



Holy Spirit
Parish
Gariwerd

Sunday October 13th, 2024
TWENTY - EIGHTH 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

Wisdom 7:7-11

A reading from the book of Wisdom
I prayed, and understanding was given me; I entreated, and the spirit of Wisdom came to me. I esteemed her more than sceptres and thrones; compared with her, I held riches as nothing. I reckoned no priceless stone to be her peer, for compared with her, all gold is a pinch of sand, and beside her silver ranks as mud. I loved her more than health or beauty, preferred her to the light, since her radiance never sleeps. In her company all good things came to me, at her hands riches not to be numbered.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 89:12-17. R. v.14

(R.) Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!

1. Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger forever? Show pity to your servants. (R.)
2. In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Give us joy to balance our affliction for the years when we knew misfortune. (R.)
3. Show forth your work to your servants; let your glory shine on their children. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

Second Reading

Hebrews 4:12-13

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews
The word of God is something alive and active; it cuts like any double-edged sword but more finely: it can slip through the place where the soul is divided from the spirit, or joints from the marrow; it can judge the secret emotions and thoughts. No created thing can hide from him; everything is uncovered and open to the eyes of the one to whom we must give account of ourselves.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Gospel

Mark 10:17-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
Jesus was setting out on a journey when a man ran up, knelt before him and put this question to him, 'Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: You must not kill; You must not commit adultery; You must not steal; You must not bring false witness; You must not defraud; Honour your father and mother.' And he said to him, 'Master, I have kept all these from my earliest days.' Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him, and he said, 'There is one thing you lack. Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' But his face fell at these words and he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth. Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!' The disciples were astounded by these words, but Jesus insisted, 'My children,' he said to them, 'how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' They were more astonished than ever. 'In that case' they said to one another, 'who can be saved?' Jesus gazed at them. 'For men' he said, 'it is impossible, but not for God: because everything is possible for God.'



Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

Parish Priest Fr. Andrew Hayes andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au
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The Parish office will be closed Friday 18th October 2024

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

20th October
Isaiah 53:10-11/Hebrews 4:14-16/Mark 10:42-45

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

Recent Death Mr John Vendy

Anniversaries

Dominic DiDomenico, Jean Hennessy, Patricia Cronin, Irene Byrne, Alice Newman 1967, Alan Cullus 1971, Mary Potter 1975, Peter Power 1989, Carolyn Sertori. Hugh Nailon Snr, Graeme Pitcher, Margaret Smith, William Smith, Kath Ryan, Leslie McNiece, Laurence McNiece, Maurice McNiece, John McNiece, Sarah Williamson, Margaret Waring, Graham Carmichael, John Duggan 1974, Grace Irwin 1994, Johannah Molan 2001, Sarah Williamson 2009, Kathleen O'Kane 2019, Trent Howlett, John Edward Thomas, Fr Aurelius Maschio SDB, Norma Sutton, Mary Davies, Norma Sutton, June McKinnis, Vess Davey, Ruth Brain, Rita Seebus 2012, David Tas Young, Mary Waring, Margaret Ridgewell (Peg), Fr Edward Jerram, Kathleen Edwards, Tups Brady, John Griffin, Martha McGuan 1956, Mary Brown 1967, Marlene Mornane, Eileen Rees, John Seild, Fr Frank McLaughlin, Ross McCann, John Hennessy, Patricia Egan, Mary Auld 1973, Mark Sladdin 1982, Gertrude Brennan, Ronald Ryan, Vin Fitzpatrick, Fortunata Di Domenico, Margaret Kerin 1961, Stacey Falloon 1984, Kathleen Monaghan 1989

Lake Bolac Roster

Sat Oct 19th Reader Val Albert/ Prayers of Faithful Helen Smith
Sat Nov 2nd Reader D Phillips/ Prayers of Faithful Tricia Higgins/Cleaning Rosemary Liston
Sat Nov 16th Reader Leanne Breen/ Prayers of Faithful Jane Higgins

Ararat Roster

Sun Oct 13th Facilitator Pat L / Reader Peter B / Euch Min M Olle
Sun Oct 20th Facilitator Pat McA / Reader J McA / Euch Min Sr John
Sun Oct 27th Facilitator Harry / Reader Pat L / Euch Min Anna
Sun Nov 3rd Facilitator Peter B / Reader Teresa G / Euch Min Marg M

Stawell Roster

Sun Oct 13th S/Minster H Potter /Reader M Howard/ Offertory M McGaffin
Sun Oct 20th S/Minster L McIntyre /Reader G Madafferi/ Offertory Timor E
Sun Oct 27th S/Minster MR Thomas /Reader K Dallinger/ Offertory Heenan F
Sun Nov 3rd S/Minster K Ashton /Reader MR Thomas/ Offertory J Croton

Defibrillator Lesson

The parish has purchased a defibrillator machine. This will be carried from Mass to Mass by Fr Andrew. We will also draw up a list of other defibs available and their locations. We have organised a lesson in how to use it on Tuesday October 22 at 4.30pm in St Mary's Church in Ararat. Parishioners are invited to attend. The more who know how, the better prepared we are. Please let us know if you wish to attend.

