

# OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

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Parish Support - *If you need help with anything, please phone one of our members:*  
Gail Hall: 0412 311 586 Bernadette Franc: 0427 678 830 Anne Beer: 0417 369 322

## SUNDAY – 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

### **Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)**

Keep up-to-date with the latest COVID-19 restrictions on the government website <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/religion-and-ceremony-regional-victoria>. Updates are also be available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/coronavirus-the-churches-information-and-advice-2/>

### **RECENT DEATHS:**

We pray for all the recently deceased.

### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

Steve Molloy, Debbie Hayes, Jack Fitzpatrick, John Wall, John Hardiman, Tess Pope, Albert Pope, Fred Finch, Julie & Thomas Egan, John Franc & Patrick Berrigan.

### **PRAY FOR THE SICK:**

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

### **ROSTER:**

#### **Introduction & Readings**

Today: Bernadette Franc

Sept 26: Sue Mahony

#### **Prayers of the Faithful**

Today: Charlie Franc

Sept 26: Anne Beer

#### **Assembly Leader**

Oct 3: Anne Beer & Sue Mahony

#### **Special Minister**

Today: Therese Jess

Oct 3: Gail Hall

#### **Music**

Today: Carita Clancy

Sept 26: Sue Mahony

#### **Church Cleaning, Linen & Flowers**

Sept 19: Briody Family

Sept 26: Judy Franc & Carmel Milenkovic

#### **Church Grounds**

Sept 19: Briody Family

Sept 26: Charlie Franc & Peter Milenkovic

#### **Newsletter**

September: Bernadette Franc 0427 678 830

#### **MASS TIMES** – for next week

**September 26: 8.30 am MASS**

*26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*

### **Diocesan e-News**

For recent news of events and celebrations, see the latest Diocesan e-News at this link – <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/>. You can also subscribe to receive e-News directly to your inbox on this same page.

### **Migrant & Refugee Sunday 2021 – September 26**

Pope Francis has chosen the theme, Towards An Ever Wider “We”, for the 107th World Day of Migrant and Refugees, commemorated in Australia on Sunday, September 26, 2021.

### **Plenary Council – Fan the Flame Prayer Campaign**

You are invited to join the national prayer campaign and in a special way support the ongoing journey of the Plenary Council. As the first Assembly in October 2021 draws nearer, all people are invited to become ‘Prayer Partners’ to accompany the Members and invoke the Holy Spirit on this historic gathering for the Church in Australia. Resources can be accessed at <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthe flame/>

*See attached flyer.* As we are not able to gather as a community at this time due to COVID restrictions, this opportunity to respond may be a way for you to spend some quiet time in reflection, thinking about the agenda of the Council and the future of the Church, on your life and prayer life. It may be of comfort to know that others from your faith community may be reflecting on this at a similar time.

### **Season of Creation – September 1 – October 4, 2021**

The Season of Creation is the time of year when the world’s 2.2 billion Christians are invited to pray and care for creation. This prayerful season runs annually from September 1 through to October 4 – the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. The Season of Creation is dedicated to prayer, reflection and celebration of God as Creator. It also celebrates and reflects prayerfully on the gifts of creation and the mission given to us by God to care for creation and respond to its needs and crises today.

**BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND Collection for Sick and Retired Priests – Contribute via accessing CDFPAY portal on Diocesan website. See envelopes at the back of the church.**

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel  
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Mk 9:30-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according  
to Mark.

*The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of  
humanity . . . All who wish to be first must make  
themselves the servants of all.*

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his  
disciples made their way through Galilee; and  
he did not want anyone to know, because he  
was instructing his disciples; he was telling  
them, ‘The Son of Man will be delivered into  
the hands of men; they will put him to death;  
and three days after he has been put to death  
he will rise again.’ But they did not understand  
what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was  
in the house he asked them, ‘What were you  
arguing about on the road?’ They said nothing  
because they had been arguing which of them  
was the greatest. So he sat down, called the  
Twelve to him and said, ‘If anyone wants to  
be first, he must make himself last of all and  
servant of all.’ He then took a little child, set  
him in front of them, put his arms round him,  
and said to them, ‘Anyone who welcomes one  
of these little children in my name, welcomes  
me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes  
not me but the one who sent me.’

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

19 SEPTEMBER 2021

## LIVING WITH OUR DIFFERENCES

As the letter of James observes, wherever there  
is jealousy and ambition there is disharmony.  
It is the sign of both human and spiritual  
maturity to be able to live in peace with  
ourselves and others. A reality of life is that  
there are differences between people and  
that they can often be a source of division  
and discontent. Today’s readings invite us to  
reflect on the ways in which differences can be  
life-giving rather than destructive.

