

# St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year B – 24<sup>th</sup> March



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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 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: Palm Sunday of the Passion Year B (24<sup>th</sup> March)**

**First:** Isaiah 50:4-7      **Second:** Philipians 2:6-11      **Gospel:** Mark 14:1 – 15:47

## **Readings next week: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord Year B (31<sup>st</sup> March)**

**First:** Acts of the Apostles 10:34, 37-43      **Second:** Colossians 3:1-4      **Gospel:** Mark 16:1-7



## **RECENT DEATHS:**

Norma Grayling, Nola Jones, Lawrence Purcell

## **ANNIVERSARIES:**

Patricia Aitkin, Kevin Buckle, Desmond Burke, Margaret Button, Margaret Bym, Adele Hildora Byrne, Michael Kevin Caulfield, Basil Clark, Charles Coghlan, Kathleen Collier, Dorothea Crameri, Diana DeCarli, Sr Emmanuel Fay SJG, John Fitzgerald, Joseph Foley, James Healy, Thomas Karras, Gloria Kennedy, Sharon Mai Kerr, Roslyn Lench, Margaret Miller, Mary Ralston, Margaret Waight, William Bernard Walsh

**Responsorial Psalm: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

## Weekly Reflection, Palm Sunday

### **Keep watch with me for an hour - Fiona Bradley**

Ask people what their favourite liturgy of the year is and few will answer as I do. It's understandably difficult to go past the joyful carols of the Christmas Masses, or the beauty of a flower-filled church for Easter. For me though, it's the liturgy of Holy Thursday which is closest to my heart; from the tolling of all the bells during the singing of the Gloria after its long absence during Lent, to witnessing the humility of the priest who acts as Jesus did in the service of others, through to entering the Garden of Gethsemane to accompany Jesus in his final moments of prayer before his capture. I especially love the tradition in France which picks up on the silence of the bells after they have rung out during the Gloria.

When the bells cease their peels of ringing on Holy Thursday they do not ring again until the Easter Vigil as a sign of mourning. In France children are told that during this time the bells fly to Rome to receive a Papal blessing. On their return to their own churches to ring out Christ's triumph over death on Easter Sunday, the bells drop gifts of chocolate eggs into the gardens of well-behaved children. Chocolatiers across France produce beautiful chocolate bells which have wings (*les cloches volantes*) to sit in their display cabinets alongside chocolate mother hens and, of course, chocolate eggs.

The element of Holy Thursday that I hold most dear, though, is to spend time after Mass in front of the Altar of Repose. In this moment we truly enter the five Sorrowful Mysteries as we wait with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane while he prays to the Father. In the dark of the evening and the silence of the church, we can succeed where his disciples could not and keep watch with him for an hour (Mt. 26:40). Kneeling there, my heart fills with sorrow for all that is to come the following day when the liturgy of the Triduum continues. I think of nothing but what, and who, is before me, and the task at hand—to sit with Our Lord in his hour of need. Is there any greater privilege than to sit with the Son of God in the moments before he is to be betrayed into the hands of sinners? Jesus asks his Father to let this fate pass him by, but he also commits to fulfilling the will of the Father, whatever that may be, even if it be to humble himself to death on a cross (the most humiliating and painful death possible). We know the outcome of this narrative. Good triumphs over evil. It certainly was not an easy path, but Jesus followed it without hesitation out of a loving, filial obedience to the God of Truth and Goodness. Sitting with him in this hour reminds me that I am called to the same obedience because although the path may be difficult, following it will lead to my salvation.

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#### **DIVINE MERCY SATURDAY & SUNDAY 6-7 APRIL AT ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL.**

Prayers for Peace and God's Merciful Love for the World, the Holy Land, and the Church. 1 pm  
Viewing of Relics, Presentation on Divine Mercy Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confessions.

- 1.15 pm Rosary
- 1.45 pm Mass
- 2.45 pm Hour of Mercy- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- 3.30 pm Benediction
- 3.45 pm Blessing with Relics and Conclusion

#### **NOVENA TO DIVINE MERCY**

Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 7.45am after the Divine Office which commences at 7.30am.  
The Novena will continue at 7.45am each morning after Morning Prayer until Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> April.

#### **SOLEMN NOVENA TO DIVINE MERCY**

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm after Saturday 5.30pm Vigil Mass. The Novena includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction, Readings from St Faustina's Diary and Sacred Music.

## Combined Choirs for Holy Thursday and Good Friday 2024.

It has been decided by the Cathedral Liturgy Committee to have a combined choir formed by the different choirs, singing groups, and leaders of song for the celebrations to be held on Holy Thursday (7.00 pm) and Good Friday (3.00 pm). Members of the Cathedral Parish are also invited to join the choir and attend practice on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00 pm. For further inquiries contact Susan Crowe 0419 887274



### CARITAS Australia - Project Compassion 2024

As we near the end of Project Compassion 2024, Caritas want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to your parish community for the incredible support throughout this Lenten Season. Your commitment to making a positive impact has been truly inspiring, and we are deeply thankful for your collective efforts. We hope the inspiring stories of Ronita, Leaia and Memory have touched your hearts and ignited a spirit of reflection on the incredible impact of your support. Please remember to return your Project Compassion boxes and envelopes to your Parish Office or donate online or through the QR code. If you donate online or through the QR code, remember to fill in your details and postcode so the Diocese of Ballarat giving total can be recognised.



