

St Patrick's Cathedral



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

Sunday November 3rd, 2019

31st 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

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

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 November 9th/10th 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 5.00 pm Loreto Chapel

Thursday 9.30am Ballarat East 11.30am St. John of God 12.05pm Cathedral

Friday 9.30am Ballarat East 10.00am Cathedral (Show Day Public Holiday)

Saturday 10.00am Cathedral

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Friday 11.00am

Saturday 11.30am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Monday & Tuesday 10.00am-11.45am, Friday 12.30pm

Morning Prayer of the Church

Monday - Saturday 8.00am

Next week's readings for 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14 Ps 16:1. 5-6. 8. 15. R. v.15 2 Thes 2:16 – 3:5 Luke 20:27-38

Recent Deaths: Mary Coutts, Kerrie Dowling, John Elliott, Bernie Nolan, John O'Keeffe

Anniversaries: Mary Donegan, Liz Fitzpatrick, Lucy O'Donohue, Mary Taranto

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral collections last weekend

Envelopes \$1,496.00 Parish Loose \$364.35 Presbytery \$1,743.85

Counters: This week Team 1 Next week Team 2

Cuppa and a Chat, in the small hall after 10.30am Mass this week. Thank you again to Dagmar van der Linden, Rachel Brennan and Maria Plier who have offered the monthly cuppa and a chat almost two years. They will conclude this ministry of hospitality at the end of 2019. Are there parishioners who would be willing to form a team to continue this great ministry? At the Parish Assembly, parishioners expressed how important it is that we have such opportunities and hoped that there would be more. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to support this ministry of hospitality that seeks to build community in our Parish.

Life in the Spirit Charismatic Prayer Group will not take place Tuesday, November 5th, due to Melbourne Cup.

Baptism Preparation Sessions Thursday, November 7th at 10.00am and 7.00pm

All welcome to the MacKillop/Glowrey Rooms (small halls) at St. Patrick's Cathedral for the next sessions for parents wishing to have their children baptised.

Alpha – adult faith formation opportunity

Alpha at St Patrick's Cathedral continues this Wednesday, November 6th (6pm-8pm), in the MacKillop/Glowrey rooms with the sessions: "Why and How Should I Read the Bible" and "How Does God Guide Us?" The next session of Alpha will be the Day Retreat on Saturday November 23rd, 9.00am-4.30pm. 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/>

Christian Meditation Sessions

Parishioners are invited to experience Christian Meditation that are being held at the Central Uniting Church, Lydiard Street South, Monday evenings, fortnightly, 7.30pm-8.30pm.

Next sessions: November 4th and 18th, December 2nd and 16th Michael Hedger 53740392.

Mass of thanksgiving to celebrate the Ordination of Bishop Shane Mackinlay

St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat on Wednesday, November 13th at 7.00pm, followed by supper in the Cathedral Hall. All welcome to attend.

Singers and musicians in the diocese are invited to join the music group which is being formed for this Mass. Please contact Julie Boyd in the Pastoral Ministry Office to register your interest julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7159.

Parish Pastoral Council

At its meeting during the week the audit of the Cathedral Parish by Catholic Professional Standards was tabled and discussed. Safeguarding will be a standing agenda item for the Council. A section on Child Safety has been included on the Parish website for our policies, code of conduct and the report from Catholic Professional Standards. (Members Leo Styles – Chairman, Susan Crowe, Trudie Dickinson, Gerard Knobel, Bethany Pennington, Brian Shanahan, Tomy Theckkamury as well as Frs Justin, Jorge and Vincent.)

Parish Finance Committee

Next meeting Monday November 4th at 5.00pm for the members Michael Kearney (chairman), Andrew Ballesty, Ed Browne, Cheryl McIntosh, Geordie Charles, John Mulcair, Cathy Oakley, and ex officio members Kerrie McTigue (Finance Officer) and Fr Justin.

