

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B – 29th September



3 Lyons St Sth Ballarat - Telephone: 53 312 933

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

Fr Abraham Thomas

Priest in Charge of Syro

Malabar Community:

Fr Alex Valliyamthadathil

Parish Secretary

Sacramental Coordinator

Tony Beggs

Finance Officer:

Safeguarding Officers:

Tony Beggs/Maria Noonan

Readings this week: Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B (29th September)

First: Numbers 11:25-29

Second: James 5:1-6

Gospel: Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Readings next week: Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B (6th October)

First: Genesis 2:18-24

Second: Hebrews 2:9-11

Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

RECENT DEATHS:

Freda Gleeson, Gregory Jones, Pat McGuinness and Jill Morse

ANNIVERSARIES:

Valda & Roddy Banks-Smith, Luigi Bomitali, Graeme Bounday, Jack Burcon, Iris Burgess, Pamela Caine, Pat Cashin (Ararat), Kathleen Callahan, Elaine Canny, Noel Cherry, Bryan Cooney, Joan Cushing, Ethna Davey, Lawrence Fryar, Sasskiah Gallagher, Giesela Gotthold, Sr M. Bernadette Green IBVM, Basil Gregory, Arthur Hall, Marilla Hemphill, Anne Johns, Mary Jones, Richard Jones, Sally Jones, Ethel Jones, William Keen, Bob Kochskamper, Gusta Kuypers, Benjamin Lopes, Pat Mahar, Gabby Mayne, Anne Louise McDonald, Basil McDonald, Mick McNamara, Bernard Meagher, Maria Merzvinskis, Maria Morris, Maureen Mullane, Josephine O'Hara, Theresa O'Loughlan, Joseph Rice, Hugh Ryan, Vgo Santucci, Eddie Schreenan, John Strybosch Snr, Lynette Tann, Esther Tobin, George Zehner

Responsorial Psalm: The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

God's Power Informs every Act of Compassion and Mercy

Reflection on the Gospel-26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

(Mark 9:38-48)

-Veronica M. Lawson RSM

Sometimes we act and speak as though authorised leaders have the monopoly on access to the power of God although they have no such monopoly. In today's gospel Jesus seems to be telling his disciples that God works through people of good will, irrespective of whether they are on the edge ("not one of us") or at the centre of the kin-dom of God movement. The apostle John, who is one of the twelve, reports that he and other disciples of Jesus have tried to stop an exorcist working in Jesus' name "because he was not following us." Jesus rejects their attempt to claim an exclusive right to speak in his name. He offers reasons for permitting the exorcist to engage in such deeds "of power": one who acts thus will not be speaking against him but will rather be "for" him. Jesus affirms all expressions of hospitality to his followers as deserving of "their reward". In other words, the followers of Jesus cannot claim exclusive rights to the grace of God or to the embrace of God's kin-dom. God's power informs every act of compassion and mercy.

The first reading from the Book of Numbers offers a similar message. It tells the story of Joshua, assistant to Moses, trying to exclude two men from prophesying on somewhat tenuous grounds. Moses does not take Joshua's advice. On the contrary, he prays that the Spirit of God might "rest on" and, by implication, work through all of God's people. Both the gospel passage and the reading from Numbers seem to be warning against attempts to control or domesticate the Spirit of God.

The second part of the gospel reading (9:42-48) brings a dramatic change of mood as it takes up the issue of scandalising the "little ones". The reference to "little ones" marks a return to the scene in the latter part of last week's gospel reading where Jesus takes a little child in his arms and instructs his disciples. The horror of harming the little ones is dramatized in a series of sayings that challenge the most vivid imagination. These sayings are hardly intended to be taken literally. Cutting off offending limbs only deals with the symptoms. It may, however, offer some solace to those little ones who have suffered "scandal" or worse to know that there is no stronger condemnation in the gospels than that reserved for those who bring harm to children and to vulnerable others. We are impelled to do everything in our power to heal the hurts of the past and to create conditions that ensure the protection and safety of our children. For the past few weeks, we have been celebrating the Season of Creation. As we enter the final week of this celebration, we might attend to the inextricable connection between the cry of the earth and the cry of those rendered poor, all the "little ones" of the Earth community, human and other-than-human.

World Day of Migrants & Refugees – Sunday, September 29, 2024

The Australian Catholic Migrant & Refugee Office have provided resources for the 110th World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2024. Resources are available from the diocesan website and includes prayer cards, music, a liturgy for primary and secondary schools, homily notes and prayers of the faithful www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/110th-world-day-of-migrants-refugees-sunday-september-29-2024/

110th World Day of Migrants and Refugees – Sunday, 29 September 2024

The theme of Pope Francis' Message for this year's World Day of Migrants and Refugees is "God Walks With His People." The Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office has created online resources, including the liturgy for primary and secondary schools, homily notes, prayer of the faithful, stories, interviews and the official song and lyrics, to help celebrate this special day.

Resources available at <https://acmro.catholic.org.au/wdmr/2024>



Feast of St Francis Memorial Mass

To mark the end of Seasons of Creation with a focus on Caring for the Environment the 12.05 Mass on 4th October will Celebrate St Francis the Patron Saint of Peace, the Environment and Care for the Poor.