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/>

Thank you. *Jillian Hogbin, Caritas Australia, Diocesan Director, Ballarat.*

## What is the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults or RCIA?

For anyone who wishes to become a Catholic Christian, there are definite steps that lead to becoming a member of the believing community who celebrate at the Lord's table. These steps are contained in the

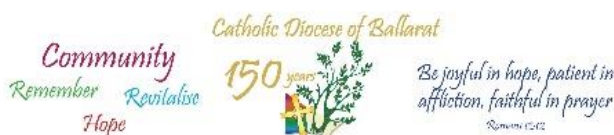
**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** which is the way that the Church asks us to assist those who are looking to follow Jesus Christ in the Catholic Church. This is done gradually and in the company of other interested persons and supported by the priest and representatives of the parish. The RCIA originated in the earliest traditions of the Church for welcoming new members into the Catholic community and is primarily a journey of faith.

The RCIA process provides an opportunity to grow in faith and in knowledge of the Catholic Tradition. Regular reflection on the Word of God and times of prayer, study and discussions and worship with the parish faith communities, all work together to help find a spiritual home. It includes not simply the celebration of the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Communion, but also all the rites belonging to the catechumenate.

At the Easter Vigil this year we will be welcoming Lynda, Greg, Brian and Terry into the Catholic Faith. They have journeyed over the past months guided by the RCIA Team and supported by the 5.00 pm Mass community through formation, dismissals to reflect upon the Word of God and participation in a number of preparatory rites. We congratulate them and ask the Cathedral parish Community to keep them in our prayers during Holy Week as they prepare to receive the Sacraments of Baptism Confirmation and Communion.

## Mass of the Oils 2024 & 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat

All are welcome to attend the Mass of the Oils this year, which will incorporate acknowledgement of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat. Mass will be held on Monday, March 25, 2024 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 11.30am (please note change of time). Light lunch and displays will follow in the Hall.



## Reconciliation Program

The 2024 Junior Reconciliation program concludes next week with the candidates presenting for the Sacrament in the Cathedral on **5:30 pm Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March.**

## **St Patrick Cathedral Easter Services**

**Monday** The Chrism Mass 11.30am

**Holy Thursday** Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.00pm

### **Good Friday**

Celebration of the Passion of the Lord 3.00pm

**Saturday** Easter Vigil 8.00pm

### **Easter Sunday**

Resurrection of the Lord 8.00am, 10.30am,  
5.00pm

## **Ballarat Rural Australians for Refugees – Palm Sunday Rally and Walk for Justice and Peace**

With wars in so many countries Australia needs to offer compassionate protection to those who flee from war and persecution. All governments and citizens must protect human rights, protect civilians and seek to build peace. All are welcome to the Palm Sunday Rally and Walk for Justice and Peace on March 24, 2024 from 2.00pm – 3.30pm at the McDonald Bandstand, Lake Wendouree Foreshore, opposite the Floral clock in the Botanical Gardens, between Pipers and large playground. Further information is available from the Ballarat Rural Australians for Refugees Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/BallaratRAR/>

## **St Patrick's College Holy Week Vigil**

St Patrick's College is staging a Holy Week Vigil in the Old Collegian's Chapel commencing with Mass at 7pm on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March and concluding at 7am on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March. Our goal is to have at least one person present in prayer throughout the night. Those present will gather on the hour and half-hour to join in a moment of shared prayer. Please consider joining this special moment.

## **Extra Times for the Sacrament of Reconciliation**

this coming week Tuesday 11.00 a.m. and Wednesday 11.00 a.m.

## **Mass of the Oils livestream**

This year the Mass of the Oils will be livestreamed

<https://youtube.com/live/SdivilKiHSs?feature=share>

## **PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS**

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral

**First Collection** - \$ 2721.70

(Presbytery - Priest support)

**Second Collection** - \$ 4695.80

**Tap & Go** - \$ 155.49

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

## **WEEKDAY MASSES**

### **Monday**

11.30am Mass of the Oils

**Tuesday** – 7.00am, 12.05pm

*(Reconciliation at 11.00am)*

2.00 pm Requiem Mass Lawrence Purcell

**Wednesday** – 7.00am, 12.05pm

*(Reconciliation at 11.00am)*

### **Thursday**

7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

**Friday** - 3.00pm

Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

**Saturday** NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament or Mass

*(Reconciliation at 10.30am)*

## **WEEKEND MASSES**

**Saturday** 8.00pm Easter 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

6.00pm-7.00pm Holy Hour & Benediction

### **Holy Thursday**

8.00pm Altar of Repose

### **Good Friday**

## **PARISH CALENDAR THIS WEEK**

### **Sunday**

9:00am Ecumenical Palm Sunday Service  
– Sturt St Band Rotunda

### **Tuesday**

5:30pm First Reconciliations  
7.00pm Life in the Spirit Prayer

### **Wednesday**

1.00pm Legion of Mary

### **Thursday**

NO St Patrick's Young Adults