

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat



www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com

3rd Sunday of Easter-(A) 4th May 2014



Extraordinary things can happen if we open ourselves to the presence of a stranger or “foreigner” on the road of life. That seems to be a key element in today’s gospel passage from the well-known and well-loved Emmaus story. Imagine two dejected disciples (Cleopas and possibly his wife) on Easter Day, on the road back from Jerusalem to their home in Emmaus, a few kilometres away. On their journey, they encounter the risen Jesus. At first, they fail to recognise him. Their sadness at his violent death has blinded them to the significance of the women’s account of the empty tomb. It has blinded them to what is happening before their very eyes.

Jesus engages them in conversation and holds up a metaphorical mirror to their experience of loss and grief. Their hearts ‘burn’ within them as he reveals to them the meaning of his death and resurrection in the light of their sacred scriptures. Yet still they fail to recognise the one whom they have described as “a prophet mighty in deed and word.” They invite him to share a meal with them and their eyes are opened: they recognise him in the blessing and breaking of the bread they share with him. He disappears from their midst. They cannot contain the joy they have experienced in realising that Jesus is now alive and once more present to them, but in a new and transforming way.

Cleopas and partner go straight back to Jerusalem to share this good news with the other disciples. Now all the assembled disciples experience powerfully the presence of Jesus in their midst. They too pass over the women’s story; the appearance of the risen Jesus to Peter is the ground of their new faith. As the story continues beyond today’s reading, we learn that they too will share a meal with him and he will open their minds to understand the scriptures. Everything will fall into place. The fear that has paralysed them will fall away. They will not only understand Jesus’ death and resurrection in the light of the scriptures. They will be ‘clothed with power from on high’ to exercise their role as witnesses to this great mystery.

Extraordinary things can happen to those who are hospitable enough to “break bread” with “foreigners” in whom they do not immediately recognise God’s presence. If we open our hearts and our homes to those who seek a welcome on our shores, we might come to participate a little more deeply in the joy of the resurrection. *Veronica Lawson rsm*

Recent Deaths: Bob Gray, Ken McMillan, William Verdoon

Anniversaries: David Baxter, Bryan Dumaresq, Eugene Grigg, Geordie Hayes, Elizabeth (Betty) Lochland, Aline Martin-Goldsmith, Ellen (Nell) O'Loughlin, Michael Neville, Thomas Neville, John Parker, Mark Ryan, Michael Ryan, Frank Stodolny

Next week's readings: Sunday 11th May 4th Sunday of Easter (A)

Acts: 2:14, 36-41 Ps 22:1-6. R. v.1 Peter2:20-25 John 10:1-10

Caritas Project Compassion Please return your boxes or envelopes. Thankyou

Cuppa & Chat after 10.30 am Mass today in the Presbytery. Everyone is most welcome.

Catholic Women's League

Will be celebrating WUCWO Day at our meeting on Wednesday, 7th May at 1.30 pm in the presbytery. All most welcome. Phone Maureen 5339 9219

Faith Formation - Spirit Day

A Spirit Day is a one day event of spiritual nourishment - part workshop, part retreat. The Diocesan Faith Formation program is offering 3 of these in 2014. The first is on Saturday, May 24 at Bungaree. The Spirit Day will be led by Fr Kevin Lenehan and will explore the mystery of Easter. In the afternoon there will be a choice of workshops in scripture, prayer and spirituality. The day starts with Mass and finishes with Evening Prayer and includes lunch. Come and nourish your spirit! faith@ballarat.catholic.org.au or phone 5337 7154. Those newly Baptised & received into the Church are most welcome to attend.

Parish Self-Appraisal process

As part of the whole "Looking Forward" process the diocese has invited parishes to appraise their current situation and plans for the future as well providing the diocese with information to plan and support parish life. Cathedral Parish groups and ministries have received copies of the self-appraisal and responses have been received from the Catholic Women's League, Finance Committee, Funeral Ministry Team, Liturgy Planning group, RCIA, Sacramental team, Soulfood Young Adults, St Vincent de Paul, Visiting Group, Welcoming Group and YESS Youth. Thankyou to the parishioners involved in the completion of this self-appraisal. Any groups and ministries that have not had an opportunity to complete the self-appraisal are invited to do so as soon as possible. Many thanks. Fr Justin.

Billets Accommodation is required for 7 pilgrims who will be coming to Ballarat on the 29th & 30th of June, if you able to help please contact the parish Office.

