

Gospel progresses. The performance will be paused at two points for silent reflection on what you have experienced and/or what might have particularly touched you to that point.

Date: Wednesday, February 21.

Time: 1 – 3 pm.

Place: St. Patrick's Church Hall

FINANCES LAST WEEKEND:

Presbytery Collection: \$ 330.40

Parish Collection: \$ 661.00

Loose Collection: \$ 85.10

Collection is for the clergy stipend, presbytery costs and support of the bishop and sick and retired priests. The 2nd collection is for the upkeep of the parish. ANY NEW PARISHIONERS—OR OLD PARISHIONERS, PREPARED TO CONTRIBUTE TO PARISH COSTS THROUGH PLANNED GIVING ARE ASKED TO SEE FR ERIC OR GLORIA PICKERING OR FILL IN ONE OF THE CENSUS FORMS IN THE CHURCH. THANK YOU.

FRONT DOORS:

The front doors of St Patrick's Church are closed on weekdays, to keep the bad guys out. However, the side door is always open to let the sinners in to pray.

THIS WEEK:

WEEKDAY MASSES THIS WEEK:

Tues, Wed, Thurs, 10.00am

Fri. 10.00am Mass for the start of the school year. Mass is in the Church.

CONFESSIONS —Before or after 10.00am weekday Masses by request (i.e. – just ask Fr Eric.) ; 10.00am 1st & 3rd Saturdays; Landsborough—before Sunday Mass. Any other time by appointment.

HUMOUR:

The Sunday School Teacher asks, "Now, Johnny, tell me frankly do you say prayers before eating?" "No sir," little Johnny replies, I don't have to. My mom is a good cook."

NEWS:

FIND GOOD READERS FOR MASS, POPE FRANCIS SAYS



Vatican City, Jan 31, 2018 / 05:36 am (CNA/EWTN News).- On Wednesday, Pope Francis spoke about the importance of the Liturgy of the Word, and the resulting importance of having lectors who can proclaim the readings and the Responsorial Psalm well.

"We must look for good readers!" he said Jan. 31, in off-the-cuff comments during the general audience.

Good readers and psalmists understand what they are reading and can convey it well, he continued, explaining that they need to be prepared by reading over the text before Mass.

When someone reads well, not "distorting the words," this helps to create "a climate of receptive silence," he said, which is important, because "it is not enough to hear with the ears, without receiving in the heart the seed of the divine Word, allowing it to bear fruit."

On this note, Francis emphasized that it is also important that we are staying focused and listening to the readings with an open heart, not looking around at different things or making chit-chat.

"When they read the words of the Bible – the first reading, the second, the responsorial psalm, the Gospel – we must listen and open our heart," he said. "Because it is God himself who speaks to us. Do not think about other

things or talk about other things."

Other things which are not appropriate during the Liturgy of the Word are the substitution of a non-Biblical text, or omitting a reading, he said.

Liturgically, when the same readings are proclaimed in each church, it is a way of fostering "ecclesial communion," he said, and for this reason, it is wrong to make "subjective choices" in this case.

"Replacing that Word with other things impoverishes and compromises the dialogue between God and his people in prayer."

The Pope recounted hearing of someone who would read the newspaper at Mass, "because it is the news of the day." This is not okay, he said. "The Word of God is the Word of God! We can read the newspaper later. But there we read the Word of God."

Every part of the Mass is significant, including the Liturgy of the Word, which is when "God speaks, and we listen to him, and then put into practice what we have heard."

And "we need to listen to him!" he emphasized. "It is in fact a matter of life," just as it says in the Gospel of Matthew: "one does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God."

Just like in the Parable of the Sower, where we hear about the different results of the seeds that fall on different terrain, "the action of the Spirit, which makes the response effective, needs hearts that allow themselves to be worked and cultivated, so that what is heard at Mass passes into daily life," he said.

In fact, we must listen to the admonition of James the Apostle, the Pope continued, who tells us to "be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves."

Francis explained that the Word of God, especially as we hear it at Mass, is important nourishment for our daily lives. "How could we face our earthly pilgrimage, with its labors and its trials, without being regularly nourished and enlightened by the Word of God that resounds in the liturgy?" he asked.

Catholic News Agency

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION:

Today we see three snapshots from the photo album of life.

Suffering comes to everyone. It can take such a hold of us that the happiness of the past is swallowed up, the beauty of better days is forgotten, and the hope of a brighter future is imperilled. Life ceases to be an adventure and takes on the guise of drudgery. At such times suffering appears to be our permanent fate, and life seems too short for suffering to run its course. If we become identified with our distress, we will be tormented.

Jesus knew the harshness of life, because he was one of us. He saw it in the lives of those he loved, and he was touched by their torment. He came to release people from the demons that possess them, from the illness that undermined their lives. He came to bring the reign of God, the reign of peace and fulfilment. He came to heal the brokenhearted, to bind up their wounds.

Paul was a messenger of this gospel of salvation and fulfilment. He was so committed to his mission that he empathised with all those who heard his preaching – the slaves, the weak, the brokenhearted, all those who knew well the harshness of life. Now it is our turn. We are the disciples who must bring the good news to the brokenhearted, to those who are enslaved, to those who are weak. We are the ones who will then share in the blessings of this good news.

