

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com



3rd Sunday of Easter (C)
Sunday 10th April 2016



Gospel Reflection – © Veronica Lawson RSM

Simon Peter has a higher profile in this final chapter of John's gospel than in the first twenty chapters. It is as though the author responsible for the final edition of John's gospel wants to bring Peter to prominence in line with the traditions found in the other gospels. In the previous chapter, it is not at all clear that Peter has come to resurrection faith, while there is no such doubt about the faith of Mary of Magdala. It is she who receives the first resurrection appearance in this gospel. She is also commissioned to proclaim the news of the resurrection to the other disciples. In John 21, Mary Magdalene and the women disciples who have featured so significantly in other parts of John are curiously absent from the closing scenes of the gospel. The focus is clearly on Peter, his role as leader, and his relationship with Jesus.

Peter announces that he intends to go fishing and several of the other disciples join him. They catch nothing. At dawn, they see the figure of Jesus on the shore. As in some of the other resurrection stories, his disciples, with the exception of the "beloved disciple", do not recognise him immediately. They follow his instructions and find themselves overwhelmed with their catch. At the invitation of Jesus, they breakfast on bread and fish. This provides the setting for the rehabilitation of Peter and for his three-fold profession of love of Jesus in the wake of his three-fold denial.

While this passage is filled with symbolism, we might pause to appreciate the materiality underlying the symbols. There are eucharistic overtones in the bread and fish, and in Jesus' action of taking the bread and giving it to the disciples. Sheep and shepherding are key symbols in John where Jesus identifies himself as the "good shepherd". Fishing is an important gospel metaphor for ministry. The number of fish (153) probably denotes the totality or universality of the mission. The untorn net is a symbol of unity, like the seamless garment in the passion narrative. The verb "to draw" has several layers of meaning in this fishing context: the disciples were not able "to draw in the net....so Simon Peter went aboard and drew the net ashore". These statements evoke earlier sayings of Jesus, particularly his words on the cross, "And I if I am lifted up from the earth will draw all to myself" (12:32). The "all" allows for the whole Earth community, and not only the human community, to be drawn to the crucified and resurrected One.

Recent Deaths: Bishop Ronald Mulkearns

*O God, who through the ending of present things
open up the beginning of things to come, grant we pray,
that the soul of your servant Bishop Ronald Mulkearns may be led to you
to attain the inheritance of eternal redemption, through Christ our Lord.*

Anniversaries: David Elkins, Sr Anne Hulme (Loreto), Mary Legg, Eilin O'Siochain, Roma Vaughan

Next week's readings: *Sunday 17th April 2016* *4th Sunday of Easter (C)*

Acts 5:27-32. 40-41 Ps 29:2. 4-6. 11-13. R. v.2 Apocalypse 5:11-14 John 21:1-19

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Matilda Mae Hooper	daughter of Christopher & Jessica
Max Joseph O'Hehir	son of Liam & Bridget
Jacob John Rix	son of Nathan & Kylie
Torben Alexander Willey	son of Shaun & Melissa



May they grow in faith in their loving families and our Catholic Community.

First Eucharist

Children who have already celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Reconciliation will be preparing for First Eucharist shortly. A parent information session for families of these children will take place on Tuesday 19th April at 10.00am and 7.00pm in the Cathedral Hall (small hall).

Families must attend one session for their child to be included in the program for this sacrament.

For further information please phone the Parish office on 53 312933 or email

anita.houlihan@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Alpha in a Catholic Context

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that explores the Christian faith for adults. It is a parish tool for evangelisation based on welcome and hospitality, sharing and prayer. Each session includes a meal, a talk and small group discussion, where no question is too simple and no answer prepackaged. Guests are welcomed into a relaxed and friendly setting and have the opportunity to get to know one another. After the meal, a short talk is given on the Christian faith. The talks are based on the teaching of the Church, the Bible, and the personal testimony of the speaker. Topics vary from 'Who is Jesus?' to 'How Can I Make the Most of the Rest of My Life?' The small groups provide the opportunity to build trust and friendship. Within the group, guests learn the art of listening, reading the Scriptures and praying. Alpha will be offered in the Cathedral Parish for those who express interest in being part of this adult faith opportunity – contact the Parish Office if you would like to be part of Alpha in our Parish over the coming months which will be conducted on Thursday evenings in the smaller hall at the Cathedral.

