

# St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

The Epiphany of the Lord – 7<sup>th</sup> January



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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.

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*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 of Ballarat:**

Most Rev Paul Bird CSsR

**Parish Administrator:**

Fr Ed Moloney

**Assistant Priest:**

Fr James McKay

**Visiting Priest:**

Fr Barry Ryan

**Parish Secretary**

**Sacramental Coordinator**

Tony Beggs

**Finance Officer:**

Bernadette Prestwood

**Safeguarding Officers:**

Tony Beggs/Maria Noonan

## **Readings this week: The Epiphany of the Lord (7<sup>th</sup> January)**

**First:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Second:** Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

**Gospel:** Matthew 2:1-12

## **Readings next week: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B (14<sup>th</sup> January)**

**First:** 1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19

**Second:** 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20

**Gospel:** John 1:35-42



## **RECENT DEATHS:**

## **ANNIVERSARIES:**

Max Brandenburg, Mabel Canty, John Crowe, Jim Doran, Shane Everard, Angelo Fiusco, Florence Flynn, Mabel Gillett, Genevieve Griffin, Evelyn Elsie Hall, Benjamin Hehir, Tony Houlihan, Hermanus Joosten, Fanny Malone, Filepe Mascarenhas, Margarita McDermott, Norah McEachran, Mary McFarlane, Geraldine Nuccio, Bugis Payne, Bert Pollard, Joseph Purcell, Leslie Sharp, Thomas Thaikkadupill, David Torpy, Joseph Troy, William Tuddenham, Ruleen Werts, Raymond Williams

**Responsorial Psalm: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

## Catholic Social Services National Conference, Melbourne, 21-23 February 2024

All those who work, volunteer or have an interest in Catholic community services (and social justice more broadly) are invited to attend the Catholic Social Services National Conference 2024: *Commons, Commonality, Common Good*.

Come along to be inspired in our shared work together – hear from innovative leaders, participate in thought-provoking conversations, and connect with others who share a desire to create true communities out of a common effort for the common good.

More information on tickets, the conference theme, speakers and the program is available at: <https://css.org.au/css-national-conference-2024/>

## Holy Spirit Pilgrimage (2024):

Europe Pilgrimage and Tour To: *Medjugorje, Croatia, Slovenia, Hungary, Slovakia, and Poland* from 12/09/2024-27/09/2024; And *Egypt and Jordan Pilgrimage* from 26/08/2024-03/09/2024.

**Spiritual Director:** Fr Emmanuel-tv.

Contact us ASAP for details: Mob: 0417999553, Tel:(08)93413079,

[holyspiritp@gmail.com](mailto:holyspiritp@gmail.com); [fremmanueltv@gmail.com](mailto:fremmanueltv@gmail.com)

## Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Online Study



The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF) is a growing initiative to offer adult religious education and faith formation anytime and anywhere, online. This low-cost (\$50usd) online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parishes is available through our partner, Dayton University. The first Cycle for 2024 begins January 15. There are 41 subjects to choose from – find one that interests you! Registrations are open now. Scan the QR code for more information or email [djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:djurджа.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or ph. 5337 7121.

## Rite of Election 2024

The Rite of Election is an important part of the process of a person's journey to full membership in the Catholic Church community and one which is greatly appreciated by all who participate. This applies to adults who have undertaken formation. The Rite of Election for catechumens and candidates will take place on **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2024 at 12.30pm in St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat**. The presider will be Bishop Paul Bird CSsR. At the conclusion of the ceremony all are invited to join the Bishop in the Cathedral Hall for a light lunch.

**Photo permission:** We seek permission from those participating in the Rite of Election to publish photos in the diocesan communications. Please advise the Pastoral Ministry Office if this is not suitable. If you have any queries, please contact Julie Boyd (ph. 5337 7159) or [julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au) on behalf of Diocesan Liturgical Commission

## Equipping professionals for their lives of service

The University of Divinity has launched a new School of Professional Practice in 2023. The School exists to meet current and future needs in faith-based agencies, churches, and other organisations for mature practitioners in a range of professional disciplines. A range of new courses on offer at the University include a Bachelor of Counselling, Master of Leadership and Doctor of Professional Practice. Here, students engage in deep learning to inform head, heart and hands in the service of others. Scan or click the QR code for more information.



