

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS – April 26, 2020

THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER YEAR A

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Sandra Watkins: 0409 492 508

**Fr Marcello Colasante 0416 194 825 Contact: St Columba's, Ballarat North 53 311 012
email: ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au**

Information for special parish events (BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, FUNERALS)

Please contact Anne Beer on 5349 2168 or 0417 369 322

Welcome again to 'Our Community News for April 26. Finally, we are beginning to hear talk of winding back restrictions, so hopefully it won't be long and we will be able to gather again in our little community of St. John the Baptist.

Today's Community News email has one other attachment - Third Sunday of Easter copy of 'The Saving Word', which contains the Sunday Readings and Reflection. I will also forward a link for the Diocesan e-news.

I have been told by a number of our community that they are happy to help anyone in any way, so please get in touch with one of our members below, if needed.

Gail Hall 0412 311 586 Bernadette Franc 0427 678830 Anne Beer 0417 369 322

Recent Deaths: We pray for all the victims to Coronavirus throughout the world.

Anniversaries: Dawn Lardner, Cis Roberts, Connie Glenister, June Murphy, Mark Ryan, Mary Fitzpatrick, Sally Thain, Irene Walsh, Jack Meade, Moira Long, Bob Kirkpatrick, Bryan Lynch, Ron Flanagan, Ernie Daniels, Geoff Bruty & Heather Machin.

Pray for all these friends of ours who are ill:

Pat Byrne, Margaret MacDonald, Roger Molomby, Graeme Dawson, Blake Dridan, Fr Adrian McInerney, Shelagh Mulcahy, Valda Murphy, Michael Wise and all those in need of prayer.

ROSTERS:

The newsletter roster will continue, but if any parishioners wish to contribute anything at all for inclusion, it will be greatly appreciated. This would be a great way to keep our little community in touch. Just simply put your contribution in an email.

April: Bernadette Franc 0427678830

bernadette.franc.m@gmail.com

May: Angela Gerrard 0439 565 468

colangegerrard@gmail.com

Church Grounds: Can parishioners please, from time to time, continue to do a drive-by or even spend a few minutes parked in the church grounds, to ensure we have a presence around the place? I know Charlie does this, but we have been advised that during this time when it is commonly known that churches are shut, there is an increased likelihood of being targeted. Kim is also keeping a presence around the place.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: Mass of the Holy Oils has now been set aside for Monday, September 21st at 6.30 pm at the Cathedral.

REFLECTION ON TODAY'S SCRIPTURE:

When we read of the meal at Emmaus, we cannot fail to see the parallels with the actions of the Last Supper, in which Jesus instituted the Eucharist. The fourfold actions of taking the bread, blessing it, breaking it and giving it are present, and it is in these actions that the disciples recognise Jesus.

Look at the structure of the Liturgy of the Eucharist and see where each of these actions is present: the preparation of gifts, the Eucharistic prayer, the fraction rite and the giving of communion.

SYMBOLS AND IMAGES:

The journey of the disciples to Emmaus recalls our own journey from doubt to faith. Informed by the Scriptures and nourished by the Eucharist, the disciples know that Jesus walks with them.

PRAYER FOR TODAY:

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us; make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR ANZAC DAY:

God of love and liberty, we bring our thanks this day for the peace and security we enjoy, which was won for us through the courage and devotion of those who gave their lives in time of war. We pray that their labour and sacrifice may not be in vain, but that their spirit may live on in us and in generations to come. That the liberty, truth and justice which they sought to preserve may be seen and known in all the nations upon the earth. This we pray in the name of the one who gave his life for the sake of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q20DUaIzYJg&list=RDmGDhzVi1bqU&index=4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mGDhzVi1bqU&list=RDmGDhzVi1bqU&index=1>

With Jesus in the Desert: A retreat for a time of isolation

The staff of Jesuit Communications have prepared a 14-day retreat for the use of people who have to isolate themselves for 14 days during the Coronavirus crisis. Of course, other people who may find it helpful are also welcome to use it. The retreat has suggestions for each of the 14 days, though participants are free to follow it through or to pick out particular days. A shorter retreat that keeps the basic pattern could involve days 1, 2, 5, 10, 11, 12, 14. More information at **<https://www.pray.com.au/with-jesus-in-the-desert-a-retreat-for-a-time-of-isolation/>**