

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Sandy Watkins: 0409 492 508
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Special Parish Events (Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals) Phone: Anne Beer 0417 369 322 / 5349 2168

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 – 26th September, 2021

26th 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 especially Frances Elliott, Mary Hanns (nee Ahern) & Fr John Keane.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Ron Broadbent, Laurie Hanneberry, Noel Gustus, Joyce Baker, Hazel Hayes, Eddie O'Brien, John Jess (Glenorchy), Bill McPherson & Mervyn Roxburgh.

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

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

ROSTER:

Introduction & Readings

Today: Sue Mahony

Oct 3: Jim Mahony

Prayers of the Faithful

Today: Bernadette Franc

Oct 3: Bernadette Franc

Assembly Leader

Oct 3: Anne Beer & Sue Mahony

Special Minister

Oct 3: Gail Hall

Music

Sept 26: Sue Mahony

Oct 3: Carita Clancy

Church Cleaning, Linen & Flowers

Sept 26 & Oct 3: Judy Franc & Carmel Milenkovic

Church Grounds

Sept 26 & Oct 3: Charlie Franc & Peter Milenkovic

Newsletter

October: Carmel Milenkovic 0407 320 759

MASS TIMES – for next week

October 3rd LLA 10.00 am

27th 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.

Prayer for Migrant & Refugee Sunday:

*Holy, beloved Father,
your Son Jesus taught us
that there is great rejoicing in heaven
whenever someone lost is found,
whenever someone excluded, rejected or discarded
is gathered into our “we”,
which thus becomes ever wider.
We ask you to grant the followers of Jesus,
and all people of good will,
the grace to do your will on earth.
Bless each act of welcome and outreach
that draws those in exile
into the “we” of community and of the Church,
so that our earth may truly become
what you yourself created it to be:
the common home of all our brothers and sisters. Amen*

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/>

Season of Creation – September 1 – October 4, 2021

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.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Anyone who is not against us is for us. If your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off.

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.'

'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

26 SEPTEMBER 2021

SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY AND GENEROSITY

The proper use of spiritual authority is treated in today's readings where both Israel's elders and Jesus' disciples are called to generosity of spirit. The elders have had a brief taste of sharing in Moses' prophetic ministry but it has passed. Upset by the fact that Eldad and Medad are prophesying when they cannot, leads them to ask Moses to intervene.

The scenario is somewhat different for the disciples but both the elders and the disciples saw themselves as sharing in the power and authority of Moses and Jesus respectively. Neither group took lightly the fact that others might have been able to share in this without reference to them. The issue for Jesus and for Moses is not who exercises spiritual authority but what they achieve by it. The disciples are challenged to look deeper into the matter, and into their own hearts, to see that their primary concern should be that of making sure that the word is preached to the little ones. Furthermore, they are strongly challenged to make sure they do not become the means by which others are led to lose their faith by their own poor example.

The elders and disciples were called to have open and generous hearts on the question of who can exercise spiritual authority. James calls us to being generous and just in the matter of the use of our material resources. The letter has been insistent in confronting us with any lack of consistency between what we profess and how we act, particularly towards those who are disadvantaged.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Num 11:25-29

A reading from the book of Numbers.

Are you jealous on my account? Who decrees that all people may prophesy?

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, 'Look,' he said, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 18:8, 10, 12-14. R. v. 9

R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect, / it revives the soul. / The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, / it gives wisdom to the simple. **R.**

2. The fear of the Lord is holy, / abiding for ever. / The decrees of the Lord are truth / and all of them just. **R.**

3. So in them your servant finds instruction; / great reward is in their keeping. / But who can detect all his errors? / From hidden faults acquit me. **R.**

4. From presumption restrain your servant / and let it not rule me. / Then shall I be blameless, / clean from grave sin. **R.**



SECOND READING

James 5:1-6

A reading from the letter of St James.

Your wealth is rotting.

An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them – listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Jn 17:17

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your word, O Lord, is truth:
make us holy in the truth.
Alleluia!