

St Patrick's Cathedral



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

Sunday, March 15th, 2020

Third Sunday of Lent (A)

Parish Office hours: Monday - Friday

10.00am – 5.00pm 53 312 933

3 Lyons St Sth Ballarat

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR

Administrator: Fr Justin Driscoll

Visiting Priests: Fr Dan Arundell

Fr Barry Ryan

Parish Co-ordinator: Anita Houlihan

Admin Assistant: Juanita Bongiorno

Finance Officer: Kerrie McTigue

Grounds: Tony McVeigh

Safeguarding Officer: Anita Houlihan

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 Masses March 21st/22nd 6.30pm Vigil, Sunday 8.00am 10.30am 5.00pm

Liturgies during the coming week

Monday 12.05pm Cathedral

Tuesday 12.05pm Cathedral (St. Patrick's Day – Anointing Mass)

Wednesday 11.30am Stations of the Cross 12.05pm Cathedral

Thursday 11.30am St John of God Hospital 12.05pm Cathedral

Friday 12.05pm Cathedral

Saturday 10.00am Cathedral

Sacrament of Reconciliation Friday 11.00am Saturday 11.30am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Monday and Tuesday 10.00am-11.45am,
Saturday 10.30am. (Please note that the Holy Hour concluding with Benediction will be held on Saturday mornings following the 10am Mass. This will replace the Friday Holy Hour and Benediction)

Morning Prayer of the Church 8.00am Monday - Saturday

Next week's readings for the Fourth Sunday of Lent (A)

1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13 Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41

Responsorial Psalm: *If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.*

Recent Deaths: Clare Cashin, Lindsay Griffey, Ray Simmons

Anniversaries: Neil Haintz, Charlotte Holmes, William Holmes, Lill Meiklejohn,
Leanne Payne

Thank you for contributing to the Cathedral collections last weekend

Envelopes \$1,222.00 Parish Loose \$467.45 Presbytery \$1,981.85

Counters: This week Team 6 Next week Team 7

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Sybilla Hope Flight daughter of Matthew and Juliana

Zoe Amelie and Isla Mia Jarvis daughters of Luke and Rochelle

Charlotte Rose Porth daughter of Warrick and Kylie



“The Church gives the faith to your children through Baptism and you have the task to make it grow...” Pope Francis. May they grow in faith with the support of their families and our Catholic Community

Parish Mass with Anointing, Tuesday March 17th St. Patrick’s Day

The parish will celebrate the Mass with Anointing on Tuesday, March 17th at 12.05pm in St Patrick’s Hall. We will be joined by students and staff from St Patrick’s Primary School. This is a great opportunity to celebrate together St. Patrick’s Feast Day, our parish and diocesan patron saint. Lunch will be served after Mass. Donations of cakes or slices would be appreciated. Volunteers to assist with lunch preparation at 10.00am would be welcomed. If you require transport, contact the Parish Office on 5331 2933.

Nazareth House Auxiliary St Patrick’s Day Celebrations

Tuesday, March 17th, 2020 at 218 Mill Street Ballarat, 1.30pm. Musical entertainment, afternoon tea, lucky door prize, cake and produce stalls. Entry \$10.00. For further information contact Margaret, 0419003415.

Ballarat and District Irish Association (BDIA)

Join the Ballarat Irish Association for a buffet supper, a stimulating guest speaker and musical entertainment on Monday, March 16th at 6.30pm at the Ballarat Welcome Centre, 25-39 Barkly Street, Bakery Hill. \$25.00. For bookings contact Marlene, 0402 447546

GodStart Pre-school Easter Celebration

A fun-filled morning of crafts, singing, story-time, Easter egg hunt. Thursday, March 19th, 9.30am-11.30am in St. Patrick’s Hall. Please bring a plate for sharing (nut-free food preferred).

Barry grew up in a tough environment. With the support of a program from Caritas Australia's partner, Red Dust Healing, Barry has overcome many of life's challenges. He is now an inspirational father to his four girls and a leader in his community.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 and help vulnerable people like Barry, so that they are empowered to assist members of their communities in Australia.

