

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

Communities of Alfredton, Ballarat, Cardigan, Lake Gardens, Lake Wendouree, Lucas, Newington

St Peter's Parish Linton

Communities of Linton, Skipton, Smythesdale, Snake, Valley

Sunday January 6th The Epiphany of the Lord



Parish Office hours: Wednesday - Friday 10.00am – 5.00pm

Phone 5331 2933 3 Lyons St Sth Ballarat

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

<https://stpatscathedral.weebly.com>

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR Priests: Frs Justin Driscoll, Anthony Nagothu and Sajan Mathew

Visiting Priests: Frs Dan Arundell and Barry Ryan

BHS Pastoral Care - Tracy Sillekens, Family Ministry & Safeguarding - Anita Houlihan

Finance Officer - Kerrie McTigue, Grounds - Tony McVeigh, Office Admin - Juanita Bongiorno

Linton Parish Safeguarding Officer - Cecelia Rowberry

Principals of our three Parish Primary Schools

[St Patrick's Primary](#) Cathy Whelan, [St Thomas More](#) Rosa Tocchet, [Siena](#) Jo Brewer

Masses January 12th – 13th Cathedral

6.30pm Vigil 8.00am 10.30am 5.00pm

Smythesdale

6.30pm Vigil

Beaufort

8.30am

Snake Valley

10.30am

Masses during the coming week

Monday 12.05pm Cathedral

Tuesday 12.05pm Cathedral

Wednesday 12.05pm Cathedral

Thursday 9.30am Redan

12.05pm Cathedral

Friday 9.30am Sebastopol

12.05pm Cathedral

Saturday 10.00am Cathedral

Sacrament of Reconciliation Friday 11.00am Saturday 11.30am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Monday & Tues. 10.00am – 11.45am, Friday 12.30pm

Morning Prayer of the Church Monday - Saturday 8.00am

Next week's readings: *The Baptism of the Lord*

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 Ps 28:1-4, 9-10 Acts 10:34-38 Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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

Recent Deaths: Greg Dean, Margaret Harty, Phyllis Lang, Dr. John Niall,
Allan Spratling, Paul Toohey

Anniversaries: Mary Davey, Damian Dignan, Flo Flynn, Gary Hall, Una Harrington,
Tony Houlihan, John Loughnan, Brian Mahar, Patrick Moran

Office Hours over January

The Parish Office will be open each Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10.00am until 5.00pm. Over these weeks with reduced office hours there will be a shared weekly newsletter for the Linton and the Cathedral Parishes.

Gerard O'Loughlin 100 years on January 8th 2019!

After 12.05pm Mass at St Patricks Cathedral, Gerard's family invite all for a cup of tea and a sandwich in St Patricks Cathedral hall.

Newly Ordained Redemptorist Priests

Five newly ordained Redemptorist Priests who each originate from different parts of South East Asia will have a 12-month Parish placement, commencing in early 2019. One of these priests will be appointed to the Ballarat, Linton and Beaufort Parishes. The others will be appointed to Ararat, Hamilton, Maryborough and Redan-Sebastopol.

Closing Mass for St Patrick's Church Springdallah

Following the sale of the Church at Springdallah last weekend, there will be a final Mass in the Church on Sunday January 27th 2019 at 10.30am. All former parishioners welcome. This Mass will replace the usual 10.30am Mass at Skipton that Sunday.

Thank you to Dorothy Ludwell

In recent years Dorothy has been the communion minister to Catholic patients at Gandarra, visiting after the 8.00am Mass each week. Dorothy has ministered on our behalf and as she concludes in this ministry we express our appreciation to her.

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral collections last weekend

Envelopes	\$1,507.05	Parish Loose	\$378.75	Presbytery	\$1,999.65
Counters	Team 7	Next Week	Team 1		

Thank you to those who contributed \$3,384 to the Cathedral Christmas Offerings.

Cathedral Parish Office Administration Officer

Following the advertising of the part-time (2 days per week, Thursday and Friday) position in the Cathedral Parish Office, 42 applications were received, then shortlisted and interviews conducted. Selina Gaden has been appointed to this position and will commence on January 31st.

