

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

Second Sunday of Lent Year B – 25th February



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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 – 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: Second Sunday of Lent Year B (25th February)

First: Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18

Second: Romans 8:31-34

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

Readings next week: Third Sunday of Lent Year B (3rd March)

First: Exodus 20:1-17

Second: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Gospel: John 2:13-25



RECENT DEATHS:

Margaret Maureen Pitcher, Michael O'Leary

ANNIVERSARIES:

Mecislaus Bauska, James Conway, Brent Craggs, John Devereux, Catherine Eames, Patrick Elliott, Alan Flynn, Peter Gaylor, John Harman, Ludwick Jaskulski, Patricia Kennedy, Katalin Kirsteuer, Sr Margaret McCartin, Vincent McCartin, Sarah Moloney, Susan Nielson, Daniel O'Keane, James Petrie, Bogdan Pisieznyk, Audrey Scarff, Francis Segrave, Olive Shelton, Lynette Simmons, Thomas Simpson, Ante Tudorovic, Stephen Vaughan, Eileen Williams

Responsorial Psalm: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Offertory motet – O Nata Lux (Thomas Tallis; 1575)

Text	Translation
O nata lux de lumine, Jesu redemptor saeculi, Dignare clemens supplicum Laudes precesque sumere.	O Light born of Light, Jesus, redeemer of the world, with loving-kindness deign to receive suppliant praise and prayer.
Qui carne quondam contegi Dignatus es pro perditis, Nos membra confer effici Tui beati corporis.	Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh for the sake of the lost, grant us to be members of thy blessed body.

Reflection on the Gospel-2nd Sunday of Lent Year B

(Mark 9:2-10) –Veronica Lawson RSM

The wilderness was the geographical and key symbolic focus of last week's gospel story. This week, the focus is a mountain. Wilderness and mountain remind us that God's Earth itself is the locus of mystery and grace, the place of Earth-divine encounter. The mountain, like the wilderness, links Mark's story of Jesus with the story of the Israelites. Moses' encounter with God on the mountain of Sinai was a defining moment in the life of the people: the Israelites entered into covenant with God at this mountain and received the Law that was to guide their lives as a people. Some centuries later, at a time of crisis in Israel's life, the prophet Elijah returned to this mountain and experienced the presence of God in the gentle breeze (1 Kings 19:10-13).

In the gospel passage for today, Jesus takes Peter, James and John up the mountain and is "transfigured" before them and "his clothes become dazzling white". In the Book of Revelation, white clothes come to symbolise the clothing of martyrs, of those who die for their faith. Elijah and Moses, the key prophetic figures of Israel, appear and enter into dialogue with Jesus, God's definitive prophet. The "transfiguration" seems to point to a time in Jesus' ministry when he accepts his likely fate. If he continues to challenge oppression and injustice, he is certain to encounter opposition, even death. He struggles with that realisation in the "wilderness" and comes to terms with what it involves on this unidentified mountain.

The voice of God reaffirms the identity of Jesus that was announced in the opening words of the gospel and proclaimed at his baptism in the Jordan. It calls for a response from the disciples who have ascended the mountain in his company: they are to listen to him. In the two preceding scenes, Jesus has spoken of the suffering that he and his followers will have to face. These words are crucial to an understanding, not only of Jesus, but of what it means to follow him. They fall on deaf ears.

Peter wants to hold on to the experience of glory, to "make tents" and settle down. He prefers not to face the difficulties involved in fidelity to the mission. But that is not the way of discipleship. Like Jesus and his companions, we too need the occasional glimpse of final victory. We also need the courage and the good sense to return from the mountain and follow through on the path that brings life, despite the pain. We can feel overwhelmed by the enormity of the challenges facing us and by the opposition we sometimes experience. While so many lives and so many life forms are obliterated by fruitless wars and unsustainable dependence on fossil fuels, we are called to "listen" and come to terms with the costs involved in maintaining the struggle for a sustainable, safe, and peace-filled world.



When purchasing chocolate items for Easter,
be mindful to purchase brands that use
sustainably-sourced cocoa.
Check for logos like these on packaging.



