

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

Fifth Sunday of Lent – 3rd April, 2022



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Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 10.00am – 5.00pm

The phone will be transferred to the on call priest so that Hospitals, Aged Care facilities, Funeral Directors or others seeking the services of a priest may be responded to.

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.



Cathedral Clergy:

Fr Ed Moloney
Fr Abraham Thomas

Visiting Priests:

Fr Dan Arundell
Fr Barry Ryan

Parish Coordinator:

Anita Houlihan

Finance Officer:

Kerrie McTigue

Safeguarding Officer:

Anita Houlihan

Ballarat Health Services Spiritual and Pastoral Carer:

Annette Hirth

Readings this week: 5th Sunday of Lent

First: Isaiah 43:16-21
Second: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21
Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Readings next week: Palm Sunday

First: Isaiah 50: 4-7
Second: Philippians 2:6-11
Gospel: Luke 22:14 – 23:56 (long),
Luke 23:1-49 (short)

RECENT DEATHS:

John Taffe

ANNIVERSARIES:

Nikoluois Bauer, Charles Coghlan, Barry Cosier, Christina Cummins, Maurice De Deurwaerder, Marcus Duffy, David Elkins, Shaun Kelly, Jean Lakey, Mary Louise Legg, Dale Lumsden, John Lynch, Molly Martin, Ronald 'Tony' McDonald, Owen Menzel, James Mevey, Desmond Naylor, Kathleen O'Brien, Dominga Rodrigues, Ignac Solyom, Valda Stevens, Pauline Stuart, Alojz Tos, Mary-Joy van Gaans, John Woof

Renovation Works

The toilets in the Cathedral grounds are currently under renovation so are unavailable to parishioners during this time.

The toilets in the Parish Office will be available during Mass times (from Tuesday to Friday); please ring the office doorbell.

For weekend Masses, (including Saturday morning), the toilets in the hall will be available. We are doing our best to accommodate the needs of our parishioners whilst also adhering to Child Safe Standards.

Holy Week News

Choir for Mass of the Oils 2022

Singers and musicians in the diocese are invited to join the music group which is being formed for the **Mass of the Oils on Monday, 11th April, 2022**. Practice times are Sunday, April 3 and Sunday, April 10 from 6.00pm – 7.00pm (following 5.00pm Mass). Please contact Julie Boyd in the Pastoral Ministry Office to register your interest julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7159.

Combined Choir invitation

The Liturgy Team and Music subcommittee invite members of the St Patrick's Community, including all rostered singers and choir members, to form a **combined choir** for the celebration of the Triduum – Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil Rites.

Practices for this choir will be held on Tuesday 5th April and 12th Tuesday April. To allow for those who may only be able to attend two of the ceremonies, the practice sessions will be broken into 30 minute blocks of times as follows:

7.15pm for Holy Thursday practice

7.45pm for Good Friday practice

8.15pm for Easter Vigil practice (this may go until 9.00pm)

Contact Susan Crowe: 0419887274 or sm.crowe23@gmail.com if you are interested in being part of the **Triduum Choir**.

If there are any Secondary students who are *experienced* **Altar Servers** who would like to be part of these ceremonies could you please contact the Cathedral office and leave your name and contact details with office staff.

Project Compassion

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022: You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.

Parish Contributions

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral collections this week:

First Collection (Presbytery - Priest support)

\$1,388.65

Second Collection (Parish – buildings, office, admin, grounds and maintenance)

\$ 1,201.00

(including envelopes, credit cards and direct debits)

Gospel Reflection

Historian Gerda Lerner has demonstrated that patriarchy emerged some 3000 years ago with the invention of weapons of war and the consequent gender division of labour. By the first century CE, when the gospels were written, every woman in the Roman world knew that she was the possession of a man, initially of her father, and then of her husband or of successive husbands. Slaves, both men and women, were the property of and sexually available to the head of the patriarchal household. Even free women had fewer choices than men in regard to such matters as choice of life partners and social contact outside the family. In the context of Second Temple Judaism, a woman's sexual liaison with another man was a sin against her husband who was also her proprietor. Her shame was of less consequence than her husband's loss of status and honour.