I do not want to write this Encyclical without turning to that attractive and compelling figure, whose name I took as my guide and inspiration when I was elected Bishop of Rome. I believe that Saint Francis is the example par excellence of care for the vulnerable and of an integral ecology lived out joyfully and authentically. He is the patron saint of all who study and work in the area of ecology, and he is also much loved by non-Christians. He was particularly concerned for God's creation and for the poor and outcast. He loved, and was deeply loved for his joy, his generous self-giving, his openheartedness. He was a mystic and a pilgrim who lived in simplicity and in wonderful harmony with God, with others, with nature and with himself. He shows us just how inseparable the bond is between concern for nature, justice for the poor, commitment to society, and interior peace.

Francis helps us to see that an integral ecology calls for openness to categories which transcend the language of mathematics and biology, and take us to the heart of what it is to be human. Just as happens when we fall in love with someone, whenever he would gaze at the sun, the moon or the smallest of animals, he burst into song, drawing all other creatures into his praise. He communed with all creation, even preaching to the flowers, inviting them "to praise the Lord, just as if they were endowed with reason".^[19] His response to the world around him was so much more than intellectual appreciation or economic calculus, for to him each and every creature was a sister united to him by bonds of affection. That is why he felt called to care for all that exists. His disciple Saint Bonaventure tells us that, "from a reflection on the primary source of all things, filled with even more abundant piety, he would call creatures, no matter how small, by the name of 'brother' or 'sister'".^[20] Such a conviction cannot be written off as naive romanticism, for it affects the choices which determine our behaviour. If we approach nature and the environment without this openness to awe and wonder, if we no longer speak the language of fraternity and beauty in our relationship with the world, our attitude will be that of masters, consumers, ruthless exploiters, unable to set limits on their immediate needs. By contrast, if we feel intimately united with all that exists, then sobriety and care will well up spontaneously. The poverty and austerity of Saint Francis were no mere veneer of asceticism, but something much more radical: a refusal to turn reality into an object simply to be used and controlled.

What is more, Saint Francis, faithful to Scripture, invites us to see nature as a magnificent book in which God speaks to us and grants us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness. "Through the greatness and the beauty of creatures one comes to know by analogy their maker" (*Wis* 13:5); indeed, "his eternal power and divinity have been made known through his works since the creation of the world" (*Rom* 1:20). For this reason, Francis asked that part of the friary garden always be left untouched, so that wild flowers and herbs could grow there, and those who saw them could raise their minds to God, the Creator of such beauty.^[21] Rather than a problem to be solved, the world is a joyful mystery to be contemplated with gladness and praise.

Ordination to the Priesthood & Thanksgiving Mass:

· Deacon Cay Trinh will be ordained a priest for the Diocese of Ballarat on Saturday, November 23, 2024 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 10.30am. All welcome to attend. A light lunch will follow in the Hall. For those not able to attend, the Mass will be livestreamed. People of the Diocese of Ballarat are invited to form the choir for this Mass (further details to come).

· Cay will celebrate his Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, November 24, 2024 at St Patrick's Cathedral at 5.00pm. All welcome to attend. A light supper will follow in the Hall.

Lost Money has been found

If you have recently lost some money in the carpark last Saturday, contact 0400697875.

Neo Catechumens Visit

Next Thursday we welcome the Neo-Catechumenal Way group to the parish on their pilgrimage of prayer and public evangelisation. They will attend mass and complete a public procession from the Cathedral.

Certificates for RCIA / RCIC Candidates and Catechumens Certificates are available from the Pastoral Ministry Office. Contact Julie Boyd for more detail julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au

"Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion" – Fr Greg Boyle SJ

The October 2024 visit to Australia of Father Greg Boyle SJ, founder of Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles for "Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion" will be a wonderful opportunity for the Church and beyond the Church. HomeBoy Industries from Los Angeles is the largest gang intervention, rehabilitation and re-entry program in the world. The Melbourne program is: Tuesday, October 8, 2024

"Boundless Compassion: A Mission to Serve" Secondary Students Leadership Festival;
Wednesday, October 9, "Courageous Encounter" School Executive Leadership Teams and Thursday, October 10, 2024 "On the Margins" an evening with Fr Greg. Register: www.gpbs.com.au/workshops-courses-events/

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS

Currently the position of Financial Officer at the parish is being finalised, hence, no figures are available of thanksgiving offerings.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday – 12.05pm

Tuesday – 7.00am, 12.05pm

Wednesday – 7.00am, 12.05pm

Thursday – 7.00am, 12.05pm
10.00am Requiem Mass Gregory Jones

Friday – 12.05pm
(Reconciliation at 10.30am)

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

11.15am Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet

Wednesday

11.15am Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet,
Litany to St Joseph
6.00pm-7.00pm Holy Hour & Benediction

Thursday

11.15am Divine Mercy Devotion

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

Saturday after 10.00 am Mass
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
*changes may occur due to Funerals/Liturgical events

PARISH CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Tuesday

7.00pm Parish Pastoral Council
7.00pm Life in the Spirit

Wednesday

1.00pm Legion of Mary
7.30pm RCIA

Thursday

10.00am/5.30pm Centralised Baptism
Preparation

Sunday

10.30am **Cuppa after Mass**