

# St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B – 11<sup>th</sup> February



3 Lyons St Sth Ballarat - Telephone: 53 312 933

[ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

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

<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 Priests:**

Fr James McKay

Fr Francis Kureeckal MST

**Priest in Charge of Syro Malabar Community:**

Fr Alex Valliyamthadathil

**Parish Secretary**

**Sacramental Coordinator**

Tony Beggs

**Finance Officer:**

Bernadette Prestwood

**Safeguarding Officers:**

Tony Beggs/Maria Noonan

## **Readings this week: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B (11<sup>th</sup> February)**

**First:** Leviticus 13:1-4, 6-7    **Second:** 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

**Gospel:** Mark 1:40-45

## **Readings next week: First Sunday of Lent Year B (18<sup>th</sup> February)**

**First:** Genesis 9:8-15

**Second:** 1 Peter 3:18-22

**Gospel:** Mark 1:12-15



## **RECENT DEATHS:**

Fr Kevin Bates sm, James Brophy, Santa Tucci

## **ANNIVERSARIES:**

Abigail Ballinger, Frank Benson, Norah Best, Therese Black, Janina Borecki, Kiah Buckle, Sr Lua (Byrne), Agnes Coughlan, Nicholas Gowans, Mary Hennessy, Filip Hetrich, Helena Izydorczyk, Michael Kershaw, Christopher Mahar, Malcolm McLean, Robert McMahan, John McNulty, Aileen Moore, Ellen (Nell) Nunn, Roderick O'Keefe, Jeffrey Rowe, Isabel Schepis, Eileen Stout, Eunice Twomey, Brenda Woodruff

**Responsorial Psalm: I turn to you, Lord in times of trouble,  
and you fill me with the joy of salvation.**

## Maintenance Work on Cathedral Fence

Dear Parishioners,

There will soon be maintenance work done on the fence around our cathedral. The cast iron fence is of high heritage value, with significance for the Ballarat community generally as well as for our Catholic community. Unfortunately, the fence shows considerable deterioration and needs repainting. Following consultation with the cathedral parish council, I have asked that this maintenance work be done as soon as it can be arranged.

In 2015, during the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, the LOUD Fence movement began the practice of tying ribbons to fences in Ballarat and beyond as a sign of support for those who had suffered abuse. I have contacted members of the LOUD Fence movement to invite them to meet with me and representatives of the cathedral parish council. This is with a view to discussing the process for the removal of the ribbons on the cathedral fence so that the maintenance work can proceed and also discussing various ways in which we can continue to support those who have suffered abuse. We look to work together to promote a safe community for everyone.

God bless you all.

Bishop Paul

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## THE SEASON OF LENT

Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday which is the beginning of Lent. During this season the Church calls us to prayer, fasting and almsgiving as we prepare to celebrate the central mystery of our faith at Easter- the Paschal Mystery (the life, death and resurrection of Jesus). **On Ash Wednesday during our Masses at 7am, 10am, 12.05pm and 7pm.** we also mark the beginning of the occasion of 150 years since our Ballarat Diocese began. See Diocesan website [Diocese of Ballarat \(catholic.org.au\)](http://Diocese of Ballarat (catholic.org.au)) for more information.

Occasions for Prayer at the Cathedral during Lent to assist us with our call to prayer during this Lenten Season are:

**Daily Masses - see Mass Times on bulletin.**

**Holy Hour and Benediction Wednesdays: 6pm- 7pm.**

**Stations of the Cross Fridays: 6pm- 7pm.**

**Lenten Daily Reflection Books are available at the Piety Stall at the back of the Cathedral.**

**Caritas Project Compassion Envelopes and Boxes are available in the Cathedral to help us in our almsgiving.**

The first Reading for Mass on Ash Wednesday is from the Prophet Joel Chapter 2. It is a good spiritual preparation for these days of Lent as we prepare to receive the gifts of peace and reconciliation through our celebration of the Paschal Mystery at Easter.

### A Reading from the Prophet Joel.

<sup>13</sup>Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love...<sup>15</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; <sup>16</sup>gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. <sup>17</sup>Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'" <sup>18</sup>Then the LORD became jealous for his land, and had pity on his people.

## Wisdom at the Cathedral

All are welcome to the first talk for the year in the Cathedral parish's series Wisdom of the Cathedral. Fr Bill Lowry, from the Warrnambool parish, will speak on *Discerning God's Will in Your Life*. Learn about the processes employed by the saints and the Lord himself in discerning the Father's will for their lives. The talk and discussion time will go for an hour and will be followed by a cup of tea. 7pm sharp, Thursday 29 February in the MacKillop/Glowrey rooms. Entry by donation. For all enquiries please contact Fiona Bradley on [fionalouisebradley@gmail.com](mailto:fionalouisebradley@gmail.com).