Mercy Associates Pilgrimage

On Wednesday 20th April, the Mercy Associates invite you to join them on a Pilgrimage to the first Sisters of Mercy establishment in Victoria- the Academy of Mary Immaculate, Nicholson St., Fitzroy founded on April 20th, 1857. Contact Ursula Diamond-Keith gudiamond-keith@live.com.au. 0407717626

Lucas Catholic Primary School Information

On Tuesday April 12th at 7.00 pm in the Community Health Centre at Lucas, there will be a further community engagement forum for prospective parents and friends of the new Catholic Primary School that will be opening in Lucas at the commencement of the 2017 school year. Newly appointed Principal, Mrs Jo Brewer will be introduced. Enrolments are now open and the website for the new school has much information <http://www.lucascatholicprimaryschool.com.au>

'Come to Common Terms'

Ballarat Interfaith Network is happy to promote an opportunity to visit the Islamic Mosque of Ballarat on 16th April 2016 at 116 Elsworth St East, Canadian 12.00 pm – 3.00 pm. Free bbq meal, mosque tour and presentation on interfaith dialogue.

Project Compassion

Thank you to those who have donated towards the Caritas Australia's annual appeal, Project Compassion. Your gift, both prayer and financial giving, ensures the world's poorest and marginalized communities are supported through Caritas Australia's transforming and self-sustaining programs. If you have not already donated and wish to do so, could you please place your gift in a clearly marked envelope and place it on the collection plate next week so that the appeal can be finalised and donations forwarded to Caritas Australia.

One week left for Pilgrims to register for World Youth Day with Pope Francis in Poland in July!

Blessed are the Merciful, for they shall receive Mercy Matthew 5:7

Pilgrims need to be registered by Friday, April 15 and the deposit paid by April 17. The rest of the Registration fee is due in third week of May. Register and get info at www.wydvictoria.org.au Parents, grandparents, parishioners and leaders are encouraged to support their young people to attend WYD and assist them with fundraising events or opportunities. Information about our Diocesan Pilgrims - we hope around 22 of them - is on the Diocesan Youth and Young Adult Ministry WYD page as well as a powerpoint for parishes and other information. All parishes are asked to consider supporting pilgrims in this once in a lifetime opportunity to be immersed in faith and to bring home the joy of the experience of being amidst the world-wide Church. www.ballarat.catholic.org.au and follow links to Youth and Young Adult Ministry page or contact Amanda on 0427 748 867 or youth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Council for Australian Catholic Women's Colloquium 2016

The CACW Colloquium will be held this year on September 17 & 18 at Mary Mackillop Place in North Sydney with the theme, "Women as Witnesses to the Joy of the Gospel" will set the scene for theological and pastoral reflection on Pope Francis' call to "create still broader opportunities for a more incisive female presence in the Church" (*Evangelii Gaudium* 103). The keynote addresses and workshops will examine this theme and consider the issues facing women in the family, women in the Church and women in society. Expressions of Interest can be registered on the Colloquium web-site www.cacwcolloquium.org.au

St Patrick's Cathedral Community Space

During this past week Maureen Hatcher (Loudfence coordinator) and Phil Nagle (Survivor) joined with St Pat's College Headmaster John Crowley and School Captain John Brodie to remove the ribbons from the entrance to the College. The ribbons will be kept and stored. A similar event will be planned for the Cathedral which will coincide with the launch of our plans for a garden (behind the Cathedral) dedicated healing and reconciliation, acknowledging the experience of Victim survivors through a permanent memorial. Thanks to the members of the Cathedral precinct environment group for their ongoing work on this project.

New Stewardship Envelopes are available for collection from the Parish Office.

Counters 10th April Team 4 Next week team 5
Parish Office hours Tuesday – Friday, 10.00 am – 5.00 pm Phone 5331 2933

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au



Clergy Frs Justin Driscoll, James Kerr, Anthony Nagothu SDB
Parish Office Jacinta Westbrook, Finance Officer Philip Westbrook
Family Ministry Anita Houlihan, Hospital Pastoral Care, Kaye Stringer
Principals St Patrick's Primary Mark Hogbin, St Thomas More Rosa Tocchet

Cathedral Parish Masses	April 16 th /17 th	Smythesdale	Skipton	Rokewood
6.30 pm Vigil, 8.00 am,	10.30 am, 5.00 pm	7.30 pm	9.00am	10.30 am

Masses during the coming week

Monday	12.05 pm Cathedral			
Tuesday	9.30 am Redan	12.05 pm Cathedral	5.30 pm Loreto Sisters	
Wednesday	9.30 am Sebastopol	12.05 pm Cathedral		
Thursday	No Mass Redan	11.30 am St John of God	12.05pm Cathedral	
Friday	No Mass Sebastopol	12.05 pm Cathedral	1.30 pm Benediction	
Saturday	10.00 am Cathedral			

Sacrament of Reconciliation Friday 11.00 am, Saturday 11.30 am