2020 Plenary Council, *Share the Story, Shape the Future*

Over the past seven months, more than 30,000 people have generously shared their stories and experiences of life, faith and the Church with the Plenary Council. Those stories will help shape this historic process by forming the agenda for the Plenary Council sessions in 2020 and 2021. Thank you to everyone who has participated in the Listening and Dialogue stage. If you haven't yet shared your story, you have until March 2019 to do so. Follow this link to respond online to the preparatory questions

<http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/have-your-say/>

This week we resume publication of parishioner's responses of 200 words to what it is they believe the Holy Spirit is asking of us the Church at this time. This week's response comes from Doris Bastian who writes: *Uphold the traditions and scriptural teachings of the Church. Celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass by an Ordained Celibate Priest, sacramentally 'in Persona Christi', is the heartbeat of the Church's work and activity and must be continued. Married men, desiring to serve sacramentally, should consider being Deacons to assist the clergy in pastoral and other related ministries. Ordained, they do not lessen the threat of sexual abuse any less. Authority given to Peter and the Apostles by Jesus to govern His Church must be upheld, not undermined. Rejuvenation of prayers, devotions and respectful silence for the House of God, especially before and after Mass, for preparation and thanksgiving, is important, and, being united in prayer as a community we stand, not as a collection of individual believers practicing faith in private. Beliefs or way of life of all be welcomed by invitation, encouragement and example with Christian values being paramount. Obedience to God's laws and precepts produce healthy, physical and spiritual life, vital for peace and unity for the whole Church, the Body of Christ. We are a servant church – to serve and like Mary women have their place in the role of salvation and being ordained is not one of them.*

Organs of the Goldfields 24th Annual Programme – opening recital in St Patrick's Cathedral on Friday January 11th at 8.00pm – Arvo Part: The Passion of St John.

Reflection on the Gospel– Feast of the Epiphany Year C -Veronica Lawson RSM

God's presence is revealed to us in many and diverse ways: we can read the "story" of God's creation of the universe; we can search out the meaning of our dreams; we can learn from our experience and the experience of others; and we can listen to the word of God in our sacred scriptures. Readiness to encounter God in these diverse ways has nothing to do with naïve dependence on our own judgment or on the judgement of others. It has more to do with a way of being in the world that involves openness to the unexpected and a critical and careful communal dialogue between our life experience and our faith tradition. A deep awareness of our place in the Earth community and kinship with the other-than-human teaches us respect for all being and respect for the power of God's Spirit to lead us beyond ourselves. Epiphany is the feast of the wise ones or astrologers "from the East" who are led beyond themselves and their immediate location by the rising of a star. They form their own preliminary hypothesis and travel west to search out the meaning of this sign. Their enquiries in Jerusalem attract the attention of Herod, the Roman-appointed "king of the Jews" who turns to the official interpreters of the Jewish scriptures for information on the birthplace of the Messiah. The "magi" follow the star that leads them to Bethlehem, to the new born child, the incarnate Wisdom of God. The gospel does not stipulate how many wise ones or magi come to pay homage to the child who has already been named in the text as Emmanuel, God-with-us. There is no indication in the story as to whether they are men or women or both. The three gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh have traditionally been associated with three different characters, usually kings, of different tribes or peoples. These strangers are the first to recognise "God-with-us" in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. They also come to recognise in a dream the duplicity of Herod, who senses a threat to his political power from the birth of a new-born king of the Jews. They have the good sense not to accede to Herod's request to bring him word of the newborn king. They return home "by another road". The story-teller Matthew leaves room in the tableau for the insertion of the wise ones who will emerge through the ages. We are invited to enter into Matthew's drama, to be the wise ones, to join with people of different cultures, to engage in our own search for Wisdom, and to follow the star that leads to truth and lasting peace. We are also invited to be wary of those, like Herod, who find their positions threatened by a different sort of power, power based on vulnerability and openness to new life.