thursday at the school at 9.15am and St Patrick’s Primary will be at the Cathedral 12.05 pm Mass on Friday. Each of our three Parish Primary Schools are now accepting enrolment applications for 2020. Please contact the schools directly for further information.

## **Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral collections last weekend**

Envelopes	\$2,189.00	Parish Loose	\$319.85	Presbytery	\$2,164.35
Counters	Team 7	Next Week	Team 1		

## **Our Parish RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

Our Parish RCIA catechumens, Leela, Darren and Robert, and our baptised candidates Anita, Judy –Ann and Tess, will celebrate the Parish Rite of Naming on Sunday, February 24th, at the 5.00 pm Mass. Following the Rite of Naming, they will be presented to the Bishop Paul at the Rite of Election on March 2nd at 12.30pm in the Cathedral. All parishioners are invited to attend the Rite of Election and to stay for lunch afterwards in the Cathedral Hall.

## **Plenary Council Listening encounters**

The Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council will host a number of meetings for Plenary listening encounters for parishioners as part of the first part of the Plenary Process. These will be opportunities for prayer, reflection, listening, and discernment that will be facilitated by members of PPC. They will all be held in the dining room at the Presbytery and will be for about one hour duration. Parishioners are welcome to participate in one of the following listening encounters throughout February:

Sunday 24th	11.30am	Bethany Pennington
Wednesday 27th	2.30pm	Trudie Dickinson

Submissions for the Plenary Council are open until March 6th, 2019.

Catholic School Parents Victoria are holding Listening and Dialogue Sessions on Wednesday, February 27, 2019 in the Glowrey Room at the Cathedral. There are two sessions from 1.00pm – 2.30pm and 5.00pm – 6.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

The latest edition of “Plenary Post” provides further information to assist participants answer the three questions being asked by the Plenary Council  
<http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/news/>

The ABC re-broadcast a program documenting the moving story of Marsha Gladstone, a Jewish woman from Scotland. When a bus in Tel Aviv was shattered in a suicide bombing, Marsha's 19 year-old son Yoni Jesner was critically injured. Yoni never regained consciousness, and before he died, the family agreed to make some of his organs available for transplant. The decision to donate helped them to find some meaning in this senseless tragedy. The subsequent revelation that one of Yoni's kidneys had saved the life of Yasmin Rumeilah, a seven-year-old Palestinian girl, came as quite a shock to the family. It had simply never occurred to this Jewish family that a child of the 'enemy' would become the beneficiary of Yoni's gift. A year after Yoni's death and at considerable personal cost, Marsha visited Yasmin and her family in their home in the West Bank. The Jewish mother who had lost her son embraced the Palestinian mother whose child lives with gratitude in her heart for the young Jewish man who gave her another chance at life and whom she now refers to as her 'brother'. There was an extraordinary moment of womb-compassion in the embrace of these two women, one Jewish and the other Muslim. The hatred and misunderstanding of the generations seemed to dissolve in their encounter. Today's gospel reminds us that God-like compassion is the stance required of Christian disciples in the face of opposition and hatred. Luke's earliest hearers and readers were well acquainted with the ancient traditions that informed their faith, even if many were not themselves Jewish. They had been introduced to a God of steadfast love (ḥesed) and womb-compassion (raḥamān), a God concerned about justice in the legal system (mishpat) and right relationship (sedeqah) between people and nations, a God ever ready to forgive those who turn away from injustice and wrongdoing. The songs and prayers of their Jewish heritage reminded them constantly of the compassionate ways of God in their history and in their personal lives. When the Lukan Jesus tells these people to be compassionate as God is compassionate, they know what he means. They also know the cost of compassion in situations where retaliation is the more spontaneous instinct. Compassion, forgiveness, and love of enemies are rare commodities, especially in international politics and in the resolution of global conflict. In practice, God-like compassion requires that we let go of past hurts, examine our tenaciously held opinions, and try to see the world from the perspective of those we tend to mistrust. *Veronica Lawson*