

# St Patrick's Cathedral



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

**Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent (A)**

Parish Office hours: Monday - Friday

10.00am – 5.00pm 53 312 933

3 Lyons St Sth Ballarat

[ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto: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

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 Dec 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> 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 12.05pm Cathedral 6.00pm Cathedral (St. Thomas More School Mass)

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

Friday 9.30am Ballarat East 12.05pm Cathedral

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

**Evening Prayer of the Church** Every Friday during Advent 6.00pm

**Legion of Mary** 1st Saturday Devotion, December 7th, 9.15am

## Next week's readings for the 2nd Sunday in Advent (A)

Isaiah 11:1-10 Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17 Romans 15:4-9 Matthew 3:1-12

**Responsorial Psalm:** Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

**Recent Deaths:** Peter Burns, Bernard O'Callaghan, Gret Urch

**Anniversaries:** Elizabeth Clark, George Clark, Fr. John Martin, Helen Watt, Kevin Woof

**Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral collections last weekend**

Envelopes \$1,678.00          Parish Loose \$350.95          Presbytery \$1,718.25

Counters:    This week Team 5          Next week Team 6

**Cuppa and a Chat** in the small hall after 10.30am Mass. Come along and take this opportunity for the final time to thank Dagmar van der Linden, Rachel Brennan and Maria Plier who have offered the monthly cuppa and a chat for almost two years.

**Plenary Council 2020 Discernment Gathering**

The next session will be held in the MacKillop/Glowrey rooms, 2.30pm-4.30pm, this Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup> - How to be a Christ-centred Church that is Humble, Healing and Merciful, facilitated by Felicity Knobel and Jillian Hogbin. The next gatherings will be held in 2020.

**Life in the Spirit Charismatic Prayer Group**

Tuesday December 3<sup>rd</sup> 7.00pm in the Mackillop/Glowrey Rooms. Final meeting for 2019 and Christmas break-up. Please bring a plate. Next meeting – Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> 2020.

**Baptism Preparation**

On Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> there will be two Baptism Preparation sessions for parents whose children will be baptised. These sessions are shared amongst the six Ballarat Parishes. The sessions are held at 10.00am and 7.00pm in the smaller hall at the Cathedral.

**Parish Mass with Anointing** Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> 12.05pm

Held in St Patrick's Hall, lunch will be served after Mass. Donations of cakes or slices would be appreciated. Volunteers to assist with lunch preparation at 10.00am would be welcomed. If you require transport, contact the Parish Office on 5331 2933.

**St. Patrick's Cathedral Pre-schoolers Christmas Gathering**

Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> 9.30-11.30am in St. Patrick's Hall. Morning tea for all pre-schoolers and parents. Please bring a plate to share (nut-free food). All welcome.

**Advent Retreat**

Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup> at St Alipius' Ballarat East with Rachel McLoughlin and Natalie Houlihan (Loreto Sisters) 2.00 -5.00 pm. An advent time of Reflections, Readings, music, images, Silence and ending with Spiritual Conversation circles. All are welcome.

**Making a Scene at Christmas**

All are welcome to visit the Making a Scene at Christmas display at Ss Peter & Paul's Church Buninyong from December 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> between 9.00am – 5.00pm.

## **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: December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Further details contact Michael Hedger 53740392.

**St. Vincent de Paul Cathedral Piety Stall** have Christmas cards and Columban calendars.

## **St. Vincent de Paul Jesse Tree Christmas Appeal 2019**

Jesse Tree symbols will be distributed at each Mass throughout the Season of Advent. We again ask that you support our Jesse Tree Appeal. Hampers will be delivered on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019. It would be appreciated if non-perishable food items could be placed under the Jesse Tree prior to this date. Vinnies Christmas Appeal envelopes will be available in the pews for those wishing to make a cash donation to the appeal.