PRESENTATION OF CHILDREN TO PREPARE FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The season of Lent is a time that God calls: "Come back to me with all your heart." This weekend we launch our Sacrament of Reconciliation Program with our young people. Over the coming weeks they will be learning about the forgiveness, healing and peace Jesus offers us in this beautiful Sacrament. In accordance with Diocesan Policy and under the direction of Bishop Paul Bird, our Formation for the Sacrament is family- based, parish- co-coordinated and parish-school supported.

Priest: I invite the children to come forward.

Dear children, today we as a parish community we pray for you as you begin your formation to prepare for the Sacrament of forgiveness.

I ask the parish community of St Patrick's: Will you support these young people with prayer and encouragement as they learn more about their faith as they prepare for Reconciliation?

We will.

Priest: Will you provide your full support for their parents and families, their teachers at St Thomas Moore, St Patrick's, Sienna, and parish teaching classes for our local government schools?

We will.

Priest: Dear children, may God who has begun the good work in all of you, bring that good work to fulfilment.

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Any questions about the Sacramental Program can be answered by Tony Beggs, our Parish Sacramental Co-ordinator at the Parish ph: 53312933 Tuesday to Friday 10 am to 3 pm.



Project Compassion 2024 – Second Sunday of Lent: Meet Ronita

After the birth of her children, 22-year-old Ronita was at risk of having to leave school permanently. But, with the support of Caritas Australia's partners in the Philippines, she resumed her studies and secured a job at a call centre to support her family. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for all future generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion> or by calling 1800 024 413. Download the weekly reflection by Michael McGirr from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/mission-and-outreach/project-compassion-2024/>



Baptisms this Sunday

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism **Aahaliya Verity Seechurn** and **Maeve Hilda Lowry** who will be baptised at 10:30 Mass.



World Day of Prayer 2024 – Friday, March 1, 2024

WDP is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome all to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. An ecumenical group of Palestinian Christian women have prayed and reflected together over the past several years to respond to the invitation from the WDP International Committee in 2017 to write the 2024 program. The theme is "I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love," based on Ephesians 4:1-6. Our Christian sisters invite the global church to pray for peace, justice and freedom for every individual irrespective of nationality, religion or origins. World Day of Prayer services in Ballarat and Creswick this year on Friday, March 1:

10.00am at St Brigid's Catholic Church, 96 Inglis Street, Ballan

10.00am St Peter's Anglican Church, 1307 Sturt Street West, Ballarat

2.00pm at St Mary's Anglican Church, Birchip

6.00pm at St Paul's Anglican Church, 3 Humffray Street, Bakery Hill

7.00pm at St John's Anglican Church, 103 Napier Street, Creswick

Volunteering for Mercy Place

Enjoy the benefits of volunteering! Build rewarding connections with like-minded people. Make a positive difference to someone else's day. Share your passion, skills and experience with us. Help to contribute to your community. Interested? Get in contact with us at volunteer@mercy.com.au or apply at <https://btrr.im/91or3> or www.mercyhealth.com.au

The Season of Lent

- * Daily Masses - see Mass Times on bulletin.
- * Holy Hour & Benediction Wednesdays: 6-7pm. (reflection this week will be on fasting)
- * 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.

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 contact Fiona Bradley on fionalouisebradley@gmail.com.

St Patrick's Young Adults

The St Patrick's Young Adult's cordially invite you to join them every second and fourth Thursday of the month at 6:30pm for an hour of Adoration, Benediction and Confession followed by a dinner at GeeCees hotel.

Palms Australia

Communities in Africa, Asia, Australia and the Pacific are looking for qualified and experienced Australians from ALL sectors to share their skills with those who have had little opportunity for formal training. You too will learn and grow within a most welcoming community. Experience the joy as you assist to change lives. Bishop Paul has written a letter of endorsement for the work of Palms Australia. Learn more at <https://palms.org.au/> or ph. 02 95605333

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral

First Collection - \$ 2435.50

(Presbytery - Priest support)

Second Collection - \$ 3161.90

Tap & Go - \$ 494.33

(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 10.30am 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 11.15am

Divine Mercy Devotion

Friday 11.00am to 12.00pm -

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 Prayer

Wednesday

1.00pm Legion of Mary

7.00pm RCIA Meeting

Thursday

9.30pm Play Group

7.00pm Wisdom at the Cathedral

Sunday

after 10.00am Mass Morning Tea

5.15am RCIA Dismissals

6.00pm Youth Group