

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

First Sunday of Advent Year C – 1st December



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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 in a timely manner.

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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:

Jackie Wigglesworth

Safeguarding Officers:

Tony Beggs/Maria Noonan

Readings this week: First Sunday of Advent Year C (1st December)

First: Jeremiah 33:14-16 **Second:** 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2 **Gospel:** Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Readings next week: Second Sunday of Advent Year C (8th December)

First: Baruch 5:1-9 **Second:** Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11 **Gospel:** Luke 3:1-6

RECENT DEATHS:

Bibu James

ANNIVERSARIES:

Antonio Bazzano, Marie Bruce, Amy Boyd, Leslie Casey, Margaret Cashman, Elizabeth Clark, George Clark, Jack Coffey, Mary Coghlan, John Cramer, Margaret Dobbyn, Jean Elliott, Maria Hammill, Margaret Hayes, Ray Kyatt, Patrick Leonard, John Lever, Fr John Martin, John McInerney, Lorah McPhee, Sr Mary Muirhead IBVM, David O'Sullivan, Peter Quinlan, Monica Reynolds, Stjepan Salkovic, Pedro Santana, Angelina Seehusen, Daniel Sheehan, Ria Strybosch, Mick Taffe, Bernard John Teed, Mary Wade, Helen Watt, Norma Welsh, Olive Whyte

Responsorial Psalm: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION – THE EUCHARIST

"The word, Eucharist, which is Greek for "thanksgiving", is the term used for the whole ritual of the Mass. People use the words Eucharist and Mass interchangeably. During the Eucharist, members of the community come forward to receive the body and blood of Christ, in the form of bread and wine. The action of coming forward and receiving the body and blood of Jesus is called Communion or (also!) Eucharist".

Catholic Australia <https://www.catholic.au/s/article/What-is-the-Eucharist-Communion>

On **Sunday 8th December from 2.00 pm to 4.30 pm** the Liturgy Committee from St Patrick's Cathedral is offering formation about the Eucharist and what it means in our lives. Members of your community are invited and welcome to attend this time of adult faith formation. Those who are currently Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and anyone interested in undertaking such a ministry are encouraged to attend. The venue for the session is the MacKillop Room in the Cathedral precinct.

Reflection on the Gospel-1st Sunday of Advent Year C

(Luke 21:25-28, 34-36)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Today's gospel passage, with its vivid description of the end-time signs, may seem a strange choice of reading for Advent and the beginning of the Church year. Its depiction of global devastation has a particular resonance in our changing world order. Some may be tempted to interpret "apocalyptic" events of today as the judgement of an interventionist God. This is far from the truth. Our mindless exploitation of planetary resources has brought its own judgement and we must struggle together to save our planet from further destruction.

Advent and Christmas are about the coming "in power and great glory" of the One who brings the liberation of God. The earliest Christians believed that Jesus would soon return and bring everything to completion. Some decades after Jesus' death, Luke's community had come to realize that the "final" coming of Christ was not just around the corner as they had expected. They needed to be reminded that a delayed return was no excuse for lack of vigilance. Luke warns against activities and attitudes that de-sensitize the heart or the human spirit.

For Luke, the proper stance for the Christian believer is an attentive heart and constant prayer for the strength to withstand whatever comes. An attentive heart will be attuned to the cry of the earth and the cry of those rendered poor by those who exploit the goods of the earth. The image of Christ coming on the clouds belongs within an ancient understanding of the structure of the world in which God and God's heavenly court are located in the heavens above, rather than permeating all of creation. It might function in our times as a reminder that the Incarnation, "God's becoming material" (Karl Rahner), is an ongoing cosmic event, not just a once-off event limited to one place and one time.

We might do well to read this gospel passage against the backdrop of today's first reading from Jeremiah that looks to the fulfillment of God's promise of the "virtuous branch for David". The organic metaphor of the branch reminds us of the interconnectedness of God's people and of all being across the ages. The virtue of the expected descendant of David finds expression in honesty and integrity, literally "justice and righteousness/right relationship". Justice in the Hebrew tradition is about redress in the law courts for the most vulnerable. Righteousness is about right relationships as well as the equitable sharing and proper use of Earth's resources. Justice and righteousness are two sides of the one coin. Where they are absent, there is no liberation. Our prayer and practical action this Advent might embrace the plight of the earth itself and the concerns of those who yearn for liberation from various forms of oppression. We might remember especially those who seek the justice of a dwelling place secure and a nourishing meal each day. Our Advent could make a difference to their Christmas.

Immaculata Mission School January 2025_

What is it? A wonderful opportunity to go deeper in faith through fantastic Catholic speakers, daily Mass and times of prayer, share groups, fellowship and friendship and lots more. The theme is "Mercy" - join us and go deeper in God's love! When is it? 1-10 Jan for youth and young adults (14 years and up and); 8-10 Jan for families & married couples (including children's ministry)

Where is it? Armidale, NSW For more information or to register visit www.immaculata.org.au/ims

OLHC Parish Wendouree Christmas Day Lunch

· OLHC Parish Wendouree volunteers are hosting a free lunch on Christmas Day in the Parish Hall, 482A Gillies Street North, Wendouree from 12.00noon – 2.00pm. Bookings are essential as seating is limited, ph. 0491 029217.

