

# St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

Second Sunday of Easter – 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2022



## 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

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[stpatscathedral.weebly.com/](https://www.facebook.com/patricks.cathedral.9/)

<https://www.facebook.com/patricks.cathedral.9/>

**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.

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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.*

## **Readings this week: Second Sunday of Easter**

**First:** Acts 10:34. 37-43    **Second:** Colossians 3:1-4

**Gospel:** John 20:1-9

## **Readings next week: Third Sunday of Easter**

**First:** Acts 5:27-32. 40-41    **Second:** Rv 5:11-14

**Gospel:** John 21:1-19

## **RECENT DEATHS:**

Clare Gavin, James Moloney

## **ANNIVERSARIES:**

John Birch, Edward Broadhead, Doreen Buckley, Paul Crowe, Sr Christine Daly, John Foley, Glenda Fry, Leigh Gillett, Yvonne Greymans, Ellen Huggett, Matthew James, Marie Jens, Geraldine Lynch, Aline Martin-Goldsmith, Donald Morris, Henry Morris (snr), Dorothy Morrish, Giuseppe Munaretto, Michael Murphy, Ellen O'Loughlin, Bill Rinaldi OAM, William Ryan, Sr Monica Scott, Frank Stodolny, Joseph van der Linden, Andrew Verberne (snr), Ena Watt, Eric Wellards, Garry Welsh, Joseph Wuestewald

## **Post Lent/ Easter Message**

The Divine Office for Easter Friday is taken from the First Letter of St Peter:

*"Each one of you has received a special grace, so, like good stewards responsible for all these different graces of God, put yourselves at the service of others. If you are a speaker, speak in words which seem to come from God; if you are a helper, help as though every action was done at God's orders; so that in everything God may receive the glory, through Jesus Christ, since to him alone belong all glory and power for ever and ever. Amen."*

Many people helped prepare for the Lenten and Holy Week Liturgical Celebrations. So many people on so many different fronts put in hours of work- many behind the scenes to set up and arrange so that all would run smoothly in our worship and prayer.

It would be true to say the Cathedral with all the different prayer groups and other groups who meet regularly has one of the largest volunteer workforces in Ballarat. We give thanks to God that people are using their gifts to serve and give glory to God, who gives us everything in fact; the gift of life - "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God, it is right and just."

Our worship and prayer in turn sends us out on Mission after each Liturgy/Mass to love and serve the Lord in our daily lives, through our care, service and love of those we encounter during our weekly activities and those beyond. We pray we can continue to follow the example of Jesus - in washing each other's feet - in particular those in most need; the poor, the sick, the lonely, the bereaved, the oppressed and the broken-hearted.

When Pope Benedict was elected Pope, which was in the Post-Easter period, (the period which we are in now) the text of the very short speech he delivered from the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica is worthy of some reading, reflection and prayer in our own efforts and work for the Church, in the ways we endeavour and use our gifts to be of service to others. All of us have our part to play and in God's eyes we are all important in God's service.

*"Dear brothers and sisters, after the great Pope John Paul II, the cardinals have elected me — a simple, humble worker in the vineyard of the Lord. "The fact that the Lord can work and act even with insufficient means consoles me, and above all I entrust myself to your prayers. "In the joy of the risen Lord, trusting in his permanent help, we go forward. The Lord will help us, and Mary, his very holy mother, stands by us."*

## **Golden Jubilee of the Priesthood**

Frs Tom Brophy and Peter Hudson will Celebrate their 50 years of Ordination to the Priesthood at the 10.30am Mass on 22<sup>nd</sup> May in the 10.30 am Mass in St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. The Mass will be followed by a cuppa in the MacKillop/Glowrey Rooms until 12.45 pm.

Fr Peter will be 51 years, however due to COVID restrictions the Diocese was unable to mark this occasion last year. All local parishioners and people from around the Diocese are very welcome to come to pray with Fr Tom and Fr Peter in thanksgiving to God for their Ministry.

## **Baptisms**

This weekend, we welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism:

**Illyana Rose Smith**, daughter of Matthew and Ebony

**Ivy Ruth and Lloyd Anthony Verhoeven** children of Adrian and April

***"The Church gives the faith to your children through Baptism and you have the task to make it grow..." Pope Francis.***

May these children grow in faith with the support of their families and our Catholic Community.