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ROSTERS:

LANDSBOROUGH (8.30AM):

This Week (February 4)

Readers: K Vance/C Browne

Procession of Gifts: D & M Browne

Ext Minister: Betty Amarant

Next Week (February 11)

Readers: J Murphy/K Vance

Procession of Gifts: B G & W Browne

Ext Minister: G Christie

Church Care: M Browne

Church Grounds— FEBRUARY: VOLUNTEER PLEASE

STAWELL:

This Week (February 3) 6.00PM

Welcomer: D McIntosh

Readers: N Rathgeber/D Jones

Ext. Ministers: J Raeburn/C Barker

Procession of Gifts: I Robinson

(February 4) 10.30AM

Readers: L Morgan/K Dalton

Ext Ministers: V Enriquez/G Comitti/K Ashton

Procession of Gifts: G B& G Pickering

Next Week (February 10) 6.00PM

Welcomer: D McIntosh

Readers: J Raeburn/A Ellis

Ext. Ministers: M Howard/S Howard

Procession of Gifts: J Allan

(February 11) 10.30AM

Readers: D O'Donnell/E Driscoll

Ext. Ministers: M R Thomas/M Rowe/K Dalton

Procession of Gifts: Carey Family

Counters: Today: G Pickering & E Driscoll

Next Week: T & A Ellis

ALTAR SOCIETY: Jan 27—Gabrielle & Pat

MARY'S STATUE:

Feb 4—10 e t Driscoll; 11-17 G & G Pickering; 18-24 N & E Musumeci; 25-March 3 H Prowd.

Extraordinary Ministers, part of your duty is to clean the Sacred Vessels in the sacristy after Mass and prepare them for the next Mass—fill wine and water cruets, etc. Put filled cruets in the fridge.

WEEKEND MASSES YEAR A:

Stawell: Saturday 6.00pm

Sunday at 10.30am.

Landsborough: Sunday Mass at 8.30am.

WEEKDAY MASSES (YEAR 1):

Tues; Wed; Thurs ; Fri 10.00am. 2nd & 4th Wednesday of Month-Eventide-10.30am.

(Check front of Bulletin for any changes to this routine. Funeral Masses take the place of weekday Mass)

RECONCILIATION:

Stawell: 1st & 3rd Saturday 10.00 am, before or after each weekday Mass (by request) or by appointment at any time. At Landsborough: Before 8.20 am Sundays

MEETINGS & GATHERINGS:

Prayer Group: every Monday, 1.30pm.

Cuppa tea Stawell—2nd Sunday after Mass;

Landsborough—3rd Sunday after Mass.

St Vincent de Paul: 2nd & 4th Mondays 2.30pm in Parish Hall.

CWL: 3rd Wednesday commencing with 10.00am Mass.

Scripture reflection group Thursday 2.00pm in the presbytery.

The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.

Our diocesan website:

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Our parish website can be accessed through the diocesan site.

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Any queries relating to rosters and volunteers please contact June Raeburn on 53583506.

ST PATRICK'S PARISH, STAWELL

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ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL

Principal: Mrs. Liz McIntyre

PO Box 856

Phone 03 5358 2493



St Patrick's Parish Community
Stawell-Glenorchy-Great Western-Halls Gap-Landsborough

5th Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year B

February 4, 2018

SUNDAY MISSAL Pg. 614

LENTEN PROGRAM:

Ash Wednesday is Wednesday week. This year we are offering a, Lenten Program shared with the Anglican and Uniting Church. It is a Catholic produced program "Listening to the Wisdom of the Desert—A Lenten Program for Contemporary Australia." I highly recommend this program to all who can afford the time.

The price of the accompaniment book is \$8.95. Day and time will be on next weekends notice sheet.

LANDSBOROUGH PARISHIONERS

We need to look at rosters as a number of able helpers has dropped off alarmingly. Any suggestions?

CENTERING PRAYER -

Weekly sessions for Term 1 will start on **this Wednesday, 7th Feb. at 2 pm** in the Parish Hall. All welcome.

SICK LIST

Noah Amarant; Kathryn Young; Glenis Leddin; Val Seary; Lourdes dela Cerna; Kath Hayes (Ballarat); John Delaney; Lynn Wright; John Jess; Simon Monas; Angela Moore; Jeff O'Donnell; Peter Duffy (Canada); Nance Rutter; Kate Sargent, Yvonne & Alf Evans; Margaret Boag; Nigel James (Canberra), Ian Kindred, Sharron Pickering; Andrew Van Diesen; Benjamin Wolfson; Bernie O'Callaghan; Patty Fenwick; Robby Laxton; Nicole Lee (Horsham); Dominic Browne; Brian O'Loughlin, Beryl Walsh; Shirley Gerritsen

NB: A FAMILY MEMBER OF THE SICK PERSON MUST CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE TO HAVE NAMES ADDED.



MARK'S GOSPEL

Lectionary readings this year focus on the Gospel of Mark, the earliest of the Gospels.

You are invited to experience the unfolding drama of Mark's Gospel in its entirety with a word-for-word DVD performance by award winning actor Max McLean.

This is an opportunity to closely witness / be present to an oral presentation of Jesus' life and times and teachings as recorded by Mark in his Gospel, in a similar way to the way members of his early Christian communities in Rome would have received them.

The performance and issues of note for an audience participating in such an event will be introduced by Lesley Morgan.

Tea / coffee available.

Bring a cushion for your own comfort. Maybe bring a note pad and pen to jot down any of your inner responses as the