

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

Third Sunday of Lent Year B – 3rd March



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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: Third Sunday of Lent Year B (3rd March)

First: Exodus 20:1-17

Second: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Gospel: John 2:13-25

Readings next week: Fourth Sunday of Lent Year B (10th March)

First: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

Second: Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel: John 3:14-21



RECENT DEATHS:

Andrew Calleja, Joseph Utarid, Bernadette McInerney

ANNIVERSARIES:

Nancy Adamson, Mollie Barnett, Norcisco Bomitali, Christine Both, Noreen Brennan, Geoffrey Browne, Oswald Coghlan, Audrey Colbert, Margot Conaughton, Trevor Conlan, Imre Csaszar, Patrick Joseph Duggan, Jack Flynn, Sheila Forster, Margaret Giuliano, Jim Goodwin, Eileen Gray, Kenneth Griffey, Desmond Hemphill, Elsie Lavery, Francis Lyons, Thomas Martin, Shannon McKnight, Rev Henry Nickel, Leslie Pearce, Mary Quinn, Maree Rantall, Frank Rozycki, James Ryan, John Saitta, Ray Simmons, Ann Thomas, Elena Walker, Cathryn Warhurst

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Keeping Everything in Balance

Reflection on the Gospel-3rd Sunday of Lent Year B

(John 2:13-25) -Veronica Lawson RSM

Today's gospel passage foreshadows the death of Jesus. As a devout Jew, Jesus goes up to Jerusalem at Passover. His final going-up will be the occasion of his death and resurrection. The Jerusalem Temple, Judaism's most holy place, is the site of a dramatic incident, an event that is recounted in all four gospels. The Synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) locate it towards the end of the gospel. They present it as a catalyst for the intensification of hostility between the temple authorities and Jesus. John's gospel, in contrast, places it at the beginning of Jesus' ministry. The tension between Jesus and the temple authorities that is to culminate in his death in all four gospels is thus present from the outset in John.

Jesus acts decisively, even violently, to draw attention to the primary function of God's "house". He creates an effective weapon, a whip of cords, and comprehensively clears the temple precinct of merchants, sheep, and cattle. He overturns the tables of the money-changers, orders the dove-sellers out and tells them all, in words that evoke the prophecy of Zechariah (14:21), to stop making God's house "a market-place". Zechariah had declared that, in the end times, there would no longer be traders in God's house. There was legitimate commercial activity associated with temple worship, such as the purchase of animals and doves for sacrifice, a practice we might now critique, and the changing of money to pay the Temple tax. The traders seem to have forgotten that this activity was a means to an end and not an end in itself.

In John's account, the disciples understand" partially: they interpret Jesus' actions in the light of Psalm 69:9: "It is zeal for your house that has consumed me". The Jews" request a "sign ... for doing this". In other words, they ask Jesus to demonstrate the source of his authority for his actions. His response is a challenge: "Destroy this temple, and in three days, I will raise it up". "The Jews" misunderstand. This provides Jesus with the opportunity to play on the word "temple": the temple is not only a material edifice that took forty-six years to build. It is also, metaphorically, his body that will be destroyed and raised up "in three days". The narrator provides the explanation and indicates that the disciples will eventually understand and come to belief. It is important to note that John writes with the wisdom of hindsight. It is also important to note that the designation "the Jews" is neither a reference to the people of Judaea nor to the dispersed Jewish people. In John's gospel, it refers to those who reject Jesus as the Anointed One of God, the Christ. As we travel the journey to Jerusalem this Lent, we are invited to keep everything in balance, and to remember that God, and not the opponents of Jesus, will have the final word in this drama.

PRESENTATION OF PRAYER CARD FOR CHILDREN PREPARING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Today after the sermon those children preparing for the sacrament of Reconciliation will be called to the altar to receive a prayer card to help them in their preparations. The card has the common prayers as well as a copy of the Beatitudes to provoke a growing awareness of God's love for them. There is the invitation for each individual to caring for all others who they meet and for them to reflect on where they can maintain a loving approach to all that they do in their lives.



When purchasing chocolate items for Easter, be mindful to purchase brands that use sustainably-sourced cocoa. Check for logos like these on packaging.



Clergy Appointments to Parishes in the Ballarat Region

Hello Everyone,

On December 6, following discussions with priests and parishioners, I announced that we would have four ministry districts in the Ballarat region.

After further consultations, I am now able to make appointments of priests to serve in these groups of parishes. The following appointments will take effect on April 10, 2024.

