

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

Sixth Sunday of Easter Year A – 14th May



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

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 10.00am – 3.00pm

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 the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather, the Wadawurrung People of the Kulin nation.

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.

Bishop:

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR

Parish Administrator:

Fr Ed Moloney

Assistant Priests:

Fr Abraham Thomas

Fr James McKay

Visiting Priests:

Fr Dan Arundell

Fr Barry Ryan

Parish Secretary

Sacramental Coordinator

Tony Beggs

Finance Officer:

Bernadette Prestwood

Safeguarding Officers:

Tony Beggs/Maria Noonan

Readings this week: Sixth Sunday of Easter Year A (14th May)

First: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

Second: 1 Peter 3:15-18 or 4:13-16

Gospel: John 14:15-21 or John 17:1-11

Readings next week: The Ascension of the Lord Year A (21st May)

First: Acts 1:1-11

Second: Ephesians 1:17-23

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

IN LOVING
Memory

RECENT DEATHS:

Pauline Shannon

ANNIVERSARIES:

Margaret Allison, Mary Bettes, Gerard Britt, Elena Bucovaz, Stefan Burcon, Bridget Champion, Annie Carpenter, Iris Carrigg, Mary Chatham, Peter Cook, Catherine Davis, Patrick Drinnan, Maurice Dunford, Kathleen Fay, Mildred Fogarty, William Foley, Frederick Gale, Margaret Hateley, Peter Kramer, Paul Madden, Jack Mahar, Thomas Mahar, Leon Martin, John Morris, Thomas Morris, Leon Martin, Francis McKew, Sr Claudia (Ellen Murphy), Nanette Murnane, Marie Nichols, Alma Norden, Steve Nowaski, Stanislaus Robert O'Brien, Maria Schildt, Gianfranco Selvatino, Edward Smeaton, Peter Stranieri, Maurice Tobin, Ellen White

Eucharistic Sacramental Program

Presentation Mass Saturday May 20th 5:30, Sunday May 21st 10:30 & 5:00pm

The parish-based preparation courses for children (non-Catholic school) has started for children with their parent or guardian continues **4:30pm Wednesday 17th May** and Wednesday 24th May.

Eucharistic Celebrations June 3rd/4th and June 10th/11th

Contact Tony 53 312933 for registrations and details.

Parish Pastoral Council March meeting

At the Parish Pastoral Council meeting, discussions on a number of topics were held. One of great importance was the re-introduction of Altar Servers post Covid. To guide us in our discussion Tony Beggs the Parish Safeguarding Officer spoke to the PPC about safety issues of young people in this ministry.

Other topics discussed were:

- How to promote the relationship between our schools and the parish.
- The Cathedral parish is now an Earth Care Parish - what does this mean for the Parishioner?
- How to further support the role of youth in our parish.

The day for our meeting was also changed to allow for greater attendance. PPC will now meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

With the theme "Do Good Seek Justice" (Isaiah 1:17), the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be celebrated in a number of the churches in Ballarat during the week of May 21st - 28th.

St Patrick's Cathedral is responsible for leading prayer on May 23 at 7.00pm, followed by a light supper in the Mackillop/Glowrey Room. All members of the community are invited to join in this prayer for Christian Unity and then enjoy a chat over a cup of tea.

Resources for use in Australia are provided by the NCCA Faith and Unity Commission, in collaboration with the Faith and Order Commission of the Victorian Council of Churches, and are available at <https://www.ncca.org.au/faith-and-unity-resources>.

Praying with Pope Francis

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service. Praying each month 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – view www.thepopevideo.org

Pope's intention for May - for church movements and groups:

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelisation each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world. Lord, hear us.

Catholic Women's League Ballarat Diocesan Committee

Keep this date free. - May 24th – Warracknabeal

The Catholic Women's League Ballarat Diocesan Committee would like to invite you to a Reflection Day at St. Mary's Church, Warracknabeal on Wednesday May 24th, beginning with Mass at 10.30am, with Father Matt Restall. Lunch, prayer, Guest speaker.

Inquiries - Frances 0458 317 815 or Carmel 0401 175045

BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND

We welcome and pray for **Aria Chanelle Rae, Arabella Victoria Rae, Scarlett Peggy Ann Jory, Brooklyn Gill Clohesy, Aston Hayes Clohesy, Bodhi Thomas Clohesy and Astelle Quinn Clohesy** into our faith community through the Sacrament of Baptism



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

Reflection on the Gospel - Easter 6A

(John 14:15-21)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Those who defend themselves in court run the risk of being outsmarted by clever and sometimes unscrupulous adversaries. It is never a good idea to be too self-reliant even in a country with a basically sound legal system such as ours. Today's gospel implies that the disciples need a defense attorney or lawyer. Jesus has acted in that capacity for them in their struggles with the anti-gospel forces arrayed against them.

