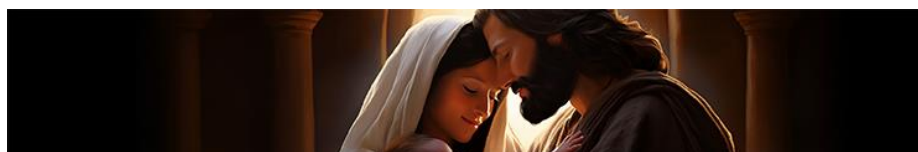


St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph Year_B – 31st December



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 Priest:

Fr James McKay

Visiting Priest:

Fr Barry Ryan

Parish Secretary

Sacramental Coordinator

Tony Beggs

Finance Officer:

Bernadette Prestwood

Safeguarding Officers:

Tony Beggs/Maria Noonan

Readings this week: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Year B (31st December)

First: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Second: Colossians 3:12-21

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

Readings next week: The Epiphany of the Lord (7th January)

First: Isaiah 60:1-6

Second: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

RECENT DEATHS:

Dorothy Cluning, Helen Fleucher, Mariyana Ford (Radikovic), Brian Glennen, Peter Hengel, Lawrie Jones, Egon Walter Marburg, Sophie Isaac Thekkummury

ANNIVERSARIES:

Peter Blizzard, Benjamin Broadribb, Bartholomew Cahir, Kevin Delmenico, Margaret Dovaston, Carmel Ellis, Julie Flett, Janet Gower, Sheila Gregory, Joseph Grist, Stephen Haintz, Lilian Heath, Joan Leask, Anna Marriott, Kitty McNamara, Ted Mulkay, Peter Ruyg, James Scanlon, Rebecca Shackwell, Michael Shearer, Emilia Smith, Joseph Thomson

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2024

Parent Meeting dates for the St Patrick's Parish Sacramental Program for 2024

First Reconciliation Parent Information Meeting	Thursday 15 th February 10am & 5:30pm
First Communion Parent Information Meeting	Tuesday 23 rd April 10am & 5:30pm
Confirmation Parent Information Meeting	Thursday 18 th July 10am & 5:30pm

The 3 Catholic Primary Schools will prepare children for the celebrations and the Parish Sacramental Team will prepare those students not attending Catholic schools. Confirmation is generally for year 3 students with the other two Sacraments celebrated at year 4.

First Reconciliations will be celebrated in March, First Communions in June and Confirmations will be celebrated in August.

57th World Day of Peace – January 1, 2024

Pope Francis' message for the 57th World Day of Peace, "Artificial Intelligence and Peace" is available from <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/documents/20231208-messaggio-57giornatamondiale-pace2024.html>.

Advance Notice 2024

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.

Photo permission: We seek permission from those participating in the Rite of Election to publish photos in the diocesan communications. Please advise the Pastoral Ministry Office if this is not suitable. If you have any queries, please contact Julie Boyd (ph. 5337 7159) or julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au on behalf of Diocesan Liturgical Commission

Mass of the Oils 2024: Monday, March 25, 2024 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 11.30am (please note change of time). Lunch and displays will follow in the Hall.

Equipping professionals for their lives of service

The University of Divinity has launched a new School of Professional Practice in 2023. The School exists to meet current and future needs in faith-based agencies, churches, and other organisations for mature practitioners in a range of professional disciplines. A range of new courses on offer at the University include a Bachelor of Counselling, Master of Leadership and Doctor of Professional Practice. Here, students engage in deep learning to inform head, heart and hands in the service of others. Scan or click the QR code for more information.



Laudato Si'



An integral ecology is inseparable from the notion of the common good,
a central and unifying principle of social ethics. #156

reduce reuse recycle rethink repurpose

The Best of Parenting

Reflection on the Gospel-Feast of the Holy Family Year B

(Luke 2:22-40)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

The time between Christmas and New Year is often family time, a time to think about what family means, to reflect on the successes and struggles of the past year and to consider the inevitable challenges of the year to come. It can be a difficult time for families facing financial or other concerns. It can be a time to connect with those who are alone or struggling in some way. Few families are exempt from the "sword" that pierces the soul.

