

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS – 2nd August, 2020
Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary time 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

Parish Support:

A reminder that if anyone needs help with anything,
to please get in touch with one of our members below.

Gail Hall 0412 311 586 Bernadette Franc 0427 678 830 Anne Beer 0417 369 322

Welcome to 'Our Community News' for 2nd August 2020

Note: Today's Community News email has one other attachment: copy of 'The Saving Word'

Have you heard the Good News?

Our CDF (Catholic Development Fund – Ballarat) together with CDF Pay have developed an
online thanksgiving portal known as CDF Pay for Parishes.

During this period of time where Masses in the diocese are suspended or reduced, parishes need the
financial support of parishioners more than ever. As the vast majority of our parishioners give physically
to our parish in the first and second collection plates, we are encouraging all parishioners to use our new
electronic parish thanksgiving program.

You can now use this portal to support our parish in both/either the first and second collections.
Electronic thanksgiving offerings can be made as one off payments or you can set up a regular payment.

You will receive an electronic receipt for any payments made.

Payment link can be found by scrolling down on our webpage or using the below link.

<https://bit.ly/CDFpayBeaufort>

RETURN TO MASSES DELAYED - A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP PAUL BIRD:

Hello Everyone,

Today, the Victorian Premier announced some further restrictions aimed at countering the spread of the coronavirus.

From midnight tonight (Thursday, July 30), people living in the local government areas of Colac-Otway, Greater Geelong, Surf Coast, Moorabool, Golden Plains, and the Borough of Queenscliffe, will no longer be able to visit people or have visitors at home. This will affect people in a few of our parishes, such as Apollo Bay and Colac.

*The other new provision will affect us all, namely, **the requirement to wear a face covering.***

From midnight on Sunday (August 2), people throughout our diocese, together with people throughout the whole of Victoria, will be required to wear face coverings whenever we leave home.

You can find further details on the Victorian government's web pages, such as at www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-victoria

The government website provides information about particular issues, such as that children under the age of 12 and people with certain medical conditions do not need to wear a face covering.

Here I would simply add a note regarding the celebration of liturgies.

In our diocese of Ballarat, we will still be allowed to gather for liturgies in churches, with a maximum of 20 people in the congregation, plus those needed to conduct the service. However, from Monday August 3, everyone will be required to wear a face covering throughout the liturgy. The only exceptions would be when the priest is speaking to the congregation or reading prayers, when a reader is actually reading the Scriptures, when a song leader is leading the singing and when anyone is receiving communion.

As well as the new requirement to wear a face covering, the current requirements about hygiene and distance between people will continue to apply.

God bless you all.

Bishop Paul

Paul Bird CSsR

Bishop of the Diocese of Ballarat

FATHER JUSTIN'S ONLINE MASSES FROM ST JOHN OF GOD HOSPITAL:

Reminder: Daily Mass at 11.30 am from St John of God Hospital Chapel.

The Cathedral facebook page is Patrick's Cathedral <https://www.facebook.com/patricks.cathedral.9> but the Masses can also be reached via the Cathedral website where the Masses are posted each day after the Mass has concluded so for those who don't have a facebook account they can go to <https://stpatscathedral.weebly.com/>

Note: Recommend the second link above may work best for Beaufort Parish

RECENT DEATHS:

We pray for Neville Wright who died this week, also for Eddie Dunn (Middle Creek) and Marie Corbetts (Ena Frichot's sister-in-law) and we continue to pray for all the victims to Coronavirus throughout Australia and the world.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Joseph De Souza, Robert Wood, Ian Beaton, Montanah Dubignon, Robert Beggs, Kira-Lilli Smith, Robert McKibbin, Jack Briody, Bob McArthur, Bob Reid, Leslie Greeves, Ted Fay, Agnes McLean, Kit Boyd, Marie McAloon, Tom Thacker, Sheila Broadbent, Patricia (Pat) Liston, Phonse O'Loughlan, Mick Larkens, Cliff Bunn, Fr Brendan Davey

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, Maria Large (Judy O'Connor's sister), Joan Cushing and all those in need of prayer.

ROSTERS:

As Anne Beer will soon be preparing our new roster.

Please consider volunteering for any roles that may interest you?

Anne's mobile number is 0417 369 322 or email: bigmac09@bigpond.com

NEWSLETTER:

If any parishioners wish to contribute anything at all for inclusion in the newsletter, it will be greatly appreciated. This is a great way to keep our little community in touch.

Just simply put your contribution in an email.

August: **Angela Gerrard** Phone: 0439 565 468 Email: colangegerrard@gmail.com

INFORMATION FOR PARISHES FROM THE DIOCESE:

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

We continue to distribute information regarding the coronavirus as it received.

All updates are also on the diocesan website "news" section" www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Registrations now open

Low-cost online study and formation for lay workers in parish and other ministries; employed or volunteers. Sacraments, Scripture, Youth Ministry, Liturgy, Leadership and more. The next cycle begins August 30.

Study is 5 weeks. Registrations open now until August 19.

More information at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or email kim.butler@ballarat.catholic.org.au or phone: 0407 523 424.