*Laudato Si'*



An integral ecology is inseparable from the notion of the common good,  
a central and unifying principle of social ethics. #156

*reduce reuse recycle rethink repurpose*

## The Wisdom of Strangers

### Reflection on the Gospel– Feast of the Epiphany Year B

(Matthew 2:1-12)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

God's presence is revealed to us in diverse ways: we can read the book of God's vast creation; we can search out the meaning of our dreams; we can learn from our own and others' experience; and we can listen to the voice of our sacred scriptures. Being attentive to God's presence has nothing to do with naïve dependence on our own judgment or on the judgement of others. It has more to do with a way of being in the world that involves openness to the unexpected and a critical and careful personal and communal dialogue between our life experience and our faith tradition. A deep awareness of our place in the Earth community teaches us humility. It also teaches respect for the whole of creation and for the power of the more-than-human to lead us beyond ourselves. While this has always been true, the present global conflicts and the extreme weather events of the past few years have brought home to most of us our utter dependence on right relationships within our planetary home and on a healthy environment.

Epiphany is the feast of the wise ones or astrologers "from the East" who are led beyond themselves and their immediate location by the rising of a star. They form their own preliminary hypothesis and travel west to search out the meaning of this sign. They learn from the official interpreters of the Jewish scriptures, the "scribes of the people". They then follow the star that leads them to the new born child, the incarnate Wisdom of God. The gospel does not stipulate how many wise ones or magi come to pay homage to the child. There is no indication in the story as to whether they are men or women or both. The three gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh have been traditionally associated with three different characters, usually kings, of diverse nationality and colour. These strangers are the first to recognise "God-with-us" in the person of Jesus of Nazareth and to pay him homage. They also come to recognise, in a dream, the duplicity of King Herod. They have the wisdom not to accede to Herod's request to "bring him word" of the newborn king. Warned once again in a dream, they return home "by another road".

The story-teller Matthew leaves room in the tableau for the insertion of the wise ones who will emerge through the ages. There is an invitation for us to enter into Matthew's drama, to be the wise ones, to join with people of diverse cultures, to engage in our own search for Wisdom, to honour the birth and the life of every child and to follow the star that leads to truth and lasting peace. There is also an invitation to be wary of self-serving rulers who find their positions threatened by the sort of power that is based on vulnerability and openness to new life.

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## MAKING A SCENE AT CHRISTMAS

**Catholic Diocese of Ballarat archives**  
**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024.**



The first nativity scene recorded in history was conceived by St. Francis of Assisi in 1223. After visiting the Holy Land and birthplace of Jesus, St. Francis was concerned that the meaning of Christmas was being forgotten. To highlight the importance of the birth of Jesus, St Francis of Assisi obtained permission from the sovereign Pontiff to construct a nativity scene in a cave near Greccio, Italy. By the 19th century the nativity scene was gradually replaced with static displays with baby Jesus, Mary and Joseph in a manger surrounded by richly robed figurines and animals.

The Catholic Diocese of Ballarat archive will be exhibiting Nativity scenes from various private collections. Visitation is by appointment only between 10am – 3pm Monday to Friday. To book please email the archivist on [archives@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:archives@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

## Diocesan Office Closures

Diocesan Offices dates in December/January are available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/diocesan-offices-dates-for-christmas-new-year/>

## Parish Office Closures

St Patrick's Cathedral Office will close on Tuesdays until the end of January but be open 10am to 3pm Wednesday to Friday.

## Praying with Pope Francis

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. 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 at [www.thepopevideo.org](http://www.thepopevideo.org).

## 50th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat - Significant Catholic People from your Parish

In preparation for the Ballarat Diocese's 150 year Anniversary in 2024, the anniversary committee for the Mass of the Oils are searching for significant Catholics from your parish for a display to be presented in the Hall after the Mass of the Oils on Monday, March 25, 2024. These people could be a well-known person who has achieved success in their chosen field or it could be someone who has left a legacy in your parish, as a benefactor, contributor or historian. Please provide names and supporting information and photo to [jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au) before February 5, 2024.

## Peace in the Holy Land

Parishioners are being encouraged to pray the Rosary for peace in the Holy Land.

## PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral

**First Collection** - \$ 2644.90

(Presbytery - Priest support)

**Second Collection** - \$ 1841.25

**Tap & Go** - \$ 601.82

(Parish - Online & Collection – buildings, office, admin, grounds and maintenance)

## WEEKDAY MASSES

**Monday** – 12.05pm

**Tuesday** – 7.00am, 12.05pm

**Wednesday** – 7.00am, 12.05pm

**Thursday** – 7.00am, 12.05pm

**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**

11.20am Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet

**Wednesday** 11.20am Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet, Litany to St Joseph Holy Hour & Benediction 6.00pm-7.00pm

### **Thursday** 11.00am

Rosary and Divine Mercy Devotion

### **Friday** 11.00am to 12.00pm -

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
Silent Prayer

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

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

IN THIS NEW YEAR MAY WE TURN TO  
THE CHRIST CHILD TO INSPIRE AND  
LEAD THE WAY THROUGH OUR LIVES