## **OLHC Parish Wendouree Christmas Day Lunch**

482 Gillies Street, Wendouree from 12.00noon – 2.00pm. Transport is available. For bookings or further information ph. 0419 975914 or email [christmaslunchwendouree@gmail.com](mailto:christmaslunchwendouree@gmail.com)

## **Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – now open for new participants**

A low-cost online study and formation program for lay workers in parish and other ministries; employed or volunteers. Sacraments, Scripture, Youth Ministry, Liturgy, Leadership and more. Study over 5 weeks per subject. Next study cycle begins January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Registrations open now until December 23<sup>rd</sup>. More info at [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) or email [kim.butler@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:kim.butler@ballarat.catholic.org.au) ph. 0407 523 424.

## **Carols during Advent**

**St Peter's Anglican Church**, 1309 Sturt Street - a service of Lessons and Carols for Advent this Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 5pm. The service will feature all the old favourite Advent hymns alongside lessons. Fr Justin will also preach! The service will be followed by light refreshments served in the West Transept of the church. All welcome.

**Carols on the Turf** at St Patrick's Primary School Drummond St Sth, Tuesday December 3<sup>rd</sup> 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm. Please bring something comfortable to sit on and perhaps a blanket as it may be chilly! Food and drinks available to purchase from 5.30pm. Parishioners welcome.

**Nazareth House Carols** Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> in the Chapel from 6.00pm, Nazareth House Hall. All children are invited to play a part in the Nativity scene. Parishioners welcome.

**Christ Church Anglican Cathedral** Lydiard St Sth Carol Service - 9 Lessons and Carols, Sunday December 22<sup>nd</sup> 7.00 pm

## **Christmas Masses at St Patrick's Cathedral**

Christmas Eve 6.30pm with Bishop Paul, 9.00pm with Fr Justin, 12 Midnight with Bishop Paul. Christmas Day 8.00am with Fr Dan and 10.30am with Bishop Paul.

## **Gospel Reflection** by Veronica Lawson rsm

“Where is the Life we have lost in living?” asks the Chorus in T. S. Eliot's *The Rock*. The Jesus of Matthew's gospel is implicitly asking the same question as Eliot's Chorus. He is making much the same observation as Henry David Thoreau, “Most [people] lead lives of quiet desperation and go to the grave with the song still in them.” We are invited to find Life in our living and to sing the songs that are in us. We are to be agents of our own future rather than unthinking participants in the destruction of our planet. Right now, the human community is challenged in unprecedented ways to restore the life we have lost by living beyond our means and by destructively exploiting the riches of the Earth. As we begin a new liturgical year, Matthew's Jesus invites us to contemplate the ultimate realities even as we attend to the demands of the present. He tells us to be “awake”, to be “ready” all the time, not because death or the end of the world are around the corner, but because we need to recognise the multiple “advents” or arrivals of the Christ, the Human One, who calls us beyond self-absorption to Life. He reminds us that we are no different from our forebears who from earliest days have gone about their daily business without being sufficiently attentive to what really matters. In our times, we have allowed thieves to break in and plunder our planet, our common home, because thieves come in guises that we fail to recognise. They so often look just like us and do the things we do. It may be that we must first be attentive to our own ways of plundering the house that is home to all of God's creatures. We spend much of our time looking back. That has its place, since our history informs our present and helps us in shaping our future, though all the while we know with Auden that ‘[t]he past is foreign country: they do things differently there’. Advent invites us to look forward rather than back and to dream gospel-inspired dreams that will enable creative change in our own lives and in the life of our planet. It invites us to be awake, to be ready for any eventuality. Dreams and visions have always been the precursors to effective and life-giving change. We need the grace to see visions and to dream dreams that make for justice and peace and that permit us to walk more freely in the light of God's ways. We seek the grace to “see” God's word as did the prophet Isaiah in the first reading (Isa 2:1-5). We need to put our energy into creating life-generating systems that enable us to move forward in the paths of gospel compassion and love. Matthew 24:37-44 For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Human One. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Human One. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your master is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Human One is coming at an unexpected hour.