

# St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat

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



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*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.*

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# TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

11th OCTOBER 2020



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3 Lyons St Sth Ballarat

[ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
[stpatrcathedral.weebly.com/](http://stpatrcathedral.weebly.com/)

Parish Office hours:  
Tuesday - Friday  
10.00am - 5.00pm

On Mondays the Parish Office is closed.

Follow us on Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/patricks.cathedral.9/>

Mass in the Chapel at St John of God Hospital is live streamed daily at 11.30am. After Mass has been celebrated it is posted onto the Cathedral website.

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## **Readings for this week: Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**First:** Isaiah 25:6-10 **Second:** Philippians 4:12-14 19-20  
**Gospel:** Matthew 22:1-14

## **Readings for next week: Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**First:** Isaiah 45:1.4-6 **Second:** Thessalonians 1:1-5  
**Gospel:** Matthew 22:15-21

*In Loving  
Memory*  
*of*

THOSE WHO ARE  
FOREVER IN OUR  
HEARTS TODAY  
AND ALWAYS



## **RECENT DEATHS:**

Joan Cushing, Bob Kochskamper,

## **ANNIVERSARIES:**

John Anderson

Freda Buckley

Zofia Buzo

Robert Conaughton

Sheila Conaughton

Kathleen Frances Foley

William (Bill) Flynn

Ellen Hardie

Mary Keating

Nellie Leddin

John Marone

Mary Moynihan

Shirley Naylor

Eileen Power

Quagliato, Sosic family

Sr Angela Quinn

Elizabeth Ratcliffe

Josephine Reilly

Susan Rowe

Petronela Ruyg

Carmen Schembri

Peter Sharp

Edna Tobin

Winifred Towns

Bernard Walsh



## Clergy Appointments

Recently, Bishop Paul has appointed Anne Eskdale, Fiona Murphy and Michael Myers to the Clergy Personnel Advisory Board. Anne, Fiona and Michael will join a group of priests of the Diocese who offer advice to Bishop Paul in the appointment of priests in the Ballarat Diocese.

Following the announcement that Fr Peter Hudson will retire from the Wimmera Parishes of Horsham and Nhill, Bishop Paul has appointed Monsignor Glynn Murphy as Parish Priest of the Parishes of Horsham, Hopetoun, Nhill and Warracknabeal. Fr Jim McKay has been appointed Assistant Priest in these Parishes. These appointments will take effect from January 15th 2021.

Bishop Paul has appointed Fr Kevin Maloney as the Diocesan Pastoral Development Coordinator. This coordinating role will be in addition to Fr Kevin's existing role as Vicar General. To enable Fr Kevin to fulfil these roles, he will conclude his current responsibilities as Parish Priest of Redan and Sebastopol and Administrator of Linton.

In anticipation of this change, Bishop Paul has invited expressions of interest from any priest who would like to be considered for appointment to the parishes of Linton, Redan and Sebastopol.

Fr Eugene McKinnon (Parish Priest of East Wimmera – formerly Birchip, Charlton, Donald, St Arnaud and Wycheproof Parishes), has indicated that he would like to move in the new year to another parish requiring less driving. In anticipation of these moves, Bishop Paul has invited expressions of interest from any priest who would like to be considered for appointment to the East Wimmera Parish from January 2021.

### **PLANNED GIVING**

**Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral collections this week:**

Envelopes: \$ 947.00 Presbytery: \$ 270.00

Due to the cancellation of Masses, should you wish to continue your Planned Giving or contribution to the First Collection, please hand your envelope into the Parish Office, phone Finance Officer Kerrie to receive a Direct Debit form, or put your offering in an envelope into the mailbox near the front door.

Any queries or concerns, please contact the Parish Office or email Finance Officer [Kerrie](#).

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## Celebrating 10 years since the canonisation of Saint Mary MacKillop



This year is the 10-year anniversary of the canonisation of Saint Mary of the Cross, Australia's first Saint.