## 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.

## Sewing Repairs in the Glowrey Room

Most months of the year, on the first three Thursdays from 1-5pm you are encouraged to bring in any sewing repairs. All money raised for repairs is donated to health programs in Ainaro Timor Leste. Enquiries: Therese 0438293967

## Lenten Program "A Resurrected Life" Daily Reflections for Lent

There are a limited number of booklets available from the Piety Store for parishioners who would like to follow a series of daily reflections on the Scriptures during the Lenten period.

## Parish Council December Minutes

Discussions of the 12<sup>th</sup> December Meeting included:

Fr Jim has taken on the mowing of lawns after the retirement of Jim Houlihan.

Update on the Cathedral fence and repainting.

Refurbishment of the Hall – two top rooms (old archive area)

Amalgamation of Cathedral, North Ballarat and Beaufort parishes subject to priest movements

## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat

The Diocese of Ballarat will turn 150 on March 30, 2024. During this year there will be many events to acknowledge this significant anniversary. Keep up-to-date at the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/150th-anniversary-of-the-diocese-of-ballarat/>

## Australian Catholic Parish Profiles

Profiles of 1230 Catholic parishes across Australia have been published, offering a wealth of insight they can use to better serve the needs of their local communities. The parish "social profiles" draw on data captured in the 2021 Australian Census and examine the Catholic and local population within parish boundaries. Profiles for the Diocese of Ballarat are available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/australian-catholic-parish-profiles/>

## BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND

We welcome and pray for **Evie Johns, Daisy Offer, Fred Krause** and **Benjamin Galea** as they enter 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.*

**Lent fundraising:** Caritas Australia, the international aid and development agency of the Catholic Church in Australia, launch Project Compassion 2024. As many of you know, Caritas works with people living in the most vulnerable situations



around the world and helps those living in poverty regardless of their ethnicity, religion or political beliefs. Project Compassion is Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal. During the six weeks of Project Compassion, millions of Australians unite to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. This year, Caritas Australia celebrates 60 years of service.

To donate or for resources, scan or click on the QR code,

## Reconciliation Parent Meetings this Thursday

Parents of Confirmed Catholics now in year 4 are asked to attend a meeting this **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 10am or 5:30pm** to sign your child into the 2024 program and learn about the preparation. Commitment Sunday for children will be at the **5.30pm Mass Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February and 10:30am/5pm Masses on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February**, when candidates will be presented to the parish. Children are required to complete their first Reconciliation before receiving their First Communion. Any queries, please contact Tony at the Parish Office.

## Ash Wednesday – February 14<sup>th</sup>

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and during lent we are all asked to deepen Christian life through prayer, fasting and alms giving. Ash Wednesday is the commencement date of the Ballarat Diocesan 150 year Anniversary. Our liturgies throughout Lent, will acknowledge our ongoing need for conversion.

## Ash Wednesday Mass Times

7.00am  
10.00am (St Patrick's Primary School will attend)  
12.05pm  
7.00pm (Adoration and Benediction at 6.00pm).

The **St Vincent de Paul Society** would sincerely like to thank everyone who has donated money to the Poor Box. Without your generous donations we would not be able to assist the poor and needy to the degree that we do. Thank you very much.

**CARITAS Project Compassion**   
Bishop Paul will launch Caritas Project Compassion 2024, at 5pm Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February, Volunteers are required to assist with cooking pancakes to be enjoyed by the community after Mass. If you would like to assist, please email Jillian Hogbin, at [caritas@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:caritas@ballarat.catholic.org.au).

## PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral:

**First Collection** - \$ 2474.95

(Presbytery - Priest support)

**Second Collection** - \$ 2636.95

**Tap & Go** - \$ 444.04

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

## WEEKDAY MASSES

**Monday** – 12.05pm

**Tuesday** – 7.00am, 12.05pm  
2pm Requiem Mass James Brophy

**Ash Wednesday** – 7.00am, 10.00am,  
12.05pm (St Pats PS), 7.00pm

**Thursday** – 7.00am, 12.05pm

**Friday** – 12.05pm  
10.00am (Siena Start of Year Mass),

*(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** 9.30am Playgroup  
11.15am Divine Mercy Devotion

**Friday** 11.00am to 12.00pm -  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
Silent Prayer

## PARISH CALENDAR THIS WEEK

### **Tuesday**

1.00pm Life in the Spirit Prayer

### **Wednesday**

1.00pm Legion of Mary  
7.00pm RCIA Meeting

### **Thursday**

10.00am & 5:30pm Reconciliation Parent  
Information Meetings  
1.00pm Sewing Repairs (1<sup>st</sup> 3 weeks of month)