Now he is close to death and he gives them instructions that begin and end with reference to loving him and keeping his commandments. Jesus has given them a new commandment, namely that they love one another: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another" (13:34). Later in this discourse (15:12-14) the reader of the gospel learns what the actors in the drama already know about Jesus' commandments. "This is my commandment," says Jesus, "that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you." This is no small demand, to be prepared to die for one another.

Given the opposition they are likely to face, the disciples cannot live out such a commitment on their own. Neither is Jesus leaving them "orphans" who have to fend for themselves. He will ask his "Father" to provide "another" defender or advocate who will act on their behalf, an advocate who will always be there. This new advocate is the "Spirit of truth". As we approach the end of the Easter season, the liturgy thus points us towards Pentecost and the gift of God's Spirit.

It is good to know we are never on our own. It is also good to reflect on the capacity we have to make the love of Christ present in our world. Many of us will never find ourselves in a situation where our love is tested to the point that we have to give life for others. Since the outbreak of Covid-19, however, we do not have to look far to find countless people who have done just that. Health professionals, cleaners, truck drivers, flight attendants, shop assistants, school teachers, lecturers, ordinary people everywhere have been laying down their lives for the sake of others. They are truly our friends. The gospel calls us to put the well-being of others, even their survival, before our own comfort. With life-style changes and movement of peoples precipitated by the climate crisis, we find ourselves called to "lay down our lives" for the sake of our friends, humankind and other-kind, across the planet. The Australian Religious Response to Climate Change (ARRCC) is one powerful faith-based avenue for action. We can, despite opposition, continue to advocate together for climate action and for those displaced by rising sea levels, by war or by persecution. With the help of the Spirit, our Advocate, we can surely rise to the challenge.

Catholic Earthcare

A screening of **The Letter: a message for our Earth** will occur on Sunday May 28 at 2pm in the Mackillop/Glowrey room. This is in response to Pope Francis' call, as outlined in 2023 *Laudato Si'*. Week For more information and to explore this call to action further, please contact Jillian Hogbin, ph 0408 179 574 or email caritas@ballarat.catholic.org.au

The Catholic Charity **Aid to the Church in Need** has launched their "Nigeria: Young. Faithful. Crucified" global campaign. Did you know that in 2022 a total of 5,014 Christians were killed for their faith in Nigeria? These were not Nigerians who happened to be Christian, but rather, their allegiance to the Lord saw them face a brutal death. This is a Church being crucified with Christ. To watch testimonies and to make an offering visit www.aidtochurch.org/nigeriaglobal or scan the QR code.



A Prayer for Mothers on this Mother's Day

Loving God, we pray for our mothers, who have given us life and love, that we may show them reverence and love, and others who show us a mother's love.

We pray for adoptive mothers and for the women who wish to give birth but experience challenges, that they know your care.

We pray for mothers who have lost a child through death, that their faith may give them hope, and their family and friends support and console them.

We pray for those who wish to serve as mothers, but are not able to do so, that they know your comfort.

We pray for our mothers who have died, that God may bring them into the joy of his kingdom. May all departed mothers rejoice with Mary, our Blessed Mother, in heaven. Amen.

Annual Mass Count

The Annual Diocesan Mass Count will continue over the next four weekends of May. Collectors please take note.

National Families Week Australia: May 15-21

Family Week is a perfect time to come together to celebrate the power of family relationships in all their diversities, and the importance they play in our lives and community. CatholicCare Victoria's theme for Family Week this year is "Circle of Inclusion." The National Families Week website is

<https://nfw.org.au/> Resources from CatholicCare are available at

<https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/page/103/familyweek>

Church collection

After discussion between the Finance Committee and collectors, the collection will now be taken up from the front of the church.

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral Collection: numbers are for previous 3 weeks

First Collection - \$TBC
(Presbytery - Priest support)

Second Collection - \$TBC
(Parish – buildings, office, admin, grounds and maintenance)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday – 10.00am

Tuesday – 7.00am and 10.00am

Wednesday – 7.00am, 10.00am

Thursday – 7.00am, 10.00am

Friday – 12.05pm

(Reconciliation at 11.00am until midday)

Saturday – 10.00am

(Reconciliation at 10.30am)

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.30pm Vigil

Sunday 8.00am, 10.30am, 5.00pm

DEVOTIONS

Monday-Saturday Morning Prayer 7.30am

Monday-Friday Evening Prayer 5.00pm

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

Wednesday after Mass Litany to St Joseph
Holy Hour & Benediction 6.00pm – 7.00pm

Thursday after 10.00am Mass -
Rosary and Divine Mercy Devotion

Friday after 12.05pm Mass -
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Silent Prayer

**changes may occur due to Funerals/Liturgical events.*

PARISH CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Tuesday

7.00pm – Life in the Spirit
(MacKillop/Glowrey Room)

Wednesday

1.30pm Legion of Mary
Liturgy Committee 5.15pm
4:30pm Eucharistic Sacramental Program
for Parish Based Candidates