

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

Fourth Sunday in Lent – 27th March, 2022



3 Lyons St Sth Ballarat - Telephone: 53 312 933

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

stpatscathedral.weebly.com/

<https://www.facebook.com/patricks.cathedral.9/>

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 10.00am – 5.00pm

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.

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish acknowledges that the Aboriginal people of Australia are our first nation peoples and the traditional owners and custodians of this land.

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.



Cathedral Clergy:

Fr Ed Moloney

Fr Abraham Thomas

Visiting Priests:

Fr Dan Arundell

Fr Barry Ryan

Parish Coordinator:

Anita Houlihan

Finance Officer:

Kerrie McTigue

Safeguarding Officer:

Anita Houlihan

Ballarat Health Services Spiritual and Pastoral Carer:

Annette Hirth

Readings this week: 4th Sunday of Lent

First: Joshua 5:9-12

Second: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Readings next week: 5th Sunday of Lent

First: Isaiah 43:16-21

Second: Philippians 3:8-14

Gospel: John 8:1-11

RECENT DEATHS:

Kelly Richardson

ANNIVERSARIES:

Patricia Aitkin, Desmond Burke, Margaret Button, Michael Kevin Caulfield, Kathleen Collier, Joyce Daly, Fr Meredith Delahenty, Fr Luke Fay, Duncan Hartwig, Sr Una Hulme, Br Raymond Miller, Mary Ralston, Doreen Rogers, Mark Taylor, Luciana Turicchi

Renovation Works

The Cathedral Presbytery painting works have been completed by AC Painting Group. Further works continue on the Bishop's Office over the next few weeks, including the toilets, which will be unavailable to parishioners during this time.

Baptisms

This weekend, we welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Ruby Atwood, daughter of Liam and Monique

Aurelia Jean Curtis, daughter of Michael and Samantha

Aston William Fairfield, son of Jamie and Jessie

"The Church gives the faith to your children through Baptism and you have the task to make it grow..." Pope Francis.

Holy Week News

Choir for Mass of the Oils 2022

Singers and musicians in the diocese are invited to join the music group which is being formed for the **Mass of the Oils on Monday, 11th April, 2022**. Practice times are Sunday, April 3 and Sunday, April 10 from 6.00pm – 7.00pm (following 5.00pm Mass). Please contact Julie Boyd in the Pastoral Ministry Office to register your interest julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7159.

Combined Choir invitation

The Liturgy Team and Music subcommittee invite members of the St Patrick's Community, including all rostered singers and choir members, to form a **combined choir** for the celebration of the Triduum – Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil Rites.

Practices for this choir will be held on Tuesday 5th April and 12th Tuesday April. To allow for those who may only be able to attend two of the ceremonies, the practice sessions will be broken into 30 minute blocks of times as follows:

7.15pm for Holy Thursday practice

7.45pm for Good Friday practice

8.15pm for Easter Vigil practice (this may go until 9.00pm)

Contact Susan Crowe: 0419887274 or sm.crowe23@gmail.com if you are interested in being part of the **Triduum Choir**.

We are also inviting community members to put their names forward for the washing of the feet on Holy Thursday. If you would like to be part of this ritual, could you please contact the Cathedral office and leave your name with Anita.

If there are any Secondary students who are *experienced* **Altar Servers** who would like to be part of these ceremonies could you please contact the Cathedral office and leave your name and contact details with office staff.

Parish Contributions

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral collections this week:

First Collection (Presbytery - Priest support)

\$1,390.80

Second Collection (Parish – buildings, office, admin, grounds and maintenance)

\$1,978.00

(including envelopes, credit cards and direct debits)

Gospel Reflection

Unfailing forgiveness and arms open to welcome back wayward sons and daughters is a key motif in today's gospel story. There is no room in the hearts of Jesus' critics for such forgiveness. From their perspective, upright law-abiding people should exclude "sinners" from their company. In a first-century Jewish context, it was easy enough to be a sinner. Whole groups of people, depending upon their occupation, fell into that category simply because they failed to observe one or more of the 618 prescriptions of the law. Jesus' response to his critics is the story of a parent whose adult children lose their way. One son finds his way back to the centre of family life and the support of the wider community while the other more law-abiding son seems to place himself outside the family circle, holding on to the resentment he feels at his sibling's return.

We need to attend to the gaps in the story: there may be daughters as well as sons in the family; there is surely another parent, a mother who shares the heartache of her husband when their younger son requests his share of the estate. To make such a request in this context is tantamount to wishing his parents dead. The older brother is not disadvantaged: he is assured of a two-thirds share according to the law as well as the ongoing love and support of his family, as his father makes clear.

The contrast between the young man's acquisitive nature and his parents' capacity to relinquish substantial property in the interests of relationship is striking. No motive is offered for the son's readiness to break all his ties and get as far away as he can. In the distant country, he squanders both his inheritance and his identity. A "severe famine" becomes the catalyst for his change of direction. Famine in any age means devastation of the earth that can lead to displacement, to broken relationships and even to global conflicts. In turning back, the young man shows no real interest in a restored relationship with his family or ancestral lands. Rather, he devises a plan that will put food in his belly. He composes a speech about having sinned against his father and against God and about being prepared to share the status of the servants. Thanks to the expansive heart of an extraordinarily compassionate parent, he does not have to deliver the speech he has prepared. Famine becomes feast. So it is with our merciful God. We abandon, we even betray. We waste the bounty of Earth. Our motives for returning to the sources of love and community are very mixed, and yet our merciful God is ever ready, with our cooperation, to turn famine or flood into feast. For that to happen in our times, we must turn away from our acquisitive, wasteful ways and respond as one to the pain of our planetary home.

Veronica Lawson RSM



Project Compassion



Rosalie 44, is an ex-combatant who lives with her husband and seven children in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Forced to join the army when she was just 15-years-old, Rosalie experienced significant trauma and hardship during her years in the military. After she was demobilised from the army, Rosalie, like other ex-combatants, was left to fend for herself in the community.



With your generous support and through our local partners, Rosalie was able to connect with other members of her community and participate in business skills training to help her to reintegrate into society.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 and help women like Rosalie to succeed in the future, providing hope For All Future Generations.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.

Weekend Masses:

6.30pm Vigil

8.00am

10.30am

5.00pm

Weekdays Mass

Morning Prayer 7.30am - Monday to Saturday

Evening Prayer 5.00pm - Monday to Friday

Monday - 10.00am

Tuesday - 7.00am, 10.30am

Wednesday - 10.00am

Thursday - 10.00am

Friday - 12.05pm, 6.00pm
11.30am Reconciliation
6.30pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday - 10.00am
10.30am Reconciliation

DEVOTIONS

Monday/Tuesday after 10.00am Mass
Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet

Wednesday after Mass Stations of the Cross
10.40am
Followed by Litany to St Joseph

Thursday after 10.00am Mass – Rosary & Divine
Mercy Chaplet

Friday after 12.05pm Mass
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Silent Prayer

Saturday after 10.00am Mass
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
(with 15 minutes silence followed by Rosary)

**changes may occur due to Funerals or other Liturgical events.*