· Thank you to all the very wonderful volunteers for all their work in making the Christmas Day lunch at OLHC so special over all the years it has been held. We welcome all those who would like to be with us as a guest or a volunteer on the day, and we are especially looking for a few fit people who might commit to two hours of their time between 2.00pm – 4.00pm to clean up/pack up. To volunteer, please phone 0467 683504.

From the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart

St Francis Xavier's Feast Day is December 3rd. He was the patron saint of Australia up to recent times and you can read about his remarkable life as visioned by one of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart via the URL,

[Feast of St Francis Xavier - Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart](#)

St Francis Xavier stained glass window – Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel, North Sydney.



Christmas Cake Stall - Sunday December 15th

at St. Patrick's Cathedral after the 8am and 10.30 am Masses.

Competition for a decorated Christmas cake to be drawn on the day. Tickets available after all Masses on the weekend of 8th December and again on Sunday 15th. Cash only.. All funds raised will support our Seminarians.

Donations of cakes/slices welcome

Inquiries - Carmel 0401 175 045

Ecumenical Service Remembering Victims and Survivors of Family Violence

The Catholic Social Services Victoria ecumenical service, "Holding the Light" offers an opportunity to make time to remember and mourn those who have been killed as a result of domestic violence, to stand in solidarity with victim survivors and to reflect and commit ourselves to addressing the causes of violence in our communities. The service will be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at St Alipius Church, 84 Victoria Street Ballarat East at 5.00pm. December 10 is the UN Human Rights Day, concluding the 16 days of Activism against gender-based violence campaign from November 25 (International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women).

Making a Scene at Christmas

Over 500 Christmas Nativities from more than 60 countries will be displayed at the Bridge Mall Ballarat from Wednesday, December 4 - Friday, December 20, 2024. You can see and smell real frankincense and myrrh; see coins minted around the time the census was called that brought Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem; see hand crafted cultural nativities from Australia, Africa, Asia, North & South America and Europe (and one that went to Antarctica); nativities that prize social justice and the environment. Entry is a gold coin donation. Everyone is welcome.

Anniversaries at St Alipius' Ballarat East

We celebrate the 150th anniversary of the opening of the existing St Alipius' Church in Victoria Street and the 170th anniversary of the Eureka rebellion including the involvement of Fr Patrick Smyth and the Catholics of the Ballarat Goldfields. All are welcome to gather at St Alipius Church for 6.00pm Mass on Saturday, December 14. Following the Mass, we will gather for a BYO picnic tea in the Church grounds with a bbq available. Hot and cold drinks will be available. Photographic displays from across the years are being collated as well as 'people of St Alipius' being recorded. Further information from the parish office 5332 6611.

For catering purposes, we would ask that you RSVP to the parish office no later than December 7.

Advent Study Group

Parishioners are invited to join an Advent Study Group that will utilise the program from the Archdiocese of Brisbane. Beth Pennington will direct the program and you can express your interest to her on 0400 139233. Meetings will occur on Tuesdays at 7pm 26/11, 3/12, 10/12 and 17/12.

Advent Parish Mass with Anointing, December 6th

On Friday, December 6th, our Advent Mass with Anointing for the Parish will be held in St Patrick's Hall at midday. It has been our custom to serve lunch to the Parishioners following Mass. Donations of cakes or slices would be appreciated for this occasion. If convenient they could be left at the hall before Mass. Assistance in preparing lunch at 10.00 am and helping with the serving would be very much appreciated. This is a great opportunity to enjoy the company of our Parish Community. If you require transport on the day do not hesitate to phone the Parish Office on 53312933.

Nazareth House Auxiliary Christmas Stall.

Saturday and Sunday 14th and 15th December.
Foyer of Nazareth House 218 Mill St 9am - 2pm.

Baked goods, Christmas Gifts & Decorations and much more. Great Christmas Hamper raffle to be drawn on the Sunday.

International Volunteer Day Thursday, Dec 5

Within our parish communities are many volunteers who provide their talents and time to contribute to the mission of our churches. We thank God for these people who continue to strive to make our parishes a place of welcome and prayer.

Caritas Australia's Global Gifts are Christmas Cards with purpose!

Sales of cards provide hope for children, women and men experiencing hardship and poverty, while giving your loved ones a meaningful Christmas card. View the range of at www.globalgifts.org.au

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS

First Collection - \$ 2127.45

(Blue bag Presbytery – Priest support)

Second Collection - \$ 1076.20

(Red bag Parish – buildings, office, admin, grounds and maintenance)

Tap & Go - \$ 1282.70

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday – 12.05pm

Tuesday – 7.00am, 12.05pm

Wednesday – 7.00am, 12.05pm

Thursday – 7.00am, 12.05pm

Friday – 10.00am Siena School Mass
No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12.05pm **Anointing Mass in hall**
(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 -

NO 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 Life in the Spirit

7.00pm Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

Wednesday

Diocesan Administration Meeting

1.00pm Legion of Mary

Thursday

10am/5.30pm Centralised Baptism
Preparation

Sunday 8th

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion