

## OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Sandy Watkins: 0409 492 508 Contact: St Columbas Ballarat North: 5331 1012  
Email: [ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

Special Parish Events (Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals) Phone: Bernadette Franc 0427678830

Parish Support - *If you need help with anything, please phone one of our members:*

Gail Hall: 0412 311 586 Bernadette Franc: 0427 678 830

## SUNDAY – May 26<sup>th</sup> 2024 The Most Holy Trinity

**DEATHS:** Tony Collins.

### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

Eileen Kane, Lanf Dean, Bernard Belleville, Brian O'Loughlan, Luke Miller, Anne Fitzgerald, Peter Nolan, Lionel Smith, Fr Laurie Gallagher & Denis Mudra,

### **PRAY FOR THE SICK:**

Pat Byrne, Blake Dridan, Shelagh Mulcahy, Fr Adrian McInerney, Graeme Trethowan, and all those in need of prayer.

### **ROSTER:**

#### **Introduction & Reading**

Today: Sue Mahony

June 2<sup>nd</sup>: Angela Gerrard

#### **Prayers of the Faithful**

Today: Maureen Schirmer

June 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bernadette Franc

#### **Assembly Leaders**

June 2<sup>nd</sup>: Genevieve & Clarrie Johnston

#### **Special Minister**

June 2<sup>nd</sup>: Gail Hall

#### **Music**

Sue Mahony

#### **Church Cleaning, Linen, Flowers**

May 26<sup>th</sup> & June 2<sup>nd</sup>: Colleen Briody

#### **Church Grounds**

May 26<sup>th</sup> & June 2<sup>nd</sup>: Gerrard Briody

#### **Newsletter**

May: Carmel Milenkovic 0407 320 759

June Bernadette Franc 0427 678 830

#### **MASS TIMES**

**Next week: June 2<sup>nd</sup> LLA 10.00 am**

### **Baptism**

Today we welcome family and friends of Edward Robertson as we celebrate his Baptism

On this day of baptism, may God look upon you with joy and bless you abundantly. May the Holy Spirit always guide you and light your path in life. May the Lord's blessings be poured upon you as the waters of baptism are poured over your soul. May you always walk with Jesus and keep him close to your heart.

**TODAY** is the final day for The Annual Diocesan Mass Counts for May.

### **ANNIVERSARY of the BALLARAT DIOCESE:**

Please note we will be lighting our Anniversary Candle during our Lay Led Assemblies.

***'May this anniversary year be a season of renewal for our diocese, our community of communities from the Murray to the sea.'***

***Pope's intention for May – for the formation of men and women religious and seminarians: Let us pray that men and women religious, and seminarians, grow in their vocational journey through human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, that leads them to be credible witnesses of the Gospel. Lord, hear us.***

### **First World Children's Day: May 25 & 26, 2024**

Pope Francis has announced the celebration of the first World Children's Day on May 25 & 26, 2024, "Like Jesus, we want to put children at the centre and care for them." The day will be organised by the Vatican's Dicastery for Culture and Education and will seek to answer the question, "What kind of world do we wish to pass on to the children who are growing up?"



Read the Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the First World Children's Day at <https://www.worldchildrenday.org/>

Prayer for World Children's Day (taken from Pope Francis' Message)

Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty, reflected in the faces of children all over the world. Come, Jesus, you who make all things new, who are the way that leads us to the Father, come and remain with us always. Amen.

The doctrine of the Trinity teaches us that **God is a relationship of perfect love between the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.** The Trinity welcomes us as sons and daughters into this family communion of love. Today's second reading reminds us of our identity as Christians: we are children of God.

Alleluia, alleluia! / Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: / to God who is, who was, and who is to come. / Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Mt 28: 16-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Baptise them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY / B

26 MAY 2024

## UNIQUENESS OF GOD AS TRINITY

The mystery of the Trinity as part of the revelation of God is something that we have come to know as part of our faith. As we engage with the readings today, we encounter something of the biblical journey to the understanding we have.

The verses of Deuteronomy focus on the uniqueness of God. Moses recalls Israel's exceptional encounters with God on Mount Horeb and in Egypt, declaring in v. 39 'there is no other'. Moses entreats the people to take to heart the all-encompassing realm of God and to keep God's 'statutes and commandments'.

Paul, beginning with the statement that those led by the Spirit are children of God, logically unfolds that relationship step by step, to reveal that we are joint heirs with Christ. In this short passage, Paul presents Father, Son and Spirit in relationship with believers, an important text for later development of the theology of the Trinity.

The Gospel contains the final verses of Matthew. The location – a mountain – immediately suggests a connection with the encounter with God mentioned in the first reading. The eleven are gathered to see the resurrected Jesus before he ascends. They are then sent out to baptise in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The inclusion of teaching all future disciples to 'obey everything I have commanded' also echoes the words of Moses. Jesus words, 'I am with you always' links these final words with the beginning of Matthew's Gospel and highlights the all-encompassing presence of God from the beginning, recalled in Deuteronomy, and for all believers in the future.

Dr Rosemary Canavan

## FIRST READING

Deut 4: 32-34, 39-40

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

*The Lord himself is God in heaven above and on earth below: there is no other.*

Moses said to the people: 'Put this question to the ages that are past, that went before you, from the time God created man on earth: Was there ever a word so majestic, from one end of heaven to the other? Was anything ever heard? Did ever a people hear the voice of the living God speaking from the heart of the fire, as you heard it, and remain alive? Has any god ventured to take to himself one nation from the midst of another by ordeals, signs, wonders, war with mighty hand and outstretched arm, by fearsome terrors – all this that the Lord your God did for you before your eyes in Egypt?

'Understand this today, therefore, and take it to heart: The Lord is God indeed, in heaven above as on earth beneath, he and no other. Keep his laws and commandments as I give them to you today so that you and your children may prosper and live long in the land that the Lord your God gives you for ever.'

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESP PSALM

Ps 32: 4-6, 9, 18-20, 22. R. v. 12

**R. Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**

1. The word of the Lord is faithful / and all his works to be trusted. / The Lord loves justice and right / and fills the earth with his love. **R.**

2. By his word the heavens were made, / by the breath of his mouth all the stars. / He spoke; and they came to be. / He commanded; they sprang into being. **R.**



3. The Lord looks on those who revere him, / on those who hope in his love, / to rescue their souls from death, / to keep them alive in famine. **R.**

4. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. / The Lord is our help and our shield. / May your love be upon us, O Lord, / as we place all our hope in you. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Rom 8: 14-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*You have received the Spirit that makes you God's own children, and in that Spirit we call God: Father, our Father!*

Everyone moved by the Spirit is a son of God. The spirit you received is not the spirit of slaves bringing fear into your lives again; it is the spirit of sons, and it makes us cry out, 'Abba, Father!' The Spirit himself and our spirit bear united witness that we are children of God. And if we are children we are heirs as well: heirs of God and coheirs with Christ, sharing his sufferings so as to share his glory.

■ The word of the Lord.