

St Patrick's Cathedral

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

Sunday April 28th 2nd Sunday of Easter

Parish Office hours: Monday - Friday

10.00am – 5.00pm 53 312 933

3 Lyons St Sth Ballarat

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

<https://stpatscathedral.weebly.com>

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR

Priests: Frs Justin Driscoll (Administrator)

Sajan Mathew, Vincent Pham CSsR

Visiting: Frs Dan Arundell, Barry Ryan

BHS Pastoral Care - Tracy Sillekens,

Admin, Family Ministry & Safeguarding -

Anita Houlihan

Finance Officer - Kerrie McTigue,

Grounds - Tony McVeigh



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



Masses May 4th – 5th Cathedral

5.30pm Vigil 8.00am 10.30am 5.00pm

Smythesdale

6.30pm Vigil

Linton

9.00am

Skipton

10.30am

Liturgies during the coming week

Monday 12.05pm Cathedral

Tuesday 12.05pm Cathedral

Wednesday 12 Noon ACU Aquinas

12.05pm Cathedral

Thursday 11.30am St John of God

12.05pm Cathedral

Friday 12.05pm Cathedral

1.30pm Benediction

Saturday 10.00am Cathedral

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Friday 11.00am

Saturday 11.30am

Legion of Mary 1st Saturday Devotion Saturday May 4th 9.15 am

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

Morning Prayer of the Church Monday - Saturday 8.00am

Next week's readings:

Acts 5:27-32. 40-41 Ps 29:2. 4-6. 11-13 Apocalypse 5:11-14 John 21:1-19

Responsorial Psalm:

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting

Recent Deaths: Noel Crowe, Fran De Jong, Leslie Green, Eileen McLoughlan
Ann Morgan-Niall

Anniversaries: Elizabeth & James Cloney, Maria Jarema, Bill Verdoorn

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral collections last weekend

Envelopes \$1,101.00 Parish Loose \$1,025.90 Presbytery \$2,834.05

Good Friday Holy Land Collection \$1,770.25 Easter Offerings \$2,353.00

Counters: This week: Team 2 Next Week: Team 3

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Charlie Leo Allen son of Stephen and Melanie
Sophia Prestes Etheridge daughter of Benjamin and Priscilla
Harry Joseph Jolly son of Carl and Emma



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

Catholic Women's League Meeting (Presbytery Meeting room)

Wednesday, May 1st at 1.30pm. We will have a WUCWO (World Union of Catholic Woman Organisation) service included. We extend an invitation to women of all ages to come and see what we're about. Enquiries to Carmel 5332 2103.

Youth Every Second Sunday

YESS is a dynamic group of young people aged 13-18yrs, who come together to share their faith and connect with other youth. We would like to extend a warm invitation to anyone interested in joining YESS in 2019. Youth group sessions will commence May 5th at 6pm with a bbq and information gathering (parents are welcome) at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, and continue each fortnight onwards, during the school terms. If you have any questions or would like to contact the Youth Leaders please phone Felicity Liston on 0409 393 464 or email yessballarat@gmail.com

Pre- Election forum on issues for a Compassionate and Just society

Monday April 29th, 6.00pm – 7.45pm at the Ballarat Central Uniting Church

Alpha – adult faith formation opportunity

Alpha @ St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat commences May 1st (6pm-8pm), at the MacKillop and Glowrey rooms. Come and explore Alpha - a series of interactive sessions exploring the Christian Faith over Food, Talk and Discussion." (Alpha.org.au)

Please contact alpha.jess@icloud.com. *"Alpha is an opportunity for anyone, anywhere, to freely explore their unique questions about life, faith and God."*

Parish Eucharist Program (MacKillop & Glowrey rooms)

There will be a meeting for parents on Tuesday, April 30th at 10.00am and 7.00pm for all parents whose children will be undertaking preparation for first communion.

Baptism Preparation for parents – Thursday May 1st, 10.00am and 7.00pm (MacKillop)

Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council

Members met during this past week and are keen to increase the membership on the Pastoral Council. Parishioners are invited to recommend fellow parishioners who they believe have the capacity to contribute to what the Council seeks to do (see below). Those recommended would then be invited to an information and discernment gathering. Please recommend their names to the Parish Office (phone or email).

The Parish Pastoral Council will:

- search out and respond to the hopes, ideas, needs and concerns of parishioners
- grow in knowledge and awareness of what is already happening in the parish
- encourage and support the good work of existing groups within the parish
- evaluate carefully, information gathered in order to contribute towards the making of decisions that reflect the values of the gospel and the teachings of the Church
- set long-term and short-term pastoral goals for the parish
- provide opportunities for parishioners to grow in their relationship with God and with each other
- develop, implement and improve parish initiatives that assist parishioners in their continuing efforts to live as effective Christians in society.

Feast of St Catherine of Siena Celebrations at our Parish School at Lucas (April 29th)

Parishioners, parents and grandparents, invited to Siena on Monday, April 29th

2.30 – 3.30pm join the children who will be doing activities in their House Teams

5.00 – 6.00pm join us for some Italian food (for catering please phone our office – 5334 3096), the annual Il Palio Horse race and an opportunity to pray together.

Gospel Reflection *by Cathy Jenkins*

Each year on this Sunday we read from John's Gospel (20:19–31). It is the story of Jesus appearing to the disciples in the closed room, where they had gathered in fear. It is hard to imagine how they must have felt—the public death of the man they loved had been brutal. The one to whom they had looked for guidance and in whom they had believed had left them and they were at risk in the community. It is no wonder that they feel joy at the appearance of Jesus! Jesus greets the disciples with peace and breathes the Holy Spirit into their sorrowing hearts and minds. The second part of the story is the story of Thomas and his unbelief.

Most of us live small lives really, but believers live in hope because we know that the same God who inspires our first breath also inspires our last and we know, because of the testament of the lives of generations of witnesses who have gone before us, that light always overcomes the dark, that goodness always triumphs over evil and that Jesus, who once was dead, lives. This, I think, is what my dad knew all along and is why he wasn't really afraid of death. Because Jesus was real to him and he lived and died with the hope that wherever he went, his Jesus went with him.

This didn't make his suffering any easier, though. Suffering is hard and there are times when we feel as though we can't go on. These are the times when we feel as though we are empty and we have nothing left to offer. Times when it's just hard to get out of bed and when we hear every laugh from another as an assault on our tender condition. When we look in amazement at the way life can just go on for others. When we feel as though our bones are almost ready to snap because of sadness, tiredness and loss. When we feel as though the Church itself has let us down and that our confidence is lost. When we stare into the darkness in the middle of the night and our Good Friday hearts cry, 'My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?'

Because Christians, as Catherine Mary Hilkert notes in *Naming Grace*, '*do not have an explanation of either suffering or hope, but only the story of Jesus and a cloud of witnesses who throughout history have testified to their experiences of resurrection*'. So, let's lean into the Resurrection story—the ultimate story of hope. Because perhaps the witness of those very first followers in that upper room, embodied now in our most recently baptised Christians and all the generations in between, is enough for even the most restless heart to proclaim with confidence: Alleluia, Christ is risen!