October is World Mission Month

Catholic Mission invites us to celebrate World Mission Month: “Together, we have the power to create change and build a more just world for people everywhere. By supporting missionaries in their work, we can create life-changing opportunities for countless children, families, and communities worldwide. Join us in making a difference for our sisters and brothers.” Pope Francis has recently published his messages for World Mission Month and World Mission Sunday, which will be celebrated on next Sunday, October 20.

Focus for this week: In Mongolia, Chuluunbaatar suffered a life-altering injury while trying to rescue a submerged vehicle, leaving him unable to work and reliant on scarce support services for basic needs. Without shelter and food, Chuluunbaatar faces the real risk of freezing to death. Resources are limited, but the Church in Mongolia is working hard to provide essential services to people in need.

Pope Francis’ Prayer for Mission Month

Heavenly Father, when your only begotten Son Jesus Christ rose from the dead, he commissioned his followers to “go and make disciples of all nations” and you remind us that through our Baptism we are made sharers in the mission of the Church. Empower us by the gifts of the Holy Spirit to be courageous and zealous in bearing witness to the Gospel, so that the mission entrusted to the Church, which is still very far from completion, may find new and efficacious expressions that bring life and light to the world. Help us make it possible for all peoples to experience the saving love and mercy of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

From the perspective of ... The Disciples

‘What about us?’ Peter cried. The disciples were staggered that Jesus could turn away the rich man so easily and declare how difficult it is to enter into the kingdom of God. They suddenly see themselves in the shoes of the rich man: what more do they have to do? They’ve left their homes and families to traipse after Jesus, believing that this sacrifice would be enough to assure them a place in the kingdom, and suddenly they are faced with doubts. Has it all been worth it? Jesus reminds them that if they have followed him for all the right reasons then their reward is assured.

Have you thought? The Gospel of Prosperity

There are those within the ranks of Christianity who preach what is sometimes referred to as a ‘gospel of prosperity’. They claim that wealth is a sign of favour, or approval, from God. They feel that if a Christian person is wealthy then they must be living a ‘good’ life that God is rewarding through material possession. They use this as justification for further accumulation of wealth. We can see from today’s gospel that Jesus would have something to say about such an interpretation! Jesus reminds us that our reward is not in this world in the form of wealth and material possessions, but in eternal life.

Gospel Focus – Sacrifice

Sacrifice is a term that gets used quite a lot in religion and yet it’s a term with which modern society is very uncomfortable. We’re not really ‘into’ sacrifice. We’re much more into feeling good about ourselves and comfortable in our existence. Jesus called on the rich man to make a sacrifice – to let go of what he really loved and valued. What Jesus really called the man to do was to place his trust in Jesus and not in material wealth – that was the sacrifice he was called to make. Ultimately, the man couldn’t do that! He couldn’t let go of certainty and security and entrust his life and soul to Jesus.



REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

This Sunday's readings confront us with the need to make choices in life, choices for God. They also remind us that no significant choice is without its price. However, if we make the right choice, we are assured that we will be richly rewarded.

We all want to be happy in life. We just don't always know which doors to open, and how far to enter them. We need wisdom for that. The more options that are open to us, the more difficult it is to choose, but choose we must. To choose one option is to relinquish the others. The young man in the gospel wanted eternal life. Surely there is nothing more worthy than that. However, the price he was asked to pay was more than he had expected, and he went away saddened. To choose is to face the consequences of the word of God, and sometimes this is as sharp as a two-edged sword. One of the mysteries of faith is the incomprehensible generosity of God. We choose wisdom instead of all of the good things of the world, and we receive these good things along with wisdom itself. We are asked to relinquish all of the things that we value, and we get them back a hundredfold. We are invited to take a step into the unknown. We are told that we will not fall. However, we are never sure of this until we take the step and discover that we have not fallen. God demands so much, but gives so much more.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate - The Loving Gaze

The man in this story is described (at the end) as a man of great wealth, so that when Jesus says 'There is one thing you lack', it would have got his attention. But he learnt to his shock that what he lacked was the big-heartedness which would enable him to give up the security and status and power which came with his possessions.

Jesus was not satisfied with the wealthy man's minimalist agenda of keeping the commandments. He is just as dissatisfied with us. We each know what is holding us back from being a wholehearted follower of Jesus Christ. At some stage in our lives, we have known, or know now, or will know, what it is we are hanging onto: the one thing we cannot, will not, give up, the one thing that is so much part of our personality we cannot imagine what it would be like to get rid of it.

There is only one thing that can give you, give me, the courage and trust that is needed. In this Gospel story, and the only time in Mark, it says: 'Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him.' This is not the glare of the critical eye but similar to the gaze of a parent on a newborn child, envisaging and encouraging a beautiful future for that child.

We could take a moment to pray, 'Lord, I know there is something I must give up to enable me to follow you more nearly. Give me the courage which can only come from knowing that you gaze steadily at me and love me.'



Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close

Reflection by Artist

One of the main characters in this story from Mark's gospel is known as 'a man of great wealth'. He is identified by his material status. Jesus challenges the man to leave his material baggage behind so that he can take up a new identity which is shaped by God's *basileia*, (reign) i.e., one that derives from gift rather than possession

