



St Patrick's, Stawell

# St Patrick's Parish Newsletter Stawell and Landsborough

Third Sunday of Advent Year A

December 15, 2019



St Francis of Assisi,  
Landsborough

## THIS WEEK:

St Pauls Sunday Missal Page 111



### RECENT DEATHS:

Mary Hamling;  
Evelyn Sladden

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Belinda Scott

## WEEKDAY MASSES THIS WEEK:

Tues; Wed; Thurs, Fri 10.00am.

**CONFESSIONS** —Before or after 10.00am week-day Masses by request (i.e. – just ask Fr Eric.); 10.00am Saturdays; Landsborough—before Sunday Mass. Any other time contact Fr Eric 0419 597 063.

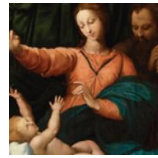
**CENSUS FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH THIS WEEKEND AND YOU ARE ASKED TO TAKE THESE HOME, FILL THEM IN AND BRING THEM BACK ASAP. THESE FORMS ARE NOT JUST FOR PLANNED GIVING PURPOSES, BUT WILL BE USED TO UPDATE OUR PARISH RECORDS.**



## GIVING TO THE NEEDY AT CHRISTMAS:

Christmas is not a happy time for those in need in our communi-

ty. Last year our local St Vincent de Paul and Stawell Inter Church Council Welfare distributed Christmas grocery shopping vouchers to 113 households in Stawell and region, made up of 357 individuals. New toys and books were given to 133 children aged 13 years and under. You can help locals in need by leaving a donation of a new unwrapped toy or children's book under the Christmas giving tree at the back of the church. **Donations will be collected until the end of this Sunday's 10.30am Mass and will be distributed on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December.**



**COLUMBAN CALENDARS** are on sale from this weekend for \$9.00 each.. A great catholic calendar to have in the home with feast days, catholic art, etc..

**CHRISTMAS CARDS:** Available for sale this weekend., Different qualities at marked prices.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS:** will be performed on December 17th outside shop 108 in Main Street.



**CUP OF TEA/COFFEE:** after 8.30 am Mass at Landsborough this weekend. All welcome.

## CHRISTMAS MASSES, STAWELL AND LANDSBOROUGH:

**Christmas Eve: Stawell—Carols 5.30pm, Mass 6.00pm  
Landsborough 8.00pm**

**Christmas Day—Stawell 9.00am.**

**New Years Day—10.00am Stawell**

## FINANCES LAST WEEKEND:

Presbytery Collection \$ 416.75

Parish Collection: \$ 745.00

Loose Collection: \$ 119.90

*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.*

## SICK LIST

Noah Amarant; Kathryn Young; Glenis Leddin; Lourdes de la Cerna; Kath Hayes (Ballarat); John Delaney; Lynn Wright; Simon Monas; Angela Moore; Kate Sargent; Yvonne Evans; Margaret Boag; Nigel James (Canberra); Ian Kindred; Sharron Pickering; Andrew Van Diesen; Benjamin Wolfson; Robbie Loxton; Nicole Lee (Horsham); Brian O'Loughlin; Beryl Walsh; Shirley Gerritsen; Steven Oates; Maree Parkin; Rosemary Chisholm (Bendigo); Harry Comitti, John Dalziel; Mollie Barton; Patty Fenwick; John Farrell (Swan Hill); Bailey Young, Graeme Blake, Pat Rathgeber

**NB: A Family member of the sick person must contact the Parish Office to have names added. They must also have the permission of the sick person if they are able to give it.**

**HUMOUR:**

**OAP DIVORCE:**

An elderly man in Oklahoma calls his son in New York and says, "I hate to ruin your day son, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are getting a divorce; 45 years of marriage... and that much misery is enough!" "Dad, what are you talking about?" the son yells. "We can't stand the sight of each other any longer," the old dad explained. "We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Hong Kong and tell her!". Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone. "Like heck they're getting divorced," she shouts, "I'll take care of this." She calls her elderly father immediately, and screams at him, "You are not getting divorced. Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, you hear me?" she yelled as she hung up the phone. The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife. "Okay", he says, "it's all set. They're both coming for Christmas and paying their own air-fare."