We are told nothing of the precise circumstances of the woman said to be "taken in adultery". She could not have been "taken" alone: there is a man somewhere in the wings who is at least as guilty as the woman. But only the woman is "brought" to Jesus in the public arena, a spectacle for the assembled crowd. Ironically, the lawyers have little interest in the woman or her fate. Their interest is in Jesus. They want to test him and catch him out on his attitude to and enactment of the Mosaic law. In other words, Jesus is the one on trial in this public setting, and the woman is no more than a dispensable object in the process, a means to a sinister end.

The woman's life is of little concern to her accusers. They ask Jesus for a legal opinion on her case. Should the full force of the law be exercised? Should she be stoned to death? Jesus does not dignify their manipulation with a response. Rather, he takes away their power over the woman by bending down and writing with his finger on the ground. What does he write? We can never have an answer to that question. They keep asking him to provide a ruling.

Jesus subverts their ploy by confronting them with their own sinfulness: "let the one without sin cast the first stone". They move off one by one and the woman is finally accorded the dignity of responding for herself. She is freed from the burden of condemnation. She can move forward with a strong sense of her worth and the knowledge that she matters in the scheme of things. As we bring today's gospel into dialogue with stories of violence against women, such as the horrific stories of women used as sex slaves even here in Australia or of women on the African continent being forced to offer sexual services in exchange for twigs of firewood, we might commit ourselves anew to the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women.

Veronica Lawson RSM

A message from Bishop Paul:

As we look ahead to the ceremonies of Holy Week, in view of the continuing need to reduce the impact of Covid, the same provisions as last year will apply to Holy Thursday and Good Friday.

During this time of pandemic, Communion should be received in the hand rather than on the tongue. Also, while Covid is still occurring frequently in the community, there should be **no sharing of the chalice**, those distributing Holy Communion should use **hand sanitiser** prior to distribution and **not touch anyone when giving a blessing**, and **holy water fonts should still be empty**.

May the peace of Christ be with us all as we continue our journey through Lent and come to celebrate Holy Week and Easter.

God bless you all.

Bishop Paul

Date to remember:

Holy Week:

Mass of Oils - Monday 11th April 7.00pm

Holy Thursday – 7.00pm
Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday –
10.00am at St Columba's, Ballarat North
Way of the Cross

3.00pm Cathedral
Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

Easter Ceremonies:
7.00pm Vigil, 8.00am, 10.30am, 5.00pm

Sunday 24th April in St Patrick's Cathedral
1.00pm – 4.00pm, **Divine Mercy Sunday**.

Weekend Masses:

6.30pm Vigil

8.00am

10.30am

5.00pm

Weekdays Mass

Morning Prayer 7.30am - Monday to Saturday
Evening Prayer 5.00pm - Monday to Friday

Monday 4th April - 10.00am

Tuesday 5th April - 7.00am, 10.00am

Wednesday 6th April - 10.00am
10.30am Stations

Thursday 7th April - 10.00am

7.00pm Reconciliation (2nd Rite)

see attached sheet for details

Friday - 11.30am Reconciliation

12.05pm – Anointing Mass

see attached sheet for details

6.00pm followed by

Stations of the Cross at 6.30pm

Saturday - 10.00am
10.30am Reconciliation

DEVOTIONS

Monday/Tuesday after 10.00am Mass
Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet

Wednesday after Mass Stations of the Cross
10.40am
Followed by Litany to St Joseph

Thursday after 10.00am Mass – Rosary & Divine
Mercy Chaplet

Saturday after 10.00am Mass
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
(with 15 minutes silence followed by Rosary)

**changes may occur due to Funerals or other Liturgical events.*