Steve Angrisano

Steve will share music, stories and prayer at Ballarat Cathedral, 7.00 pm - 8.00 pm on Tuesday, May 20th. *Go Make a Difference!* Truly living our faith is a great adventure! We are challenged by a loving God to make a difference in the world, to be witnesses of the faith that we profess. Jesus challenges us all to be the body of Christ, to be a light to the world. Discover in story and song God's call of faithfulness to each of us. Steve Angrisano is an effective and versatile ministry leader in the Church today. Those who are young (and young at heart) embrace the passionate message of faith, hope and love woven throughout his music and storytelling. Based in the US, Steve has led events and worship at the last six International World Youth Days, including Rio. He was a special guest in Melbourne last December at the first Australian Catholic Youth Festival and was so popular he was invited back to tour Australia. Steve will be performing in Brisbane, Perth, Melbourne and Ballarat! So come along on Tuesday, May 20 to Ballarat. People of all ages are welcome to attend – no need to register – just arrive! email youth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Spirituality in the Pub

Lunch time conversations @ Midlands Golf Club, Wednesday, May 14 12.00 noon -2.00pm.

St Patrick's Cathedral Playgroup

Parents, grandparents, or carers of pre-school aged children, are welcome to join St Patrick's Playgroup for a cuppa and a play. Playgroup meets during school terms on Thursdays 9.00 am-11.00 am in O'Collins' Hall. Please bring a piece of fruit to share and a gold coin donation. Contact Jacinta at the Parish Office for any enquiries Phone 53312933, email: ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Celebrating Christian Initiation

Welcome to Jessica Godfrey who has journeyed through the RCIA process to full Christian initiation. Jessica will be baptised and confirmed with first communion @ 5.00 pm Mass.

Collections Envelopes \$3,660.00 Parish Loose \$164.60 Presbytery \$2,084.20.

Counters 4th May Team 7 Next week Team 8

Stewardship Envelope Could the person using envelope # 197 please contact the Office.

Happy 90th birthday to Sr Dominic Foley RSJ from all @ in Cathedral Parish!

Mary MacKillop Aged Care (Sisters of St Joseph Health Care), 4 King St Hawthorn East 3123.

Liturgy Formation Sessions

The Diocesan Liturgical Commission will be presenting a Liturgy Formation session at Ararat on Sunday, May 25, 2014. Workshops include - Formation for Leaders of Sunday Assembly of Word and Communion, Formation for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Music in the Liturgy, @ Scripture Reflection. RSVPs are required for planning. Cathedral parishioners welcome to attend. Contact Jacinta in the Parish Office for details.

Attend the Proclaim Conference

The Ballarat Diocese has funding available to assist people to attend the **Proclaim Conference** in Sydney later this year. This funding comes from the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Foundation and will go towards the costs of registration, accommodation and travel for delegates. **Proclaim 2014 "Living the Joy of the Gospel in the Parishes"** is in Sydney from Thursday 21 August – Saturday 23 August 2014 and is a conference on the New Evangelisation hosted by the Australian Catholic Bishops. More information is available at www.proclaimconference.com.au This offer for delegates to attend, with costs to attend being covered by the Diocese, is open to parishioners, parish leaders, lay ministry team members, parish and assistant priests. Bishop Paul hopes people from parishes across the Diocese will be able to attend. If you are interested in attending from the Cathedral Parish please contact the Cathedral Parish Office. Early applications are recommended.

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat, Lake Gardens, Lucas, Cardigan & Alfredton

Phone 5331 2933

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish office hours

Monday - Friday 10.00 am – 5.00 pm

Clergy: Frs Justin Driscoll, James Kerr, Jim McKay.

Parish Office: Jacinta Westbrook, Finance Officer: Philip Westbrook

Family Ministry: Anita Houlihan, Hospital Pastoral Care: Kaye Stringer

St Patrick's Primary Mark Hogbin, Principal

St Thomas More Alfredton Rosa Tocchet, Principal



Cathedral Parish Masses next weekend (May 10th /11th)

6.30 pm Vigil, 8.00 am, 10.30 am, 5.00 pm

Skipton 6.30 pm Vigil

Beaufort 8.30 am

Snake Valley 10.30 am

Masses during the coming week

Monday 12.05 pm Cathedral

Tuesday 12.05 pm Cathedral 5.30 pm Redan

Wednesday 9.30 am Sebastopol 12.05 pm Cathedral 5.30 pm Loreto Sisters

Thursday 9.30 am Redan 11.30 am St John of God 12.05 pm Cathedral

Friday 9.30 am Sebastopol 12.05 pm Cathedral 1.30 pm Benediction

Saturday 10.00 am Cathedral

Sacrament of Penance Friday 11.00 am

Saturday 11.30 am