

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B – 4th February



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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.

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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

Priest in Charge of Syro Malabar Community:

Fr Alex Valliyamthadathil

Parish Secretary

Sacramental Coordinator

Tony Beggs

Finance Officer:

Bernadette Prestwood

Safeguarding Officers:

Tony Beggs/Maria Noonan

Readings this week: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B (4th February)

First: Job 7:1-4, 6-7

Second: 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Readings next week: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B (11th February)

First: Leviticus 13:1-4, 6-7

Second: 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45



RECENT DEATHS:

Patricia Bridger, Monsignor Gerry Diamond

ANNIVERSARIES:

Ian Bicknall, Iris Buczkowsky, Patrick Conway, John Dixon, Theodora Finke, Hedwig Harasimowicz, Robert 'Rocky' Hazlett, Eileen Kelly, Mary Kennedy, Johannus Kors, Margaret LeMarshall, John (Frank) Leonard, Ben Murphy, Thomas Riley, John Ronan, Marjorie Sargeant, Eileen Stout, Ken Stout, Strecko Uljanic, Nora Walsh, Win Westenberger, Audrey Williamson

Responsorial Psalm: Praise the Lord who heals the broken hearted.



I am Fr. Alex Valliyamthadathil Sebastian. I am a Priest from Kerala in India. I belong to Vincentian Congregation, St. Josephs' Province Kottayam. Our Congregation's Motto is (EVANGELIZARE PAUPERI BUS) Evangelisation of the People, The Whole world, especially the Poor & working for the upliftment of the Poor people in different ways. (Social, Spiritual & Mental). Our ministry is spread in all the continents. I was ordained as a Priest in December, 2006. From my childhood itself I would like to become a missionary & I was sent to the Mission in Tamilnadu in India immediately after my Ordination. I worked there as a Boarding Director to take care of the Poor Children & in Different Latin Parishes. I engaged, apart from the Parish Ministry & taking care of the Children, in Retreat Ministries, Education Ministries, Village Ministries etc. During my different types of Ministries I have completed my Masters Degree MSW in Medical & psychiatry. I had a great dream to come out of India & to work in different parts of the world to mingle with different culture, language, system & life style of the people. My great dream is fulfilled when I reached here in Australia. According to the will of my Superiors I have been send to Australia to the Syro Malabar Eparchy of St. Thomas The Apostle, Melbourne. Now I am appointed in Ballarat as the Chaplain of Syro Malabar Community, St.Mary's Mission by Our Bishop Mar. John Panamthottathil CMI. I am always happy to follow the will of God according to the guidance of my Superiors. Now I am experiencing the different culture of the people in Australia especially the migrant Syro Malabar Community. Fr Alex is currently in residence at the Cathedral presbytery in Ballarat.



I am Fr. Francis Kureeckal. I am a priest from the state of Kerala in India, belonging to the Missionary Society of St Thomas the Apostle (MST). MST is an indigenous missionary society, founded for the evangelization of the peoples, and its members are working in all continents. I was ordained in the year 1996. As a young missionary, I worked in the less Christian areas in India, in the primary years of my priesthood. Later, I was sent to Paris for higher studies, and I completed my licentiate in Systematic Theology in 2001. Returning to India in the same year, I continued my work in the mission and taught in the major seminary, at times, as a visiting professor. My work in the mission as the Director of Social Work aimed at the holistic empowerment of the weaker sections of society, especially women and children. Numerous programs like training and rehabilitation of the mentally and physically challenged and establishing special schools were undertaken during my tenure in office. In the ensuing period, I also served the MST's mission area in South India as its Regional Director. In the mission, I also got the opportunity to give pastoral service to a migrant community. I worked as the General Counselor of the MST for the last five years, overseeing the formation of our seminarians and the ongoing formation of our priests. After working for about 25 years in the mission, I desired to do pastoral work for the Catholic faithful in a parish setup. Now I get the opportunity to work in the Diocese of Ballarat, as the fulfillment of that dream. This allows me to learn the Australian life and culture and to edify myself with the faith of the people of God in the Australian Church. Fr Francis is the 4th member of the Missionary Society of St Thomas (MST) to minister in our Diocese with Frs George and Shaiju arriving for the COVID 19 lockdowns of 2020 and Fr Abraham arriving in 2022. Fr Francis was in residence at Casterton during December while George returned to India and is now in residence at the Cathedral Presbytery in Ballarat.

Sewing Repairs in the Glowrey Room

Most months of the year, on the first three Thursdays from 1-5pm you are encouraged to bring in any sewing repairs. All money raised for repairs is donated to health programs in Ainaro Timor Leste. Enquiries: Therese 0438293967

Notes about Holy Communion

Bishop Paul issued the following information for people of the diocese last year which is still relevant:

Now that the Covid pandemic is less in the news, a number of people have asked about arrangements for the reception of Holy Communion. Some have proposed reintroducing options that were permitted before the pandemic, particularly receiving the host on the tongue and sharing the chalice.