### Join us in Celebration

To mark the 10th anniversary of the canonisation of Mary MacKillop, Australia's first Saint, the Sisters of Saint Joseph invite you to celebrate the wonderful life and inspirational legacy of Saint Mary of the Cross. The Sisters have created commemorative prayers, videos, and a global vigil to honour Mary throughout September and October.

### Prayers of Encouragement

To celebrate the 10th Anniversary, the Sisters have created a commemorative prayer booklet to inspire us all to "take fresh courage..." as Mary did so often throughout her life. These prayers focus on ten pivotal moments in Saint Mary's life, sharing details of her personal journey, highlighting her values and spirit, and offering prayers and blessings for our modern world. You can order your exclusive copy of ***Encountering St Mary MacKillop in Prayer*** [by registering here.](#)

### Courage Hour

At this time when our world needs to "Take fresh courage..." you are invited to join with others across the globe in a Courage Hour. This online prayer experience will be available via the Sisters of Saint Joseph [website](#). Sisters, Affiliates, Associates and all friends of St Mary MacKillop are invited to set aside one hour from **8pm on Friday 16 October**, (the eve of the Anniversary). Let's wrap the world in courage!

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## Listening with God: Spiritual Accompaniment



Have you ever had anyone listen to you? I don't just mean *hear* you, I mean *listen* to you? I did once – and I have never forgotten it.

I came to someone laden with my very real concerns. I was young, at a crossroads and my journey could have gone any direction at all. I remember the priest concerned listened, he left spaces for silence which gave me room to think, he spoke sparingly as though he was treading on sacred ground, he asked the odd question which enabled me to speak further into my pain and finally he made a life-changing remark: “You don't want to carry that for the rest of your life like extra baggage, do you?”

Read the full [article here](#).

*Words: Mother Hilda Scott OSB, Abbess at Jamberoo Abbey, New South Wales.*

*Images: Daniel Hopper, Diocese of Wollongong, images of Mother Hilda*



### **Caritas Australia welcomes additional support for regional COVID-19 response and recovery**

Caritas Australia welcomes the government's announcement in the federal budget that Australia will increase economic support for COVID-19 response and recovery in our region by \$304.7 million over the next two years. This one-off increase in support to the Pacific and Timor-Leste comes at a crucial moment, as the impacts of COVID-19 are likely to push an additional 533 million people into poverty this year, marking the first increase in global poverty rates in over twenty years. Kirsty Robertson, CEO of Caritas Australia, said that “We have seen the devastating impacts of COVID-19 on marginalised communities that we work with, and welcome this commitment as an important step to ensure that our vulnerable neighbours are supported through this crisis.”

However, Caritas Australia is deeply concerned that the government has cut aid to other countries in South and West Asia, Africa and the Middle East – countries where the current circumstances are dire. “This means that vulnerable communities in countries like Afghanistan and Bangladesh may not receive the support they need to respond to the COVID-19 crisis,” said Ms Robertson. “COVID-19 has changed the world for everyone and our global neighbours are suffering – economically and socially - on top of already great challenges,” said Ms Robertson.



The Caritas Media release can be found [here](#)



## **St Gerard's blessing to be livestreamed**

The Redemptorists' annual St Gerard Majella family feast day blessing and celebrations in Melbourne will be livestreamed for the first time on Sunday, October 18.

The strict lockdown in Melbourne due to COVID-19 will prevent families from attending the event which has been held at Majellan House in Brighton since the early 1960s.

***This year it will be livestreamed on Facebook on Sunday, October 18, from 2.30pm, enabling families from across the globe to join in.***

Majellan Media chief executive Tony Biviano said while life for many had been difficult this year, the pandemic had presented a new opportunity to take St Gerard to the world.

“This is an exciting development that will potentially take St Gerard’s important legacy of preaching ‘the word of God to the poor’ to families in different countries,” Mr Biviano said.