## **Gospel Reflection**

This weekend we celebrate the second of eight Sundays of the Easter Season that culminates in the Feast of Pentecost. In other words, we recognise that the liturgical readings and prayers for each Sunday between Easter and Pentecost invite us into different movements of the one great symphony of resurrection faith.

The first scene in today's gospel has the disciples hiding behind closed doors "for fear" of those who had handed Jesus over to be executed by the Roman authorities. Again, it is the first day of the week, evoking the first day of creation. Jesus appears among them, offers a greeting of peace, and tells them that he has been sent by God, his "Father". They receive from him the gift of the Holy Spirit. He sends them in turn to bring peace and to mediate the forgiveness of God through the power of the Spirit.

The story invites us to place ourselves in the shoes of the earliest disciples. It invites us to receive the gift of the Spirit, to emerge from behind the doors that close us in on ourselves and that prevent us from rising above the fear of reprisals in our pursuit of justice and peace. It also invites us to ponder the consequences of forgiving on the one hand and of not forgiving on the other. To forgive another is to release that person from the burden of guilt and shame. Forgiveness opens up the possibility of healing. To refuse forgiveness or to "retain" the sins of another is to leave that person unforgiven and unhealed. We might also consider the consequences of refusing to open ourselves to forgiveness. Those who refuse to forgive others have often failed to forgive themselves for their own shortcomings.

The second and third scenes in today's gospel focus on Thomas who was not with the other disciples when Jesus first appeared in their midst. Thomas seems to trust only his own first-hand experience. We all know people like Thomas. They test our patience because they seem to lack imagination. They then make big statements when they come around to understanding what everyone else already knows. If we think, however, that those who hear from the outset are any better than Thomas, we need to note that the doors are still closed eight days later! The simple fact of knowing has not dispelled their fears. We all need time to grasp what it means to say that Christ has been raised and, even then, we will not understand fully. Biblical scholar, Margaret Daly-Denton notes that, in the Jewish tradition, "the eighth day symbolized the aeon to come". Like John's community we live in "the eighth day", in resurrection time, the time of the new creation. Easter faith invites us, for the sake of the whole Earth community, to keep living into that reality and to break through the human-constructed barriers, even as we recognise that the full realisation of the new creation belongs to an unknown future.

Veronica Lawson RSM

A Reminder from Bishop Paul Bird CSsR:

**During this time of pandemic, Communion should be received in the hand rather than on the tongue. 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**.

## **“Where is the will of God for us in loss”**

You are invited to a day of reflection:

*“Where is the will of God for us in loss”*

to be held at the OLHC Parish, Wendouree on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May from 9.30am - 2.00pm. As numbers are limited, please book by contacting Kath on 53 312 677.

## **Sacraments of Initiation** **First Eucharist (Communion)**

A parent information session for children Baptised Catholic, who have been Confirmed and who have celebrated Reconciliation (*a requirement before First Eucharist*) will take place as follows:

**Date:** Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May  
**Time:** 10.00am or 5.30pm  
**Location:** MacKillop/Glowrey Rooms  
of St Patrick’s Cathedral Hall

For children to be included in this preparation program, a parent or guardian is required to attend one of the information sessions.

Any queries, please contact Anita at the Parish Office.

## **Weekday Masses**

**Monday** – ANZAC Day 9.15am  
**Tuesday** – No 7.00am Mass this week  
10.00am

**Wednesday** – 10.00am

**Thursday** – 10.00am

**Friday** – 12.05pm  
(Reconciliation at 11.30am)

**Saturday** – 10.00am  
(Reconciliation at 10.30am)

## **Weekend Masses**

**Saturday** 5.30pm Vigil  
**Sunday** 8.00am, 10.30am, 5.00pm

## **Parish Contributions**

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral collections this week:

**First Collection**  
(Presbytery - Priest support)  
\$1,671.05

**Second Collection**  
(Parish – buildings, office, admin, grounds and maintenance)  
\$4,717.00  
(including envelopes, credit cards and direct debits)

## **Project Compassion**

Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2022. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit [lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au) and donate online.

*Your generosity will empower the world’s most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty.*