Plenary Council 2020 Discernment Gatherings

Jillian Hogbin and Felicity Knobel facilitated our first Cathedral Parish Discernment gathering last Sunday. Thanks to the four table groups whose responses as to how we can be a Christ-centred Church that is Missionary and Evangelising will be printed over the following weeks.

1. *We should pray for help in being able to greet a stranger/newcomer at Mass, introduce ourselves to each other and extend a personal invitation to people to take part in parish events, rather than just publicise that they are happening.*

The next sessions will be held in the MacKillop/Glowrey rooms, 2.30pm-4.30pm:

Sunday November 17th How to be a Christ-centred Church that is humble, healing & merciful

Sunday December 1st How to be a Christ-centred Church that is inclusive, missionary & synodal.

RCIA Diocesan & State Conferences “It takes a village”

The Diocesan Conference will be held on Friday, November 15th from 5.30pm-9.00pm and the State Conference will be held on Saturday, November 16th from 8.30am-4.30pm. Both events will be held at St Patrick’s Cathedral Precinct, Ballarat.

Registrations are now open - go to www.ballarat.catholic.org.au. Those attending the Diocesan Conference are also welcome and encouraged to attend the State Conference.

Nazareth House Auxiliary Annual Fete from 10.00 am Saturday, November 16th

Catholic Women's League Annual General Meeting and monthly meeting, November 27th at 1.30pm (replacing the meeting scheduled for November 6th).

Asylum Seeker Fundraiser

The House of Welcome Ballarat, Annual Garden party, 2.00pm Sunday November 24th at 30 Waller Ave. Newington. Entry \$20. Children free. Inquiries 0401 175045.

Gospel Reflection

by Veronica Lawson rsm

In 2015, a little book came my way and proceeded to turn my world upside down. The author of that book was German forester Peter Wohlleben, its title *The Hidden Life of Trees: What They Feel, How They Communicate—Discoveries from a Secret World*. I have long mourned the destruction of trees, local and global, including the threatened trees of the Amazon. I grew up loving, valuing and sometimes climbing the trees of the Macedon Ranges. I now live among the trees on the outskirts of Ballarat. Wohlleben's book brought home to me how much I had still to learn about these precious gifts of life and love. Luke's story of the toll-collector Zacchaeus provides me with yet another opportunity to give thanks for the wonder of trees, their intrinsic beauty and the life they sustain. A sycamore tree is at the heart of this story. Once I would have thought of this tree simply as one of the props in the human story that unfolds, providing as it does the platform for a height challenged would-be disciple of Jesus to "see". The human encounter with the holy is foregrounded in this story and is in no way to be discounted. But let us not relegate the tree to the status of prop. As I write this reflection, the Synod on the Amazon is underway in Rome and the tropical forests of northern Australia are threatened by fire. The planet cannot breathe without its trees. We might keep this in mind as we turn to the human elements in the story of Zacchaeus. Zacchaeus is a wealthy man, a chief tax collector, possibly responsible for overseeing the activities of other tax collectors. He wants to see what Jesus is like and he lets nothing get in the way. He runs ahead and climbs the sycamore tree. Jesus looks up and tells him to come down quickly, "for I must stay at your house today." Zacchaeus offers hospitality "joyfully". Hospitality, joy, haste to respond to divine visitation: these are constant themes in Luke. "All those who see" complain that Jesus chooses to stay with a sinner, no doubt considering themselves more worthy hosts for God's prophet. There are clues in the text that Zacchaeus has already changed his ways, however. The future tense in translations ('I will pay') obscures this important element. He gives half his property to the destitute and, if he has cheated anyone, he pays them back four times the amount. Jesus looks at Zacchaeus and assures him that salvation has come to his house. He then acts to restore honour to Zacchaeus in the eyes of those who hold him and his kind in contempt. Zacchaeus is affirmed as a true descendant of his forbears in faith. Salvation for our house, our "common home", will only come with comparable attention to what we have despoiled. Luke 19:1-10

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." Zacchaeus stood there and said to Jesus, "Look, half of my possessions, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Human One came to seek out and to save the lost."