

St Patrick's Cathedral



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

Sunday September 15th, 2019

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

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: Fr Justin Driscoll
(Administrator)

Fr Jorge De Chavez OSJ

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 Sept 21st/22nd Cathedral

5.30pm Vigil 8.00am 10.30am 5.00pm

Ballarat East

6.00pm Vigil & 10.30am

Buninyong

9.00am

Liturgies during the coming week

Monday 12.05pm Cathedral

Tuesday 12.05pm Cathedral

Wednesday 12.00pm ACU Aquinas 12.05pm Cathedral

Thursday 11.30am St. John of God 12.05pm Cathedral

Friday 9.30am Ballarat East 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

Morning Prayer of the Church

Monday - Saturday 8.00am

Responsorial Psalm (Michael Herry FMS)

I will rise and go to my Father

Recent Deaths: Danny Frawley, Bob Stevenson

Anniversaries: Ella Franklin, Cynthia Hucker, Noel Pidgeon, Brian Scarff,
Wilma Tagliabue

Celebrations of Confirmation

Welcome to the children, families and friends celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation at Masses this weekend and next. Thank you to all members of the Parish Sacrament Team, families and Parish Schools for their support. As a community we continue to pray for these children and their families *"Come Holy Spirit and enkindle in us the fire of your love!"*

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral collections last weekend

Envelopes \$1,779.00 Parish Loose \$394.00 Presbytery \$2,064.35
Counters: This week Team 1 Next week Team 2

Planned Giving Receipts for the financial year 2018/2019 are available for collection from the south transept. Please make sure you collect yours. Thank you to all contributors.

Next week's readings for 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

Amos 8:4-7 Ps 112:1-2. 4-8 1 Timothy 2:1-8 Luke 16:1-13



Annual Collection for Sick and Retired Priests, September 2019

Thank you to those who have already given to the annual collection. Envelopes are still available for anyone wishing to contribute.

Final Mass - St Joseph's Church, Buangor

All are welcome to attend the final Mass at St Joseph's Church, Buangor on Sunday, September 22nd, 2019 at 10.00am. The Church has recently been sold.

Nazareth House Holy Hour for Vocations

Thursday, September 26th, Nazareth House Chapel, Mill Street Ballarat from 7.00pm – 8.00pm.

Enrolment Information Evenings for Catholic Secondary Colleges for 2021

Loreto College - Monday, October 21st at 7.00pm. Further information www.loreto.vic.edu.au

Damascus College - Tuesday, October 22nd at 6.30pm. Register your attendance at <https://www.damascus.vic.edu.au/prospective-visit-us>

St. Patrick's College - Thursday, October 24th at 7.30pm. Register your attendance at www.trybooking.com/BDEBO

Supporting Adults Seeking to become Catholic

Following from the Alpha adult faith education series in June – July, we have five adults seeking to commence the journey of Christian Initiation through the RCIA. The RCIA team is currently being 'rebuilt' and expressions of interest from parishioners keen to support those seeking Christian initiation are invited. Please contact Fr Justin through the Parish Office.

Season of Creation

Pope Francis at his address on the World Day of prayer for Creation has urged all to join the ecumenical "Season of Creation" initiative, which runs from the September 1st Day of Prayer through the feast of St. Francis of Assisi on October 4th. An ecumenical service for the Season of Creation will be held at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Wendouree on Sunday, September 29th at 2.00pm. Refreshment to follow. All welcome.

Catholic Earthcare Ballarat extends an invitation to attend a talk "Fire and Aboriginal Agriculture in Victoria" by Fred Cahir, Associate Professor of Aboriginal History, Federation University at the Mercy Centre, Thursday, October 3rd 7.00-7.30pm with questions. Entry via Gent Street, Ballarat East.

Mass of Thanksgiving to celebrate the Ordination of Rev Shane Mackinlay as Bishop

St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat on Wednesday, November 13th at 7.00pm, followed by supper in the Cathedral Hall. All welcome to attend. (Ordination in Bendigo, October 16th 12 Noon.)

Plenary Council 2020: National Theme for Discernment – September:

During the month of September, we are invited to reflect on Scripture, Church teaching and our contemporary situation in order to discern the answer to this question: "How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is missionary and evangelising?" The fruits of what is discerned during this time will help shape the agenda of the first session of the Plenary Council in October 2020.

This National Theme for Discernment is inspired by the voices of the People of God who shared a passion for participating in the missionary nature of the Church and desire stronger support, involvement and formation among all the baptised who make up the Church. The data also identified the need to reach out and communicate more effectively and to find new ways of living and proclaiming the Gospel in Australia today. There was a call for the strengthening of leadership and ministries in parishes and schools, training to equip leaders for ministry, pastoral support for various groups within parish and faith communities, and a desire for a unified voice in engaging social issues such as life and religious freedom.

There will be opportunities to gather and discern our communal responses later this month.

Gospel Reflection by Veronica Lawson rsm

Diverse creatures of the earth as well as earth elements feature in the gospel for this third Sunday of the Season of Creation. These evoke, once more, the eighth work of mercy with its call to contemplate God's creation with gratitude and to engage in simple daily gestures that have the power to transform our world. There is joy in living this way. While all three parables in today's gospel reading invite us into the experience of loss, loss of a valued creature, of a woman's means of survival, of an adult child's respect and presence, they likewise invite us into an encounter with God who seeks and "saves" the lost, be they human or other-than-human, and who rejoices big time when the lost are found. The parables are prefaced by an account of the criticism Jesus endured for hosting "the lost" of the human community, namely the toll collectors and those who were categorised as "sinners". The critics in the story are those who consider themselves "righteous". They have no room in their hearts for compassion or forgiveness and no capacity to accept the goodness of a prophet who acts in ways that cut across their expectations.

"What man among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he found it?" asks Jesus of his critics, who would eschew any identification with "unclean" shepherds. The lost sheep is found and ultimately embraced by the community. The ensuing celebration is likened to the heavenly banquet where there is more joy over one who repents than over those who have no need of repentance. Repent/repentance may seem a strange choice of words since all the action is taken by the shepherd. The lost sheep simply responds to the initiative of the shepherd who goes after it and returns it to the fold.

"Or what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one, light a lamp and sweep out the house and search thoroughly till she found it?" is Jesus' second question to his critics. The pattern is repeated. The drachma, representing a day's wages, is lost, sought, found and the community rejoices. Occasionally in the biblical tradition, as here, God is imaged as a woman. God is not only the good male shepherd as in the first parable or the good male parent as in the third parable. God is also the diligent female householder who seeks and saves what is lost. No single image can contain the compassionate, loving God presented in these parables. The invitation to the believing community is to find ways of opening our hearts and the hearts of the unforgiving in our world to God's action of seeking and saving the lost-here and now, not simply in the afterlife.