



Holy Spirit
Parish
Gariwerd

Sunday November 10th, 2024
THIRTY- SECOND SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

St Patrick's Stawell, Immaculate Conception Ararat, St Francis of Assisi Landsborough, and St Bernard's Lake Bolac form Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd. We acknowledge recognise and respect the elders and families of the Barengi Gadjin and Eastern Maar people, the traditional owners of the land on which our parish gathers. We commit ourselves to walking in unity with our First Nations people.

First Reading

1 Kings 17:10-16

A reading from the first book of the Kings
Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said, 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives', she replied, 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel: "Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth.'" The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself, and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145:7-10. R.v.2

(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith forever who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord who sets prisoners free. **(R.)**
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down. It is the Lord who loves the just, the Lord who protects the stranger. **(R.)**
3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Hebrews 9:24-28

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews
It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after

year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs. Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 12:38-44

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.' He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called to his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'



Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

Parish Priest Fr. Andrew Hayes andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Parish Bulletin Online www.ballarat.catholic.org.au – follow link to parish.
Secretary / Child Safe Jill Croxford gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au
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Mass Times

Ararat Sunday 8.30am
Stawell Sunday 10.30am
Lake Bolac 1st 3rd 5th Sundays 6.30pm Vigil Sat
Landsborough 2nd 4th Sundays 12.30pm
Glenthompson (Hamilton Parish) 2nd 4th Sundays 8.30am

Readings for next Sunday

17TH November 2024
Daniel 12:1-3/Hebrews 10:11-14, 18/ Mark 13:24-32

Weekday Masses (usual schedule)

Tuesday: 10am Stawell (Check bulletin for occasional changes)
Wednesday: Aged Care
Thursday: 2.30pm Hopkins
Friday: 11am Ararat held in the Presbytery (Check bulletin for occasional changes)

Aged Care Roster

1st Wednesday 11.15am Eventide
2nd Wednesday 10am Lowe St
3rd Wednesday 10am Garden View
4th Wednesday 10am ARVillage

Fr Andrew will be on leave 11th Nov until 7th Dec 2024

Tuesdays 10am in Stawell will be a time for quiet prayer.

Wednesday and Friday Masses will be Prayers.

Recent Death Jan Darbyshire

Anniversaries

Leanne Arnold, Charles Squire 1991, Veronica Dickenson 2013, John Schwab, Jim Clinton, Max & Ethel Murray, Monica McGeogh, Tom Liston, James Morrissey 1982, William Elliot 2008, Marjorie McOwan, Kevin Rowe, David Williams, Salvatore Cannata, Agnes Andrew 1998, David Grinter, Hazel Jewell, Denis McKey 1982, Audrey Nicholson 1997, Patricia Smith, Fr Frank Crowe, Peter Van Opstal, Jacob Weeks, Arthur (Stan) Anyon 2009, Majorie Holt, Hugh Fitzpatrick, Norma McGrath, John Evans

Lake Bolac Roster

Sat Nov 16th Reader Leanne Breen/ Prayers of Faithful Jane Higgins
Sat Nov 30th Reader Rosemary Liston/ Prayers of Faithful Phillip Meek

Ararat Roster

Sun Nov 10th Facilitator Cathy McA / Reader Kath L / Euch Min Anna C
Sun Nov 17th Facilitator Elizabeth / Reader Sr John / Euch Min Charlie R

Stawell Roster

Sun Nov 10th S/Minster G Comitti /Reader L McIntyre/ Offertory L Habben
Sun Nov 17th S/Minster M Maestros /Reader M Howard / Offertory H Reid

Lake Bolac

St Bernard's Catholic Ladies Auxiliary Annual General Meeting Friday, November 29th, 10 am, at the church. A general meeting to follow. All welcome.

Stawell CWL

Cuppa after Mass on Sunday 17th Nov. Everyone welcome.

Stawell St Vincent de Paul will meet Monday 18th Nov in the St Pat's Church hall at 2pm.

Fr Andrew's Annual Leave

Fr Andrew will be on annual leave after this weekend until Saturday December 7. The parish phone and emails will continue to be monitored daily. During this time Fr Peter Hudson will be assisting us with weekend Masses and funerals. Funerals with a priest may be restricted to Fridays and Mondays to be fair to Fr Peter in his retirement. Funerals on other days will still be available, lead by members of the parish funeral ministry.

Farewell to Fr Andrew (Moving Day January 15)

Stawell parishioners are invited to farewell Fr Andrew at our usual 3rd Sunday cuppa after Mass on Sunday December 15. Ararat parishioners are invited to our pre-Christmas shared tea and singalong on Friday December 20 (more info to come.) We will also farewell Fr Andrew on this evening.

Defibrillator Training Tuesday 10th December 2024 9am at St Patricks Hall all welcome.

“Do you know someone who is doing it tough? Please ask them to come to Stawell Inter Church Council welfare Cottage 20 Sloane St Stawell. We are open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 10:30am and 12:30pm. For out of hours emergencies ring 0408038949. If anyone needs help at Christmas, please come to the Cottage in November to put their name down. Christmas distribution will be on Tuesday 17th December.”