Over the past few weeks, I have consulted various people about this, including the members of our Diocesan Liturgical Commission. I have also received advice from a medical point of view. This has included advice from the Chief Executive Officer of the Southern Grampians Health Service and the Head of the Infectious Diseases Department at the Alfred Hospital. These consultations have highlighted the fact that Covid infections are still a serious concern and that we can reduce the risk of infections by continuing the present provisions regarding Holy Communion.

I have concluded that it is not yet time to reintroduce the sharing of the chalice. While reception of Holy Communion under both species of bread and wine is a fuller sign of our sharing in the banquet of Christ, we can find reassurance in the teaching of the Council of Trent that the whole Christ, body and blood, soul and divinity, is contained under each species. So, even when we simply receive the host, we are receiving the whole Christ.

In regard to the way of receiving the host, recognising the continuing risks of the pandemic, and out of consideration for the health of all parishioners, I recommend reverent reception of the host in the hand rather than reception on the tongue.

May our Communion draw us ever closer to Christ and strengthen our love and care for one another. God bless you all.

Bishop Paul

Lenten Program "A Resurrected Life" Daily Reflections for Lent

There are a limited number of booklets available from the Piety Store for parishioners who would like to follow a series of daily reflections on the Scriptures during the Lenten period.

LENT 2024 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY, BRUCE DOWNES

Lent is a time when we can grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Easter. Be inspired. Be refreshed. Be renewed! For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is FREE at <https://BruceDownes.org/Lent>

Wisdom at the Cathedral

All are welcome to the first talk for the year in the Cathedral parish's series Wisdom of the Cathedral. Fr Bill Lowry, from the Warrnambool parish, will speak on *Discerning God's Will in Your Life*. Learn about the processes employed by the saints and the Lord himself in discerning the Father's will for their lives. The talk and discussion time will go for an hour and will be followed by a cup of tea. 7pm sharp, Thursday 29 February in the MacKillop/Glowrey rooms. Entry by donation. For all enquiries please contact Fiona Bradley on fionalouisebradley@gmail.com.

Rite of Election 2024

The Rite of Election is an important part of the process of a person's journey to full membership in the Catholic Church community and one which is greatly appreciated by all who participate. This applies to adults who have undertaken formation. The Rite of Election for catechumens and candidates will take place on **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2024 at 12.30pm in St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat**. The presider will be Bishop Paul Bird CSsR. At the conclusion of the ceremony all are invited to join the Bishop in the Cathedral Hall for a light lunch.

Ash Wednesday – February 14th

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and during lent we are all asked to deepen Christian life through prayer, fasting and alms giving. Ash Wednesday is the commencement date of the Ballarat Diocesan 150 year Anniversary. Our liturgies throughout Lent, will acknowledge our ongoing need for conversion.

Ash Wednesday Mass Times

7.00am

10.00am (St Patrick's Primary School will attend)

12.05pm

7.00pm (will be preceded by Adoration and Benediction at 6.00pm).

Ashes for Ash Wednesday

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Community members are invited to bring palms from 2023 Palm Sunday celebration to the Cathedral during this week or over the weekend of 10th/11th February and place them in the baskets provided. These palms are the base for the ashes used in the Ash Wednesday rite of having ashes placed on our foreheads as a sign of penitence and sorrow.

CARITAS Project Compassion Sunday 11th February 2024 at 5pm

Bishop Paul will launch Caritas Project Compassion 2024, at 5pm Sunday 11th February, Volunteers are required to assist with cooking pancakes to be enjoyed by the community after Mass. If you would like to assist, please email Jillian Hogbin, at caritas@ballarat.catholic.org.au.

Saint Patrick's Youth Group

St Pat's Youth Group will meet this Sunday, 4th February from 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm in the Glowrey room. The group is for high school aged youth. Please bring a \$5 donation per family to cover food costs.

The **St Patrick's Young Adult's** cordially invite you to join them every second and fourth Thursday of the month at 6:30pm for an hour of Adoration, Benediction and Confession followed by a dinner at the Golden City Hotel. Begins Feb 8th.

Congratulations to Jim & Mavis McNulty who celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary on Feb 8th and with their family will attend the 10am Mass on Saturday Feb 10th.

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral
No counting completed this week.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday – 12.05pm

Tuesday – 7.00am, 12.05pm

Wednesday – 7.00am, 12.05pm

Thursday – 7.00am, 12.05pm

Friday – 12.05pm

(Reconciliation at 10.30am until midday)

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

11.20am Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet

Wednesday 11.20am Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet, Litany to St Joseph Holy Hour & Benediction 6.00pm-7.00pm

Thursday 11.15am

Divine Mercy Devotion

Friday 11.00am to 12.00pm -

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Silent Prayer

**changes may occur due to Funerals/Liturgical events.*

PARISH CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Wednesday

1.00pm Legion of Mary

1.00pm CWL

7.00pm RCIA Meeting

Thursday

1.00pm Sewing Repairs

Friday

10.00am St Thomas More PS Mass at school