**NEWS:**

**GO TO CONFESSION, LET YOURSELF BE CONSOLED, POPE SAYS**

Posted on December 10, 2019 by Administrator 1



*Pope Francis participates in the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the Vatican*

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Anyone who wants to experience the consolation and tenderness of God simply needs to go to confession, Pope Francis said at his morning Mass.

Celebrating the liturgy Dec. 10 in the chapel of his residence, Pope Francis recited an imaginary conversation:

"Father, I have so many sins, I've made so many mistakes in my life."

"Let yourself be consoled."

"But who will console me?"

"The Lord."

"Where must I go?"

"To ask pardon. Go. Go. Be bold. Open the door. He'll caress you."

The Lord draws near to those in need with the tenderness of a father, the pope said.

Paraphrasing the day's reading from Isaiah 40, the pope said, "He is like a shepherd who pastures his sheep and gathers them in his arms, carrying the lambs on his bosom and sweetly leading them back to their mother ewes. That's how the Lord consoles us."

"The Lord always consoles us as long as we let ourselves be consoled," he said.

Of course, he said, God the father also corrects his children, but he does that, too, with tenderness.

Often, he said, people look at their own limits and sins and start thinking that there is no way God can forgive them. "It is then that the voice of the Lord is heard, saying, 'I will console you. I am close to you,' and he tenderly reaches us."

"The powerful God who created the heavens and earth, the hero-God — if you want to say it that way — became our brother, who carried the cross and died for us, and is capable of caressing us and saying, 'Don't cry.'"

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**HELP WANTED:**

*Any volunteers to help put census data on parish computer.*

*Also, any one prepared to help with data input/output during the Planned Giving Program in February.*

*Please contact Fr Eric if you are willing to help.*



**HELP WANTED:**  
**'MOST ANY-ONE COULD DO IT!**

**NEXT WEEKENDS READINGS:**

*(A chance to prepare ahead for next week's readings, especially for our Lectors)*

**Sunday 22 Dec 2019**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent A**

**First Reading**                    **Is 7:10-14**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*The virgin will conceive.*

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too?

The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign.

It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

The Word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm**            **Ps 23:1-6. R. see vv 7. 10**

**(R.)** Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples.

It is he who set it on the seas;

on the waters he made it firm. **(R.)**

2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?

Who shall stand in his holy place?

The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things. **(R.)**

3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord

and reward from the God who saves him.

Such are the men who seek him,

seek the face of the God of Jacob. **(R.)**

**Second Reading**                    **Rom 1:1-7**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.*

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The Word of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Mt 1:23**

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;

his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.

Alleluia!

**Gospel**

**Mt 1:18-24**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.*

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son

and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**GOSPEL REFLECTION**

We will see throughout the coming liturgical year that the gospel of Matthew places a great deal of emphasis on the importance of the Law and upon its proper application. Indeed, the gospel writer casts Jesus in the role of the 'new Moses' – Moses was the great Law-giver of the Old Testament and Jesus is portrayed in this gospel as bringing a new Law to the people of Israel. In this gospel, the proper application of the Law is as important as the Law itself. In today's passage, Joseph provides an example of the proper application of the Law. His betrothed wife was pregnant; she would have been subject to the Law against adultery and probably would have been stoned to death. Under the Law, Joseph was obliged to divorce her, and yet he determines that he will do so quietly and protect Mary from too much shame and possibly save her life. Joseph did not intend to ignore the Law, but he sought to carry it out in such a way as to bring the least shame and the least hurt to all involved.

The role of Joseph is often overlooked. There is no mention of him during the public ministry of Jesus. In fact the latest mention in any of the gospels is the account of Jesus in the Temple at the age of 12. After that, Joseph disappears and we can only assume that he has passed away by the time Jesus takes up his ministry. Yet Joseph is truly a man of great faith. By rights he should have divorced Mary and walked away. But he trusts in the word of the God that is addressed to him in a dream and from that point on he goes to great lengths to protect and care for his family.