The first and second readings for today engage the family story of Sarah and Abraham, of God's promise to give them a child, and of the fulfilment of that promise in the most unlikely of circumstances. The wonder of God's ways and the need to trust in God are at the heart of their story. At the same time, there is humour reflected in Abraham's choice of name for their son: "Isaac" means "he laughed". Does Abraham detect God's humour in providing a son for an elderly couple? Does he laugh for sheer joy at the birth of the child who will hold the traditions of the past and the hopes of the future? Whatever about this, the family story of Sarah, Abraham and Isaac foreshadows the even more extraordinary family story to be found in today's gospel.

Luke depicts Mary and Joseph as observant Jews bringing their child to the Jerusalem Temple in accordance with the ritual requirements of the Law, even if the Law applied only to the woman who had given birth and not to the man. Two prophetic figures, Anna and Simeon, recognise God's saving and redemptive purpose at work in this child who is presented in the Temple. Mary and Joseph listen in wonderment at what is said of their child. When they have "fulfilled the demands of the Law", they return to their hometown of Nazareth.

In the care of Mary and Joseph, the child Jesus grows to maturity, is filled with wisdom and God's favour is with him. Luke's summary statement introduces us to the wonderful world of a grace-filled family home. It invites us to ponder the wisdom that both Mary and Joseph had to share with their child. They taught him to pray and told him the stories of his people. They filled him with wonder at the goodness of God and of God's creation. They mediated the grace and favour of God and watched him grow and gain the strength he needed for life. They allowed him the freedom to develop his own personality and to find his own Spirit-filled way on the earth. Finally, they had to let him go so that he might follow a path that was beyond their imagining when they came to the Temple in fulfilment of the Law. In other words, while they did what so many parents would want to do for their children, they knew the pain involved even in the best of parenting.

150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat - Significant Catholic People from your Parish

In preparation for the Ballarat Diocese's 150 year Anniversary in 2024, the anniversary committee for the Mass of the Oils are searching for significant Catholics from your parish for a display to be presented in the Hall after the Mass of the Oils on Monday, March 25, 2024. These people could be a well-known person who has achieved success in their chosen field or it could be someone who has left a legacy in your parish, as a benefactor, contributor or historian. Please provide names and supporting information and photo to jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au before February 5, 2024.

Aid to the Church in need Supporting Christians in the Holy Land

The pontifical foundation Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) has committed an aid package of 190,000 AUD to support the Christians of the Holy Land during the current crisis. This aid will assist impoverished Christians in the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, and East Jerusalem, as well as Christian migrant workers and asylum seekers in Israel.



Diocesan Office Closures

Diocesan Offices dates in December/January are available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/diocesan-offices-dates-for-christmas-new-year/>

Parish Office Closures

St Patrick's Cathedral Office will close on Tuesdays until the end of January but be open 10am to 3pm Wednesday to Friday.

Praying with Pope Francis

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service. Praying each month 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – view at www.thepopevideo.org.

Pope's intention for December

For persons with disabilities:

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation. Lord, hear us.

Bishop Paul's Christmas Message 2024

Bishop Paul's Christmas Message is available to view on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/bishop-pauls-christmas-message-3/>.

Laudato Si': Everything is connected

In his encyclical Laudato Si', Pope Francis reminds us that everything is connected. Our relationship with nature is not separate from our relationship with God and others. This concept of integral ecology encourages us to care for the Earth and each other. It calls us to action.

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral

First Collection - \$ 7316.75

(Presbytery - Priest support)

Second Collection - \$ 3259.05

Tap & Go - \$ 80.39

(Parish - Online & Collection – buildings, office, admin, grounds and maintenance)

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 11.00am 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 11.00am

Rosary and Divine Mercy Devotion

Friday 11.00am to 12.00pm -

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Silent Prayer

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



HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

New Year's Day there will be an extra Mass for parishioners

**Monday January 1st at 10.00am
and normal 12.05pm Mass also**