Ballarat Cathedral Parish, Ballarat North Parish and Beaufort Parish

Administrator: Fr Edward Moloney

Assistant Priests: Fr James McKay, Fr Francis Kureeckal MST

Ballarat East Parish, Bungaree Parish and Gordon Parish

Parish Priest: Fr Justin Driscoll

Assistant Priest: Fr Matthew Restall

Redan Parish, Sebastopol Parish and Linton Parish

Parish Priest: Fr Concord Bagoisan OSJ

Assistant Priest: Fr Eladio Lizada OSJ

Wendouree Parish, Creswick Parish and Daylesford Parish

Parish Priest: Fr Marcello Colasante

In view of Fr Matthew Restall's appointment to the Ballarat East, Bungaree and Gordon Parishes, I have appointed Fr Sajan Mathew as Assistant Priest in the Paul VI Parish in the Wimmera-Mallee.

The priests who are currently serving in these parishes will continue in their current appointments until April 10, when the new appointments will take effect. I hope this advance planning will be helpful in allowing time to prepare for the transition to the new arrangements.

I thank everyone who has been involved in the consultations over the past few months. I thank the priests for their readiness to serve in the various parish communities.

God bless you all.

Bishop Paul



Project Compassion 2024 – Third Sunday of Lent: Meet Leia

Not having access to a reliable source of clean water was very difficult for Leia and her family. But with the support of Caritas Australia, a water tank was installed at their home, improving their



health and living conditions. 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

<https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion>

or by calling 1800 024 413. Download the weekly reflection by Michael McGirr from the diocesan website

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/mission-and-outreach/project-compassion-2024/>



Cathedral Branch of the Catholic Women's

The next meeting of the Cathedral Branch of the Catholic Women's League will be held at 1.30pm on Monday March 4th in Nazee Nook at Nazareth House.

Our appeal to assist our Seminarians is ongoing.

Contact details below. New members and friends are most welcome. Inquiries - Carmel – 0401175045

World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement of women of many faith traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year.

This year, Nazareth House will hold a service on Thursday March 21st at 11am.

An offering will be taken up on the day and all are welcome to attend. This money is used to distribute Bibles in poorer countries. A choir from our Cathedral will be assisting and Pastor Max White officiating. Please come along and support this World Day of Prayer.

Inquiries - Carmel – Treasurer World Day of Prayer Ballarat ph 0401175045

Mary Ward for Saint

For those of you who have had the privilege of contact with the Sisters of the "Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary". You might like to assist them in their quest to have Mary Ward, their foundress recognised by the Church as a Saints for our times.

If you would be so kind as to assist, please click on the link "[Sign this Petition](#)", at the bottom of the image, just ignore the request for funds, (unless you wish to do so). With kinds regards Fr Greg Tait

[Petition · Help our cause to have Mary Ward declared a Saint! · Change.org](#)

Holy Hour and Visit of Bishop Richard Umbers (Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney)

Every Wednesday Evening from 6-7 pm the Cathedral holds a Holy Hour which includes Benediction.

On March 20, Bishop Richard will conduct a Holy Hour and afterwards give a talk in the Mackillop Glowrey Room. The topic will be International Eucharistic Congresses, the Eucharistic Congress in Quito and the planning for the Congress in Sydney.

Parish Mass with Anointing, Friday, March 15th

On Friday, March 15th our Lenten Mass with Anointing for the Parish will be held in St Patrick's Hall at midday. This is a great opportunity to celebrate as a Parish Community. 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 to prepare lunch at 10.00 am and help with the serving would be very much appreciated. This is a great opportunity to pray, eat and enjoy the company of our Parish Community. If you require transport on the day do not hesitate to phone the Parish Office on 53312933.

Priests Retreat

Bishop Paul and all the priests of the diocese will be attending their annual retreat at Hall's Gap in the coming week. Please pray for them as they reflect on their ministries and the parishes that they care for.

The Season of Lent

- * Daily Masses - see Mass Times on bulletin.
- * Holy Hour & Benediction Wednesdays: 6-7pm. (reflection this week will be on fasting)
- * Stations of the Cross Fridays: 6pm- 7pm.
- * Lenten Daily Reflection Books are available at the Piety Stall at the back of the Cathedral.
- * Caritas Project Compassion Envelopes and Boxes are available in the Cathedral to help us in our almsgiving.

Palms Australia

Communities in Africa, Asia, Australia and the Pacific are looking for qualified and experienced Australians from Bishop Paul has written a letter of endorsement for the work of Palms Australia. Learn more at <https://palms.org.au/> or ph. 02 95605333

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral

First Collection - \$ 2625.55

(Presbytery - Priest support)

Second Collection - \$ 1273.45

Tap & Go - \$ TBC

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
6.00pm-7.00pm Holy Hour will take place
NO Benediction due to priest's retreat

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

Sunday

after 10.00am Cuppa after Mass

5.15am RCIA Dismissals

6.00pm Youth Group

Tuesday

7.00pm Life in the Spirit Prayer

Wednesday

1.00pm Legion of Mary

7.00pm RCIA Meeting

Thursday

9.30pm Play Group

10.00am/5.30pm Baptism Preparation