**ROSTERS:**

**LANDSBOROUGH (8.30AM):**

**This Week** (December 15)

Readers:

Processions of Gifts:

Ext. Minister:

(December 22)

**Readers:**

**Procession of Gifts:**

**Ext Minister:**

**Next Week**

**Church Care:** December 7—C Browne

**Church Grounds—** December—B & P Browne

**STAWELL:**

**This Week** (December 14) 6.00PM

**Welcomer:** M Cray

**Readers:** D Jones/T Brady

**Ext. Ministers:** M De Leon/E McIntyre

**Procession of Gifts: M Smith**

(December 15) 10.30AM

**Welcomer:** K Ashton

**Readers:** K Dallinger/D O'Donnell

**Ext. Ministers:** M R Thomas/F Harney/L Morgan

**Procession of Gifts:** P Gooden/I Little

**Next Week** (December 21) 6.00PM

**Welcomer:** D McIntosh

**Readers:** E McIntyre/M Maestros

**Ext. Ministers:** N Rathgeber/B Walsh

**Procession of Gifts:** P Price

(December 22) 10.30AM

**Welcomer:** R Farrell

**Readers:** K Dalton

**Ext. Ministers:** V Enriquez/M Rowe/K Ashton

**Procession of Gifts:** M & L Habben

**Counters: Today:** June Raeburn

**Next Week:** M & L Habben

**ALTAR SOCIETY :** Next week: Liz & Kay

**MARY'S STATUE:**

December 15-21 D McIntosh; 22-28 H Prowd; 29—January 4 J Launder.

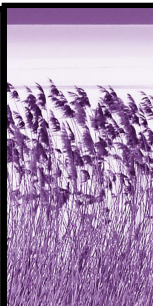
**ANY PERSON/FAMILY WISHING TO HAVE MARY'S STATUE IN THE HOME FOR A WEEK CONTACT MARGARET ROWE OR FR ERIC.**

**NOTES FOR MINISTERS AT MASS:**

*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. Sacred Vessels are to be left prepared on the bench after Saturday Evening Mass, ready for the Sunday morning Mass. Put filled cruets in the fridge.*

*Scripture Reader and Extraordinary Ministers are meant to process with the priest at the start and end of Mass. Reader carries the Lectionary to the Sanctuary at the start of Mass, but does not carry it out at the end.*

**ALL MINISTERS SHOULD TRY TO BE AT THE CHURCH AT LEAST TEN MINUTES BEFORE MASS AND ADVISE THE PRIEST THAT YOU ARE THERE. THIS GIVES HIM TIME TO ARRANGE A SUBSTITUTE IF THAT HAS NOT ALREADY BEEN DONE. ALL MINISTERS ARE TO PROCESS IN AND OUT WITH THE PRIEST AND SERVERS.**



**The desert will rejoice and blossom**



**WEEKEND MASSES YEAR A**

**Stawell:** Saturday 6.00pm

Sunday at 10.30am.

**Landsborough:** Sunday Mass at 8.30am.

**WEEKDAY MASSES (YEAR 2):**

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: 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: 3rd Monday 2.00pm in Parish Hall.

CWL: 3rd Wednesday commencing with 10.00am Mass.

*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](http://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**

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Eric Bryant.

**Address:** 27 Patrick St.,

PO Box 87, Stawell, 3380.

Phone: 03 5358 1119 /MOB 0419 597 063

Fax 03 5358 3000

E-mail: [stawell@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:stawell@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

[eric.bryant@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:eric.bryant@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

Finance Manager: Gloria Pickering (Thursdays 11.00-12; 1.00pm -5.00pm)



Welfare /General Safety Officer; and Child Safety Officer : Helen Potter



**ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL**

Principal: Mrs. Elizabeth (Liz) McIntyre

PO Box 856

Stawell. 3380.

Phone 03 5358 2493

Email: [principal@spstawell.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@spstawell.catholic.edu.au)