

St Patrick's Cathedral



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

Sunday October 6th, 2019

27th 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 October 12th/13th Cathedral

6.30pm 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 12.05pm Cathedral 1.30pm Benediction

Saturday 10.00am Cathedral

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Friday 11.00am

Saturday 11.30am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday & Tuesday 10.00am-11.45am

Morning Prayer of the Church

Monday - Saturday 8.00am

Responsorial Psalm (Michael Herry FMS)

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Recent Deaths: Tim Bedggood, Peter Boland, Anna Contessotto, Kathleen Cranage, Jack Kelly, Lorna Murnane, Mary Quarrell.

Anniversaries: Pat Cashin (Ararat), Bob Conaughton, Frank Doherty, Joan McDonald Phillips, Maureen Watson, Paul Watson

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral collections last weekend

Envelopes \$2,016.00 Parish Loose \$478.70 Presbytery \$1,669.20

Counters: This week Team 4 Next week Team 5

Next week's readings for 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

2 Kings 5:14-17 Ps 97:1-4. R 2 Timothy 2:8-13 Luke 17:11-19

Alpha – adult faith formation opportunity

Alpha @ St Patrick's Cathedral commences this Wednesday October 9th (6pm-8pm), in the MacKillop/Glowrey rooms with the session: "Is There More to Life than This?"

"Alpha is an opportunity for anyone, anywhere, to freely explore their unique questions about life, faith and God."

Alpha is a series of sessions for adults to explore the Christian faith. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Alpha is run all around the globe, and everyone is welcome. No two Alpha programs look the same, but generally they have three key things in common: food, a talk and good conversation. We especially welcome those who would like to inquire into becoming Catholic themselves as adults. Contact our Alpha Coordinator, Jess Salazar alpha.jess@icloud.com or the Parish Office 5331 2933 to register your interest. For more information go to <https://australia.alpha.org/>

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.

St Mary's Primary School Swan Hill Centenary Celebrations November 10th - 11th.

For more information to go www.smswanhill100years.com.

Tribute to John Molony, Saturday October 19th, St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall Bookings essential. Further information on the Parish Notice Board.

Change of Saturday evening Vigil Mass time

With the commencement of daylight saving summer time this weekend, our Saturday evening Mass will commence at 6.30pm from next Saturday, October 12th

Plenary Council 2020: National Theme for Discernment – October:

How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is Humble, Healing and Merciful?

This National Theme for Discernment is inspired by the voices of the People of God who expressed a deep and faith-filled trust in God and a need for lament and healing within the Church, acknowledging the sexual abuse crisis as a turning point for the Church in Australia.

Jillian Hogbin and Felicity Knobel are facilitating our Cathedral Parish Discernment gatherings for each of the six themes of the Plenary Council. Each discernment session, different from the dialogue sessions, will be held in the smaller hall of the Cathedral on Sunday afternoons, 2.30pm-4.30pm. The discernment process is a prayerful one, commencing with Scripture, silence, spiritual conversations and proposed actions.

Sunday October 27 th	How to be a Christ-centred Church that us Missionary & Evangelising
Sunday November 17 th	How to be a Christ-centred Church that is humble, healing & merciful
Sunday December 1 st	How to be a Christ-centred Church that is inclusive, missionary & synodal.

Catholic Professional Standards Audit of the Cathedral Parish

In recent months the Cathedral Parish was one of 11 parishes in the Diocese of Ballarat to be audited by Catholic Professional Standards. The audit has been a helpful process in our ongoing commitment to the safeguarding if children and vulnerable adults. The audit highlighted the following strengths in our Cathedral Parish safeguarding:

- Aware of and good promotion of the diocesan and parish Child Safeguarding Policy, Commitment Statement and Code of Conduct
- Child Safety Policy is uploaded on the parish website
- Volunteers sign an acknowledgement of the Code of Conduct
- There is awareness of the Diocesan Professional Standards Consultative Panel and the role of the Coordinator for Professional Standards
- Parents and youth leaders are made aware of safeguarding protocols
- Child safe practices such as visible confessionals and CCTVs in sacristy and Cathedral
- Child Protection Week - child safety awareness posters/materials
- Strong awareness of the credentialing requirements for any clergy visiting the parish
- Strong working relationship with the Co-Ordinator for Professional Standards on queries about complaints management
- Online training on child safety was required for all personnel and volunteers in 2016

The strength to remain faithful in the face of adversity, the capacity to forgive, and the courage to do what we ought to do without seeking recognition or reward are perennial challenges for most people. According to the Lukan Jesus, it takes faith to meet such challenges. The devastating fires in the Amazon forests and in north-eastern Australia are testing the faith of those who have devoted much of their energy, even their whole lives, to speaking truth to power about the need for action to offset the effects of global warming. And yet these people remain faithful, finding the strength to forgive and the courage to do what must be done for the sake of our common home.

Today's gospel reading brings to closure the central section of the long journey narrative that recounts the teaching of the Lukan Jesus on his way from Samaria to the final events of his life in Jerusalem. The "apostles" ask Jesus to increase their faith. Their request is in itself an act of faith. He has been telling them to be on their guard. He has been emphasising the importance of endless and unconditional forgiveness. These disciples are well aware that to keep on forgiving those who offend repeatedly is not easy. It is in this context that they ask him to increase the faith. Jesus responds by insisting that even the smallest amount of faith can work wonders. His metaphorical language stretches the imagination. Even transplanting a mulberry tree from land to sea becomes possible through the power of a faith-infused word! They have no answer to this.

Luke seems to be invoking "faith" in much the same way as does Habakkuk in today's first reading which closes with a comparison between the proud whose "spirit is not right" and the just who "live by faith" (Hab. 2:4). The Hebrew word for faith in this passage is probably better translated as "fidelity" or "faithfulness". For the Lukan Jesus, a little fidelity or faithfulness goes a long way. Among other things, it enables us to keep on forgiving even wilful ignorance and to keep on acting for justice.

Finally, Jesus puts a number of questions to his disciples, questions that align their status with that of slaves in the service of a master. His questions provide a stark contrast with an example he has offered earlier in the gospel where the slave master serves the faithful slaves (12:37). These questions are consistent, however, with his insistence that true disciples do not seek the reward of honour or recompense for their service. Jesus' followers must admit that their service is "unprofitable" in that it is no more than is required of them. Power, status, wealth acquired at the expense of others, refusal to forgive, all run counter to the path of gospel fidelity. To live by faith in our times is to be humble, forgiving, just and unremittingly attentive to the cry of the earth.