St Vincent de Paul Society Winter Appeal

As a result of the coronavirus many people have found themselves in the position of having a job one day, and being unemployed the next. This will lead to an increasing number of people reaching out to Vinnies for help for the very first time. Therefore, this year's appeal will focus on addressing the needs of Victorians who have been impacted by COVID-19. Now more than ever, the funds raised during this appeal are critical in ensuring that Vinnies can continue to be there for people when they need us most. You can donate to our appeal via: online at vinnies.org.au or by phone 13 18 12. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible

Plenary Council Update

The journey to the Plenary Council 2020 continues. While it's in a context more different than we could have ever expected, the need to pray, discern and listen to the Holy Spirit and each other is more important than ever.

Discernment Papers: The six discernment papers have been released and are available to be read. The National Plenary Facilitation Team will soon release resources to assist parishes and communities to explore each of the papers. Here in the diocese, we will endeavour to look at one paper for a month. For the month of July (you can start in June, of course), we will look at **HOW IS GOD CALLING US TO BE A CHRIST-CENTRED CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA THAT IS Missionary & Evangelising?** *'Mission' is God's initiative and proceeds from the Trinity, whose love overflows in creation and redemption. The Word and Spirit are present and active in the unfolding of the universe and in all human history, as evidenced in the goodness and truth found in all cultures and societies. The incarnate Son of God through his life, ministry, death and resurrection revealed God to us and redeemed us in a unique and unsurpassable way through his paschal sacrifice. His evangelising activity gave birth to the Church which is the visible manifestation of the Gospel command to "Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations" (Mt 28:19).* Have a read of the discernment paper, think about your parish and the diocese in general. We welcome any comments. Please send through to jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au. Read the discernment paper Visit the Missionary and Evangelising theme's page.

Australian Catholic Men's Gathering – August 15

The Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference National Catholic Men's Gathering for 2020 is now being offered as an online event for registered participants on Saturday, August 15. The aim of the program is to inspire and encourage all Catholic men with a vision for personal discipleship, service and mission in the family, parish, diocese and the world. This modified program will be delivered in four pre-recorded sessions of approximately 1 hour in length. Each session will offer input from a variety of speakers and musicians, along with a response and questions for group discussion or individual reflection. The program offers flexibility so that you may participate individually or gather with others from your parish/diocese or men's ministry group. This is a free event. For the event program and registration information go to www.catholicmensgathering.com.au. Flyer attached.

Cancellation of the 2020 Knights of the Southern Cross Archbishop's Dinner for the Priests Support and Education Fund

This year's KSC Archbishop's Dinner has been cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions. Our intention is to continue to receive donations via the original Dinner Booking Form to support our seminarians. More information is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news/fxarticles.cfm?loadref=102&id=2873&categoryId=101>

EXPLORING THE WORD - Reflection for this week – Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

Follow this link and click play to watch and listen to a reflection for this week by Sr Veronica Lawson rsm <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-and-agencies/dsp-default.cfm?loadref=171>

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

They all ate and were satisfied.

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Reflections on the Gospel



THE SAVING WORD

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

02 AUGUST 2020

'YOU GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO EAT'

The disciples function rather like a modern celebrity's 'minders'. When Jesus has finished healing the sick, they urge him to send the crowd away to buy food for themselves before nightfall.

Jesus reacts to the word 'buy'. He will not send people away to buy anything – nor should the disciples. When they point out with astonishment that they barely have enough for themselves (five loaves and two fish), Jesus, acting the part of divine Wisdom who speaks in the First Reading (Isa 55:1-3), *freely* provides more than enough food for the whole multitude.

His gestures in doing so – taking the loaves, blessing, breaking and giving them – clearly foreshadows the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper (Matt 26:26). To participate in the Eucharist is to experience the same divine hospitality so lavishly provided by Jesus.

The miraculous feeding and the Eucharist which it foreshadows bring out that the essence of what God wants to do for us is simply be a most generous Host at the banquet of eternal life. At the same time, since it depicts people being fed with real food, it bears directly, in a sacramental sense, upon the problem of world hunger. The Lord who took pity on the large crowd, looks with similar eyes upon our world and instructs us, as he instructed his disciples, 'Give them something to eat yourselves'. In the words of the Venerable Pedro Arrupe (former Jesuit General): 'The Eucharist will never be complete so long as people still go hungry in our world'.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

FIRST READING

Isa 55:1-3

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Hasten and eat.

Thus says the Lord:

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty;
though you have no money, come!
Buy corn without money, and eat,
and, at no cost, wine and milk.

Why spend money on what is not bread,
your wages on what fails to satisfy?

Listen, listen to me and you will have good
things to eat
and rich food to enjoy.

Pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live.

With you I will make an everlasting covenant
out of the favours promised to David.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 144:8-9, 15-18. R. v. 16

R. The hand of the Lord feeds us,
he answers all our needs.

1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, /
slow to anger, abounding in love. / How good
is the Lord to all, / compassionate to all his
creatures. **R.**

2. The eyes of all creatures look to you / and
you give them their food in due time. / You
open wide your hand, / grant the desires of all
who live. **R.**

3. The Lord is just in all his ways / and loving
in all his deeds. / He is close to all who call
him, / call on him from their hearts. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 8:35, 37-39

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Romans

*No creature can separate us from the love of God,
which is in Christ.*

Nothing can come between us and the love of
Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or
being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or
being threatened or even attacked. These are
the trials through which we triumph, by the
power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor
life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists,
nothing still to come, not any power, or height
or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come
between us and the love of God made visible in
Christ Jesus our Lord.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4:4

**Alleluia, alleluia! / No one lives on bread
alone, / but on every word that comes from
the mouth of God. / Alleluia!**