

St Patrick's Cathedral



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

Sunday, February 23rd, 2020

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

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

Administrator: Fr Justin Driscoll

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.

Cathedral Masses Feb 29th/March 1st 6.30pm Vigil, Sunday 8.00am 10.30am 5.00pm

Liturgies during the coming week

Monday 12.05pm Cathedral

Tuesday 9.30am Secondary College Leaders Shrove Tuesday 12.05pm Cathedral

Ash Wednesday 7.30am 10.00am 12.05pm 7.00pm (11.00am St. John of God)

Thursday 11.30am St John of God Hospital 12.05pm Cathedral

Friday 12.05pm Cathedral

Saturday 10.00am Cathedral 12.30pm RCIA Rite of Election

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 8.00am Monday - Saturday

Next week's readings for the First Sunday of Lent (A)

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Romans 5:12-19

Matthew 4:1-11

Responsorial Psalm: *The Lord is kind and merciful; the Lord is kind and merciful.*

Recent Deaths: William (Mick) Lynch

Anniversaries: Bryan Coffey, Jennifer Parker, William Taffe

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral collections last weekend

Envelopes \$1,874.00 Parish Loose \$323.60 Presbytery \$1,845.10

Counters: This week Team 3 Next week Team 4

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Shaun Alexander Bossner

son of Anthony and Bree

Lotti Jane Todd

daughter of Jonas and Melinda

Billy Ryan and Jimmy Maxwell Waight sons of Ryan and Kirsty



“The Church gives the faith to your children through Baptism and you have the task to make it grow...” Pope Francis.

May they grow in faith with the support of their families and our Catholic Community

Project Compassion Sunday, 23rd February 2020



Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed **“Go Further Together.”** Your generosity will assist some of the world’s most vulnerable communities to lift themselves out of poverty. When we **Go Further Together** in love and compassion, the whole world thrives. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by phoning 1800 024 413 or visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion

Ash Wednesday, February 26th (A day of fast and abstinence)

Cathedral Mass times 7.30am, 10.00am, 12.05pm and 7.00pm

Sebastopol 9.30am and 6.00pm Redan 11.45am St. John of God Hospital 11.00am

Next weekend we will welcome Caritas Lenten visitor Fr George Dhanasegaran Sigamony to speak at Parish Masses. Fr George is currently the Manager of Community Engagement at Caritas Australia. Father George, from Sri Lanka, served as the Director of the National Commission for Migration and as an adviser to the Migration Ministry of Sri Lanka.

2020 Lenten Program – *Light from Within* ([Garratt Publishing](#))

An invitation to journey through Lent by using the image of *“Light from Within”* as the guiding theme, in recognition that every Christian journey forward is always also a journey within. Maeve Louise Heaney invites us on a journey to explore the light from within in recognition that the foundations of our growth in faith depend on the quality of our inner life of faith. Join a Parish Lenten Group or undertake the journey at home. To order a book (\$10 each) contact the Parish Office. Please register.

RCIA Rite of Naming (5pm Mass) This Sunday we pray for our catechumens Anthea, Ebonee and Marie and our candidate Erin as they prepare for the Rite of Election.

Liturgical Ministries

A reminder to all who are rostered for liturgical ministries to ensure that you have received and read the Cathedral Parish Child Safety Policy and the Code of Conduct. Please return the signed acknowledgement form to the roster coordinator for your Mass time or ministry by Monday, February 24th. Those rostered are also invited to give consent to their contact details being shared with others on the roster so that replacements can be arranged.

Pastoral Care at Ballarat Health Services

Following the appointment of Tracy Sillekens to another position, the Cathedral Parish has a vacancy for the position of Pastoral Carer at Ballarat Health Services. The position is part time, 12 hours per week, with flexibility as to when these hours are worked. The successful applicant will offer pastoral care to the Catholic patients and their families at the Hospital. A position description is available from the Cathedral Parish Office. Applications close on Friday March 6th. We thank Tracy for her for her ministry of pastoral care amongst us.

Choir for the RCIA and RCIC Rite of Election

All are invited to join the choir for the Rite of Election to be held on Saturday, February 29, 2020 at St Patrick's Cathedral 12.30pm.

Plenary Council Listening & Discernment gatherings

The Cathedral Parish will be hosting three further Listening & Discernment gatherings over the coming weeks on Sundays March 1st and March 22nd, 2.30pm – 4.30pm in the MacKillop and Glowrey rooms in the smaller hall at the Cathedral. These gatherings will be facilitated by Felicity Knobel and Jillian Hogbin and all are welcome to participate in these gatherings and be part of the discernment process. For each of the seven Plenary Council themes there are snapshot reports which can be found at www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au or a copy can be collected from the Parish Office. The themes for each gathering will be:

Open to Conversion, Renewal and Reform – Sunday March 1st

Joyful, Hope-filled and Servant Community – Sunday March 22nd

John Crowley appointed to St Kevin's College

Amidst much publicity this week following the ABC Four Corners program and the resignation of the Headmaster of St Kevin's College Toorak, Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) has appointed John Crowley Headmaster of St Kevin's. Until now John has been Principal of St Pat's College, leading the College since 2015 and is well known as a trusted advocate for victims and survivors of abuse and he was a significant contributor to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. This past week highlights the ongoing need for structural and cultural transformation, including the need for greater accountability and transparency in order for the culture of concealment to be overcome.

Gospel Reflection by Veronica Lawson rsm

Today's gospel is a continuation of the Matthean Jesus' teaching on the sort of righteousness, the right relationship and justice, to which his followers are called in their living of the Law. The Law of Moses included a law of retaliation designed to make punishment for wrongdoing to persons or property proportionate to the offence (Exodus 21:24, Leviticus 24:20 and Deuteronomy 19:21). This was quite enlightened legislation at that time. In a series of striking images, Jesus invites his followers to go far beyond the strict application of the law and to embrace a new way of thinking about and acting towards those who injured them or us.

Relinquishing your right to compensation is one thing. Giving more of your property to one who has stolen from you is quite another. Do we take this teaching literally or do we simply embrace the spirit of non-retaliation that seems to be at the heart of this teaching? A too-easy amnesty does not always bring justice. Last week's gospel reminded us that there is to be no place for uncontrolled anger or murderous thoughts in our hearts. Both that teaching and this seem to be about taking responsibility for how we live. Harboring anger can have disastrous consequences for oneself as well as for others. It tends to become a state of being and skew our capacity for right judgement. What happens *to* us may be beyond our control. What we do with what comes our way is for us to decide. Jesus makes it clear that we have choices in the face of life's struggles. The disciple is called to assume personal responsibility and to refuse the way of retaliation.

The final example or antithesis in the list of six that Jesus offers in the Sermon on the Mount is the most confronting of all: there are to be no limitations on love. Loving one's enemies is quite a challenge, on a personal as well as a global level. We learn the hard way that we cannot change others. We can only change our attitudes and our approaches to those who harm us in any way. Catherine McAuley, the first Sister of Mercy, wrote that her sisters "never let the sun go down on their anger". I used to wonder how they managed that. Over recent years I have found that praying quite deliberately for those who give us a hard time or cause us grief is by far the most effective way of retaining my own peace of mind and of expelling retaliatory thoughts. For me, it is a matter of gently bringing these people to mind, of breathing in the loving kindness or *chesed* of God that suffuses the universe and of breathing it out to them. Such prayer enables me to think of them in kindly ways and act towards them without rancour, even when these sentiments are not reciprocated.