Let's Go Further, Together. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Clergy appointments

Bishop Paul has made the following appointments of clergy to Parishes in the Diocese:

Stawell – Fr Andrew Hayes appointed Parish Priest (in addition to the Ararat Parish) as a result of the retirement of Fr Eric Bryant;

Mildura, Merbein & Red Cliffs – Fr Matthew Thomas appointed Parish Priest when Fr Michael McKinnon will leave to take up an appointment with the Columbans in Peru, South America;

Robinvale and Ouyen Parish – Fr Anthony Nagothu appointed Administrator.

Further appointments will be necessary as a result of these appointments.

Plenary Council Listening & Discernment gatherings -

The Cathedral Parish will be hosting one further Listening & Discernment gathering on Sunday March 22nd, 2.30pm – 4.30pm in the MacKillop and Glowrey rooms. Facilitated by Felicity Knobel and Jillian Hogbin, all are welcome to participate and be part of the discernment process. The theme for the final discernment is Joyful, Hope-filled and Servant Community. Snapshot reports can be found at www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au or collect from the Parish Office.

Legion of Mary Acies Ceremony

Consecration to Our Lady will be held on Wednesday, March 25th following 12.05pm Mass in the Cathedral. All welcome to participate.

Diocesan Religious Education Resource Centre Closure

The Resource Centre has served parishes and schools in the diocese for over forty years and has been a valued repository of books, magazines, CDs and DVDs. Borrowings from the Centre will be available until March 27th, after which it will be closed for a month while the collection is moved to a temporary storage area on site. From April 27th, the Centre will be open Tuesday mornings only from 9.30am – 1.00pm. Enquiries or urgent borrowings can be directed to resources@ceob.edu.au or ph. 5337 7135. Towards the end of the year resources will be disseminated to parishes and schools.

Gospel Reflection by Veronica Lawson rsm

Those privileged to act as catechists in the RCIA process over the Lenten period will be introducing candidates to some of our most treasured gospel stories. In 1963, Vatican II's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy called for the restoration of certain early Church practices. The two main features of Lent, baptism and penance, were to be given greater emphasis in the liturgy and in liturgical catechesis. More use was to be made of the baptismal elements proper to the Lenten liturgy. Some features that were part of an earlier tradition were to be restored. In response to this call, John's stories of the Samaritan woman, the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus were moved from the weekday to the Sunday liturgy. Thus, three weeks into Lent, the liturgy invites us to take a faith journey in the company of a courageous outsider, an unnamed woman from a despised religious group.

A woman of Samaria comes to draw water from the well of Jacob, Israel's great ancestor in faith. She belongs in a long line of women whose lot as women is to undertake the burdensome, often dangerous, daily toil of carrying water so that their families might simply survive. Jesus asks the woman for a drink and elicits a bewildered response. She responds, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" This response provides the opportunity for Jesus to move into an extended and constantly deepening exchange in which the woman proves herself a knowledgeable and worthy dialogue partner. The pursuit of water, a key baptismal symbol in the gospel tradition, provides the catalyst for her journey to faith in Jesus as the Messiah/the Christos and her engagement in the mission of proclaiming the good news to her people.

Commentators tend to focus on the woman's marital status, usually in negative terms. Because she is said to have had five husbands, many presume that she is a sinner: there is nothing in the text to support this position. Successive husbands may have died. Financial, religious or societal constraints may have functioned in her decision to remarry. The "husbands" may refer to the strange gods that claimed the allegiance of the Samaritans. There is no consensus on this among scholars.

At the outset, the woman views Jesus simply as a Jew who breaks with established custom by asking her for water. She comes to accept him as the provider of living water. Jesus understands her life story and opens up the way for her to accept him as a prophet. She takes the risk of sharing her own convictions about the locus of worship and is gifted with new understanding and with Jesus' further self-disclosure. She leaves her water jar behind and brings others to faith in Jesus as Messiah and saviour of the world. She becomes both disciple and missionary prophet.