

St Patrick's Cathedral



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

Sunday June 23rd

Feast of the Body & Blood of Christ (C)

Parish Office hours: Monday - Friday

10.00am – 5.00pm 53 312 933

3 Lyons St Sth Ballarat

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR

Priests: Fr Justin Driscoll
(Administrator)
Fr Jorge De Chavez OSJ
Fr Sajan Mathew
Fr Vincent Pham CSsR

Visiting Priests: Fr Dan Arundell
Fr Barry Ryan

BHS Pastoral Care: Tracy Sillekens
Parish Co-ordinator: Anita Houlihan
Admin Assistant: Juanita Bongiorno
Finance Officer: Kerrie McTigue
Grounds: Tony McVeigh
Safeguarding Officer: Anita Houlihan

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.

We are a child Safe Parish following the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian Government, implementing procedures and standards as directed by the Professional Standards Office of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat.

Masses June 29th/30th 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

Tuesday 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 1.30pm

Benediction Saturday 10.00am Cathedral

Sacrament of Reconciliation Friday 11.00am Saturday 11.30am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mon. & Tues. 10.00am – 11.45am, Friday 12.30pm

Next week's readings for 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

1 Kings 19:16. 19-21 Ps 15:1-2, 5, 7-11 Gal 5:1. 13-18 Luke 9:51-62

Recent deaths: Patricia Duffy, Marie McKenna

Anniversaries: Julie Bolte, Michael Conroy, Helen Roberts

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral collections last weekend

Envelopes \$1,855.00 Parish Loose \$378.20 Presbytery \$2,131.75

Counters: This week team 3 Next week team 4

Alpha – adult faith formation opportunity

Alpha @ St Patrick's Cathedral continues each Wednesday (6pm-8pm), at the MacKillop and Glowrey rooms. Please contact alpha.jess@icloud.com. *"Alpha is an opportunity for anyone, anywhere, to freely explore their unique questions about life, faith and God."* This weeks session is on Wednesday June 26th, "Why and How Should I Tell Others?"

Plenary Council – National Themes for Discernment Announced

The six National Themes for Discernment invite people to reflect, to pray and to consider how God is calling the People of God to be a Christ-centred Church in Australia that is:

- Missionary and Evangelising
- Inclusive, Participatory and Synodal
- Prayerful and Eucharistic
- Humble, Healing and Merciful
- A Joyful, Hope-Filled and Servant Community
- Open to conversion, Renewal and Reform.

The discernment process will involve establishing working groups for each National Theme for Discernment. People in faith communities across Australia will also be called to participate locally in their own communal *Listening and Discernment* encounters. The outcomes of what is discerned during this time will shape the agenda for the first session of Plenary Council in October 2020. For more information go to www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

Thank you - St. Vincent de Paul Society

The Cathedral Conference of the Saint Vincent De Paul Society would like to thank all those who give generously through the Poor Box. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Annual Collection for the Pope

Next weekend, at all Masses, the Annual Collection for the Holy Father will be conducted. Through this collection we have the opportunity to support the Pope's pastoral care for people around the world.

Celebration of First Eucharist

This weekend we welcome the final groups of children celebrating their First Eucharist. We will continue to keep the children and their families in our prayers.

OFFERTORY HYMN FOR FIRST EUCHARIST *Michael Joncas*

We Come to Your Feast *All music reproduced with permission. One License 97*

Refrain *(sung once at the start, once at the end – not between each verse)*

We come to your feast; we come to your feast;
The young and the old, the frightened the bold,
The greatest and the least.

We come to your feast; we come to your feast
With the fruit of our lands and the work of our hands,
We come to your feast.

1. We place upon your table a gleaming cloth of white;
The weaving of our stories, the fabric of our lives;
The dreams of those before us, the ancient hopeful cries,
The promise of our future; our needing and our nurture
Lie here before our eyes.

2. We place upon your table a humble loaf of bread;
The gift of field and hillside, the grain by which we're fed;
We come to taste the presence of him on whom we feed,
To strengthen and connect us, to challenge and correct us,
To love in word and deed.

3. We place upon your table a simple cup of wine;
The fruit of human labour, the gift of sun and vine;
We come to taste the presence of him we claim as Lord,
His dying and his living, his leading and his giving,
His love in cup outpoured.

Gospel Reflection – Sr. Veronica Lawson rsm

The gospel for today brings together elements that have traditionally formed part of Christian worship. In the first part of the story, Jesus welcomes those who follow him. He then speaks to them of God's kin-dom and heals those in need of healing. In the second part, he takes the loaves, blesses them, breaks them and puts them before the disciples who distribute the bread to the assembled people. All eat and are satisfied.

The second part of the story is full of eucharistic symbolism. The setting is a "desert" place, recalling the wanderings of the Israelites in the desert of Sinai. The hunger of the people recalls God's care of Israel in the wilderness. God feeds God's people in the deserts of life, but only if those called to be disciples recognise their responsibility to be the hands of God. "Send them away" is one solution, clearly not the one preferred by Jesus. Rather, he says, "You give them something to eat". When the people sit down in circles and share their food, they find there is more than enough for everyone. They gather up the broken pieces, just as we must remember to gather up the pieces that so often go to waste.

Jesus' actions and words over the bread [and the fish] are echoed in the account of his final meal with the disciples: the bread broken and shared becomes his body broken and "given" for them. In the celebration of Eucharist, bread broken and wine poured out change their meaning. While all analogies fall short, we might begin to understand this mystery by thinking of the Eureka flag. The flag is constructed of fabric and thread, but it is no longer simply the sum of its material parts, precious as they are. The restored flag is housed in a special place and protected with the utmost care. Because of its associations with the Eureka rebellion and what that stands for in Australian history, it has taken on a meaning other than the goodness of the materiality of fabric and thread. In the celebration of Eucharist, the God-given gifts of bread and wine likewise become more than their material parts. They are life for us, the shared life of the Risen Christ. Eucharistic life is covenanted life. Recognition of another level of meaning does not discount the integrity and goodness of the underlying material reality, but rather affirms it.

Sharing in Eucharist means giving life for the sake of the many, sometimes to the point of heroism, sometimes simply by sharing our resources or our left-over pieces with others in need. Finally, it is important to remember that the healing is the prelude to the sharing of the bread. We are called to ensure there is a place at the table for those so often excluded from community by disability, ill-health or any kind of prejudice.