



Anniversary Prayer

Blessed are you, God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have received all the gifts we enjoy.

As we mark the 150th anniversary of our Diocese of Ballarat, we give thanks for the blessings bestowed upon us.

We recognise the communities who have lived on this land from ancient times. We honour the Aboriginal peoples, here for tens of thousands of years. We honour those who came from overseas and settled here before our diocese began. Yet our anniversary shines a special light on our years as the Diocese of Ballarat, a community of communities from the Murray to the sea.

We remember those who have gone before us, those who laid the foundations of our parish and school communities and our social services and health care.

We acknowledge the strengths and weaknesses of our history. We celebrate the achievements and we ask pardon for the failures to live our Christian faith to the full.

May this anniversary year be a season of renewal for our diocese. Inspired by the Gospel and nourished by the Eucharist, may we follow the example of Jesus and the guidance of your Holy Spirit. May we reach out in humble service, welcoming all and caring for all creation.

May we grow in love day by day.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Mary, Mother of Perpetual Help. Pray for us.
Saint Patrick. Pray for us
Saint Mary MacKillop. Pray for us.