For the writer of the book of Wisdom the  
truly righteous person will be a thorn in the  
side of those whose values they do not share.  
The implied challenge is that of daring to be  
different when it means being true to our  
values.

Even within the Christian community the  
problems provided by our differences and  
desire for recognition need to be addressed.  
It is to the credit of the early Christians  
that they did not veneer over their very  
real differences and honestly admitted their  
difficulties in this area. At the very moment  
that Jesus is speaking of the violent death that  
awaits him the disciples are already arguing  
among themselves about who is the greatest.  
It is precisely in this context that Jesus reveals  
to them that true greatness has always been  
found in the ability to serve and sacrifice  
oneself for the good of others. It is not that  
differences do not exist, or that some have  
the responsibility of leadership. What counts  
is the manner in which that responsibility  
is exercised. In that, Jesus remains our most  
enduring example.

Christopher Monaghan CP

## FIRST READING

Wis 2:12, 17-20

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

*Let us condemn him to a most shameful death.*

The godless say to themselves,  
‘Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since  
he annoys us  
and opposes our way of life,  
reproaches us for our breaches of the law  
and accuses us of playing false to our  
upbringing.

Let us see if what he says is true,  
let us observe what kind of end he himself will  
have.

If the virtuous man is God’s son, God will  
take his part  
and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies.  
Let us test him with cruelty and with torture,  
and thus explore this gentleness of his  
and put his endurance to the proof.  
Let us condemn him to a shameful death  
since he will be looked after – we have his  
word for it.

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 53:3-6, 8. R. v. 6

**R.** The Lord upholds my life.

1. O God, save me by your name; / by your  
power, uphold my cause. / O God, hear my  
prayer; / listen to the words of my mouth. **R.**

2. For proud men have risen against me, /  
ruthless men seek my life. / They have no  
regard for God. **R.**

3. But I have God for my help. / The Lord  
upholds my life. / I will sacrifice to you with  
willing heart / and praise your name for it is  
good. **R.**



## SECOND READING

James 3:16–4:3

A reading from the letter of St James.

*Justice is the harvest of peacemakers from seeds sown  
in a spirit of peace.*

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you  
find disharmony, and wicked things of every  
kind being done; whereas the wisdom that  
comes down from above is essentially something  
pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and  
considerate; it is full of compassion and shows  
itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of  
partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when  
they work for peace, sow the seeds which will  
bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between  
yourselves first start? Isn’t it precisely in the  
desires fighting inside your own selves? You  
want something and you haven’t got it; so you  
are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that  
you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way  
by force. Why you don’t have what you want  
is because you don’t pray for it; when you do  
pray and don’t get it, it is because you have not  
prayed properly, you have prayed for something  
to indulge your own desires.

■ The word of the Lord.

## PRAYERS OF FAITHFUL FOR PLENARY COUNCIL.

### Sundays - September 2021

We pray for all the Plenary Council Members who are preparing for the First Assembly in October: that they will be attentive to the heartfelt hopes voiced in the initial consultations. *(Pause for silent prayer)* Lord, hear us.

We pray for the Church of Australia as we continue the preparations for the Plenary Council: that we may 'Listen to what the Spirit is saying' and be open to being guided by God's Holy Spirit. *(Pause for silent prayer)* Lord, hear us.

We pray that like a good shepherd we will strive to be a humble, healing and merciful community as we immerse ourselves in the journey of the Plenary Council. *(Pause for silent prayer)* Lord, hear us.

The Plenary Council calls us to be a joyful, hope-filled, servant community. We pray that the spirit of joy and hope fill our hearts and overflows to all we meet. *(Pause for silent prayer)* Lord, hear us.

As we reflect on the future of the Church in Australia and immerse ourselves in the Plenary Council, let us follow the example of Mary, remembering her trust that the Spirit of God would be with her. *(Pause for silent prayer)* Lord, hear us.

For the Plenary Council: in these months leading up to the First Assembly: that we may have the courage to speak boldly and the ability to listen humbly with hearts open to where the Spirit is leading our Church in Australia. *(Pause for silent prayer)* Lord, hear us.

For the Plenary Council Assemblies of 2021 and 2022: that the Assemblies to be held this year and next year will renew the Church making it humbler and hopeful. *(Pause for silent prayer)* Lord, hear us.

For our preparation for the Plenary Council: that our faith communities be encouraged and strengthened when our dialogue gets messy and we cannot see where the Spirit is leading us. *(Pause for silent prayer)* Lord, hear us.

For the Plenary Council: that we might be given more profound faith, greater courage, deeper spirituality and the ability to discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us, as faith communities come together to respond and prepare for the First Assembly in October this year. *(Pause for silent prayer)* Lord, hear us.