“I would encourage as many people as possible to join us online and be part of the celebration. The livestream will hopefully have even more significance for the faithful who have been unable to attend Mass this year because of coronavirus.”

For more details, follow this [link](#).

Above image: *A painting of St Gerard Majella (1726 – 1755)*

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## St John of God Hospital Chapel, Ballarat



[Pope Francis' latest encyclical letter \*Fratelli Tutti\*](#) is, as we might have anticipated, a reflection on our times. Its timing was fortuitous, bridging the inarticulate hostility of the presidential debate and Joe Biden's decision to forego negative campaigning in the aftermath of Donald Trump's COVID-19 diagnosis. The burden of the encyclical is to commend fraternity and social friendship and deplore selfishness and hostility in the response to the crisis.



The first words of the encyclical are part of a quotation from St Francis of Assisi, in which he commends a fraternity that crosses all boundaries of distance and culture as central to his followers. Social friendship — which refers to the privileging of respect for persons and so for the common good over individual interests in social, economic and institutional relationships — flows from an attitude of fraternity.

St Francis has deeply influenced the Pope, who took his name, has attended gatherings of religious leaders in Assisi to pray, and signed this encyclical there. Francis of Assisi, who had a deep sense of God's presence in nature, also undertook a dangerous journey to meet the Sultan in Egypt and dissuaded his Friars from dispute when meeting Saracens. In an encyclical initially intended to focus on the fraternal relationships between religions, exemplified in the common statement Pope Francis signed in Abu Dhabi with Grand Imam Ahmad Al-Tayyeb, the association with the saint was apposite.

Read Fr Andrew Hamilton's article in '*Eureka Street*' [here](#)

# Gospel Reflection

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 22:1-14

The increasing wealth of the few and the growing divide between rich and poor, particularly in the developing world, are challenging us all to consider our attitudes to the planet's resources and to the economic system that maintains that imbalance. The economic divide is highlighted by the vulnerability to pandemic of those rendered poor and homeless in our world. Today's gospel brings a warning. Like the invited guests in Matthew's parable of the wedding banquet, we are in danger of turning our backs on a gracious invitation or "call" not only to share in but also to ensure that all God's creatures share in the fruits of the earth. The king's invitation to successive and diverse groups recalls Israel's prophetic tradition where God's ultimate reign is imaged as a feast of the best food and wine, not just for a privileged few, but for all.

Many other aspects of the parable are quite troubling. Its focus is on the human community. Privileged humans are the first to be invited: the invitation to the less privileged comes only after those on the initial guest list have refused to come. This aspect of the story hardly reflects the values of God's empire or reign. Furthermore, the violent retaliation of the spurned host is hard to reconcile with an image of God's reign. This is also true of the treatment of the guest without a wedding robe in a situation where none of the guests has had the opportunity to procure the right attire. It becomes clear that this is not a story to be taken literally. Rather, it invites the reader to critique interpretations that see the king's behaviour as a reflection of how God deals with God's creation.

So, what might this story be telling us? If we look again at the despotic aspects of the king's character, we might find there a reflection of our own capacity to look after ourselves at the expense of the poor and vulnerable of our world and of the other-than-human. We might find an image of our nation's long-term redirecting of the foreign aid budget towards keeping refugees from settling in our land. On the other hand, if we put ourselves in the place of the original audience, we might find ourselves quite amazed at the inclusiveness of the king in a world where the people on the street would never have been invited to such a wedding banquet. If we think about the wedding garment as symbolic of a "right" disposition or attitude in relation to the host, the company, and the riches to be shared, we might be drawn to handle Earth's precious resources with a little more care for the common good of all the inhabitants of our planet. Our gospel tradition tells us that God's empire will only be realised when all have the opportunity to share in the feast of life and when other-than-human Earth inhabitants have the resources that enable them to flourish.

*Veronica Lawson RSM*

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St Patrick's Cathedral Parish

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