

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Sandy Watkins: 0409 492 508
Columbas Ballarat North: 5331 1012

Fr Marcello Colasante: 0416 194 825 Contact: St
Email: ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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

SUNDAY – 11th September 2022 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

Checking-in is no longer required. Face masks are no longer required in most indoor settings, but they are still recommended. Carry a mask when leaving home. They are strongly recommended if you have any COVID-19 symptoms, are with people who may be vulnerable to COVID-19 and/or are outdoors and cannot physically distance.

RECENT DEATHS: HRM Queen Elizabeth II

ANNIVERSARIES:

Lynette Ford, Hugh Cushing, Beatrice Rogers, Gertrude Brennan, Anthony Carbone, Isabelle Meehan, Isabelle McArthur, John Malony, Patricia Collins & Amy Packman.

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 & Reading

Today: Jim Mahony
18th Sept: John Jess

Prayers of the Faithful

Today: Charlie Franc
18th Sept: Jim Mahony

Assembly Leader

18th Sept: Sue Mahony & Carita Clancy

Special Minister

18th: Gail Hall

Music

Today & 18th Sept: Sue Mahony

Church Cleaning, Linen Flowers

Sept 11th: Angela Chandler
Sept 18th: Therese Jess & Bernadette Franc

Church Grounds

Sept 11th: John Jess & Bill Franc

Newsletter

September – Bernadette Franc 0427678830

MASS TIMES for Next Week

September 18th: LLA 10.00 am

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to Shelia Hunter, who this week celebrated her 103rd Birthday. We wrote on a congratulatory card for Shelia, on behalf of the Parish.... truly an AMAZING LADY.

TODAY IS SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY.

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place where people feel safe and supported.

Prayer for Safeguarding Sunday

Gracious God, you love and care for all of your children, especially the smallest and most vulnerable.

We entrust to you the lives of children and adults at risk who have been sexually abused, and whose trust and innocence have been destroyed.

Help us to hear their cries of pain and to take responsibility for those whose lives have been broken.

Help us to recognise the hurt felt by those wounded by abuse, and the failure to be heard.

We pray that with the help of your grace communities and families will find understanding and support, so that now and in the future their wounds may be healed and they may find lasting peace.

Let your grace and love fall gently now upon our children and adults at risk, giving them the inner strength, peace and resilience to seek out assistance when required.

We ask this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen

Prayer for Peace and Justice in Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
who change the hardened heart and break the power of violence, we entrust the people of Ukraine to you.
Protect them in this time of peril; let them know not death but life, not slavery but freedom. You are Father of all; we are brothers and sisters.
Give us the strength to live that truth in love, choosing peace not war.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOSPEL

Lk 15:1-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

There will be joy in heaven over one sinner who does penance.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'What man among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he found it? And when he found it, would he not joyfully take it on his shoulders and then, when he got home, call together his friends, and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," he would say "I have found my sheep that was lost." In the same way, I tell you, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine virtuous men who have no need of repentance.

'Or again, what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one, light a lamp and sweep out the house and search thoroughly till she found it? And then, when she had found it, call together her friends and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," she would say "I have found the drachma I lost." In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Longer form Lk 15:1-32

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

11 SEPTEMBER 2022

GOD'S MERCY AND FORBEARANCE

If anything could be said to lie at the heart of the Judeo-Christian tradition, it is the message of the love, mercy and forbearance of God. Many people would falsely characterise the God of the Old Testament as a God who condemns and judges. However, the incident of the golden calf is one of several occasions in the Old Testament where God's mercy is shown to be far more powerful than any desire to condemn.

The beginning of the first letter to Timothy reflects on Paul's experience of this loving-kindness of God. It was well known that he who had persecuted the Church (Galatians 1:13; Philippians 3:6) had still been called to serve the Lord as an apostle. The core of the gospel is succinctly stated in one powerful phrase: 'that Christ came into the world to save sinners'.

This is nowhere more beautifully treated in the Gospels than in Luke 15. Faced with the opposition of the scribes and Pharisees when Jesus chooses tax collectors and sinners as companions, Jesus seeks their understanding and a softening of their critical stance by using parables that speak powerfully of God's mercy. It is not simply a matter of God being merciful since it is accompanied by a call for us to share in it by rejoicing that what was lost has now been found. In the kingdom of God sinners that repent will have a special place at the banquet table. The question remains as to whether our hearts are big enough to accept it.

FIRST READING

Ex 32:7-11, 13-14

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Lord relented and did not send the evil he had threatened.

The Lord spoke to Moses, 'Go down now, because your people whom you brought out of Egypt have apostasised. They have been quick to leave the way I marked out for them; they have made themselves a calf of molten metal and have worshipped it and offered it sacrifice. "Here is your God, Israel," they have cried "who brought you up from the land of Egypt!" I can see how headstrong these people are! Leave me, now, my wrath shall blaze out against them and devour them; of you, however, I will make a great nation.'

But Moses pleaded with the Lord his God. 'Lord,' he said, 'why should your wrath blaze out against this people of yours whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with arm outstretched and mighty hand? Remember Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, your servants to whom by your own self you swore and made this promise: I will make your offspring as many as the stars of heaven, and all this land which I promised I will give to your descendants, and it shall be their heritage for ever.' So the Lord relented and did not bring on the people the disaster he had threatened.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PSALM Ps 50:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19. R. Lk. 15:18

R. I will rise and go to my father.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. / In your compassion blot out my offence. / O wash me more and more from my guilt / and cleanse me from my sin. **R.**

2. A pure heart create for me, O God, / put a steadfast spirit within me. / Do not cast me away from your presence, / nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **R.**

3. O Lord, open my lips / and my mouth shall declare your praise. / My sacrifice is a contrite spirit; / a humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Tim 1:12-17

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy

Christ came to save sinners.

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, and who judged me faithful enough to call into his service even though I used to be a blasphemer and did all I could to injure and discredit the faith. Mercy, however, was shown me, because until I became a believer I had been acting in ignorance; and the grace of our Lord filled me with faith and with the love that is in Christ Jesus. Here is a saying that you can rely on and nobody should doubt: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I myself am the greatest of them; and if mercy has been shown to me, it is because Jesus Christ meant to make me the greatest evidence of his inexhaustible patience for all the other people who would later have to trust in him to come to eternal life. To the eternal King, the undying, invisible and only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Cor 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

**God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;
and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.
Alleluia!**

Christopher Monaghan CP