2024 Christmas Masses Christmas Eve 6 pm Stawell - 7.30 pm Ararat - 9.15 pm Lake Bolac

Christmas day -9am Landsborough

2nd Rite Reconciliation -Wednesday December 11 5.30pm Stawell and 7pm Ararat Please bring a plate to share

Reconciliation Lake Bolac During Mass Saturday December 14

Synod on Synodality Concludes with the Final Document The proposals include expanded women’s leadership roles, greater lay participation in decision making, and significant structural reforms. Among the most significant proposals is a call for strengthening pastoral councils at parish and diocesan levels. The document advocates for regular ecclesiastical assemblies across all Church levels— including continental — and heightened ecumenical dialogue. It calls for a revision in canon law, “clarifying the distinction and relation between consultation and deliberation and shedding light on the responsibilities of those who play different roles in the decision-making process.” In a notable development, the document explicitly states there is “no reason or impediment” to prevent women from assuming leadership roles in the Church. Furthermore, “the question of women’s access to diaconal ministry remains open,” and that discernment should continue. The text advocates for increased female participation in clergy formation and broader involvement in Church decision-making processes. The document significantly expands the role of the laity in Church governance. It calls for their increased presence in synodal assemblies and all phases of ecclesiastical decision-making.

OLHC Parish Wendouree Christmas Day Lunch

OLHC Parish Wendouree volunteers are hosting a free lunch on Christmas Day in the Parish Hall, 482A Gillies Street North, Wendouree from 12.00noon – 2.00pm. Bookings are essential as seating is limited, ph. 0491 029217.

Thank you to all the very wonderful volunteers for all their work in making the Christmas Day lunch at OLHC so special over all the years it has been held. We welcome all those who would like to be with us as a guest or a volunteer on the day, and we are especially looking for a few fit people who might commit to two hours of their time between 2.00pm – 4.00pm to clean up/pack up. To volunteer, please phone 0467 683504.

Wisdom at the Cathedral

All are welcome to hear Fiona Power, Curator of the Mary Glowrey Museum in Melbourne present *Mary Glowrey: God's Gift to India* for the next Wisdom at the Cathedral event on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 7.00pm. Fiona will share the inspiring life story and legacy of Servant of God Dr Sr Mary Glowrey JMJ, who was born and raised in the Diocese of Ballarat. The talk and discussion time will go for an hour in the Mackillop/Glowrey rooms and will be followed by a cup of tea. Entry by donation. For all enquiries, please contact Fiona Bradley at fionalouisebradley@gmail.com

Ordination to the Priesthood Mass & Thanksgiving Mass: Deacon Cay Trinh

Deacon Cay Trinh will be ordained a priest for the Diocese of Ballarat on Saturday, November 23, 2024 at St Patrick’s Cathedral Ballarat at 10.30am. All welcome to attend. A light lunch will follow in the Hall. For those not able to attend, the Mass will be livestreamed at <https://youtube.com/live/mbXDPuGpoYg?feature=share>. People of the Diocese of Ballarat are invited to form the choir for this Mass. The choir will be conducted by Roger Hillman and the Organist is Geoff Martin. Choir rehearsal times are Tuesday, November 12, Tuesday, November 19 and Thursday, November 21 from 7.00pm – 9.00pm at St Patrick’s Cathedral Ballarat. It would be preferred if you could commit to all rehearsals for this Mass.

Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close -Reflection by Artist

The story of the widow's mite is about the generosity of a woman who is down on her uppers. Jesus admires this woman of substance because, despite her material poverty, she has the inner resource to maintain an open-hearted approach to life.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate - The Widow's Mite

This is the most commonly misunderstood passage in the Gospels. It is usually read in a 'pat on the back' tone of voice, commending the widow for her generosity. But it should be read with the tone of white

hot anger which Jesus had displayed against the money dealers whom he expelled from the temple only days earlier.

This vulnerable widow was exploited and brainwashed by the scribes and temple authorities so that she gave 'all she had to live on'. She was left destitute, unable to afford the necessities of life.

On the contrary, Jesus wanted to create a band of followers who would look after widows and orphans. Look at Acts 4:32-37 to see that in operation. In fact, deacons were created in the early Church precisely to care for non-Jewish widows.

The message for the Church from this Gospel story is that it must never exploit the religious fervour of the poor to build up its own resources. Pope Francis is emphasising that the flow must be the other way if we are to be authentic Christians.

We could pause a moment to pray that, imitating the earliest Christian communities, our parish practises true concern for the marginalised and vulnerable, ensuring that they have all the necessities of life in all its dimensions.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The willingness to give all that one has is the central theme of today's readings. They offer us three models. Jesus is the ultimate example of heroic generosity. He first offered himself as expiation for our sin. Now, as the eternal high priest, he stands before God as our mediator, pleading on our behalf, bringing salvation to those who eagerly await him.

It is interesting to note that the other two models of selfless giving are widows, individuals who are doubly disadvantaged by the patriarchal societies of which they are members. Their generosity is religiously inspired, and it comes from women who had the least material possessions to give. This kind of giving requires that we reach deep into ourselves and almost strip ourselves of our hold on life, and that we do this for religious reasons. The giving that is pictured in today's readings is nothing less than heroic generosity.

God will not be outdone in generosity. Sometimes we become the beneficiaries of obvious blessing, as was the case in the story of the woman of Zarephath who was granted a year's supply of flour and oil. At other times, we simply continue living life as usual, like the woman in the temple who was unaware of the commendation that Jesus had given her. The truly generous do not look for reward. They carry out their responsibilities and place the rest in God's hands.

