

# Sunday July 14th, 2024 FIFTEENTH 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 Amos 7:12-15

A reading from the prophet Amos

Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, said to Amos, 'Go away, seer; get back to the land of Judah; earn your bread there, do your prophesying there. We want no more prophesying in Bethel; this is the royal sanctuary, the national temple.' 'I was no prophet, neither did I belong to any of the brotherhoods of prophets.' Amos replied to Amaziah, 'I was a shepherd, and looked after sycamores: but it was the Lord who took me from herding the flock, and the Lord who said, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."

#### Responsorial Psalm Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

- **(R.)** Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.
- 1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. (R.)
- 2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. (R.)
- 3. The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

## Second Reading Ephesians 1:3-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determined that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved in whom, through his blood, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins. Such is the richness of the grace which he has showered on us in all wisdom and insight. He has let us know the mystery of his purpose, the hidden plan he so kindly made in Christ from the beginning to act upon when

the times had run their course to the end: that he would bring everything together under Christ, as head, everything in the heavens and everything on earth.

# Gospel Acclamation See Ephesians 1:17-18 Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

### Gospel Mark 6:7-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in pairs giving them authority over the unclean spirits. And he instructed them to take nothing for the journey except a staff — no bread, no haversack, no coppers for their purses. They were to wear sandals, but, he added, 'Do not take a spare tunic.' And he said to them, 'If you enter a house anywhere, stay there until you leave the district. And if any place does not welcome you and people refuse to listen to you, as you walk away shake off the dust from under your feet as a sign to them.' So they set off to preach repentance; and they cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them.



# Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

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Mass Times Readings for next Sunday

Ararat Sunday 8.30am Stawell Sunday 10.30am

Lake Bolac 1<sup>st</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays 6.30pm Vigil Sat

Landsborough 2<sup>nd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays 12.30pm

**Glenthompson** (Hamilton Parish) 2<sup>nd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays 8.30am

### Weekday Masses (usual schedule) Aged Care Roster

Tuesday:10am Stawell (Check bulletin for occasional changes)1st Wednesday 11.15am EventideWednesday:Aged Care2nd Wednesday 10am Lowe StThursday:2.30pm Hopkins3rd Wednesday 10am Garden ViewFriday:11am Ararat (held in the Presbytery) (Check bulletin for occasional changes)4th Wednesday 10am ARVillage

# Change to Mass Times this Week Tues 16<sup>th</sup> - Mass in Stawell cancelled

#### **Anniversaries**

David McAdie, Vincent Sertori, Mons Bill McMahon, Alan Wilson, Charles Forster 1950, Horace Howlett, Isabella Tonkin, Cyril Crimmings 1957, Kenneth Sparrow 1966, Desmond Phelan 2007, George Connor Murray 1939, Barbara McCubbin, Fr Coley McKenzie, Leonard Krohn 2001, Thomas Jess 2005, Kevin Cross 2013, Gerardine Rathgeber, Jack Ryan, Maurizio Cannata, Ian McIntosh, Michael McRae, Vera McAloon, Maureen McMaster, Jean Thomas, Michael Rowe, Liston Garrett 1948, Andrew Gambetta 1960, Alice Nicholson 1975, Peter Moran 1976, Douglas Tozer 1987, James Morris 1992, Joseph Noonan, David O'Connor, Margaret Morris, Bernice Austin 1980, Gueseppina Musumeci 1998, Eileen Cooper 2009. Anne Bates, Ellen Devery 2002.

Lake Bolac Roster Sat Jul 20<sup>th</sup> Reader Mick Brennan/ Prayer of Faithful Rosemary Liston

Sat Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> Reader Deb Glasson/ Prayer of Faithful Tricia Higgins/ Cleaning Tricia Higgins

21st July 2024

Jeremiah 23:1-6/Ephesians 2:13-18/Mark 6:30-34

**Ararat Roster** Sun 14<sup>th</sup> July Facilitator Pat L/ Reader Peter B/ Euch Min Mary C

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> July Facilitator Pat McA/ Reader Jenny McA/ Euch Min C McAdie Sun 28<sup>th h</sup> July Facilitator Harry/ Reader Charlie R/ Euch Min Anna C Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Aug Facilitator Pat McA/ Reader Jenny McA/ Euch Min Nora Sun 11<sup>th</sup> Aug Facilitator Peter B / Reader/ Charlie / Euch Min Genara Sun 18<sup>th</sup> Aug Facilitator Pat L/ Reader Elizabeth S / Euch Min Marg M Sun 25<sup>th</sup> Aug Facilitator C McAdie/ Reader Peter B / Euch Min Marg O

Stawell Roster Sun Jul 14<sup>th</sup> S/Minster M Rowe /Reader M Howard/ Offertory L Habben

Sun Jul 21st S/Minster K Ashton /Reader M R Thomas/ Offertory M McGaffin

Sun Jul 28<sup>th</sup> S/Minster M Rowe /Reader C Barker/ Offertory G Pascall

Sun Aug 4<sup>th</sup> S/Minster M R Thomas/ Reader K Dallinger/Offertory Heenan family Sun Aug 11<sup>th</sup> S/Minster Kath Ashton/ Reader Di O'Donnell/ Offertory/J Croton

Sun Aug 18<sup>th</sup> S/Minster Moyra Maestros/Reader Gerry Madafferi /Offertory Pascual family

Sun Aug 25<sup>th</sup> S/Minster Helen Potter/Reader Michelle Howard/Offertory Lesley Habben

Stawell St Vincent de Paul will meet on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm in the St Pat's Church hall.

Stawell CWL will host a cuppa in St Pat's Church hall on Sunday 21st July after 10:30 Mass. Everyone welcome.

## NAIDOC Week July 7-14 Article by Fr Andrew Hamilton, SJ Article and Logo shared by Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

This year, the special days and observances relating to Indigenous Australians are particularly important. Following the nastiness of much of the Referendum campaign and the distress its loss caused to so many Indigenous Australians, non-Indigenous Australians owe it to their First Nations brothers and sisters to reflect on the many reasons offered to explain why the Referendum was lost. We must also treasure and respect their history, their



culture and their festivals. For that reason, the National Aboriginal and Islander Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week is especially timely. It commemorates an initiative taken in hard times, an act of defiance and an invitation to be heard. The Week is a time to celebrate the fire that they lit, and to work with them to keep it burning.

NAIDOC Week was built on pride: the pride that led Indigenous people, who recognised that they were neither respected nor heard, to work for change. They saw how inappropriate it was to celebrate Australia Day on the anniversary of the arrival of the First Fleet. That date marked the beginning of their dispossession. They began to organise in order to find recognition and acceptance by other Australians of their right to participate fully in society, but faced opposition at every corner. They drew up a petition sent to King George V to ask for Aboriginal electorates, but the Government saw it as outside its constitutional powers to provide them. In 1938, the 150th anniversary of the landing, January 26 was made a national holiday. In response to this affront, the same year a Congress of Indigenous people met in Sydney. Its members marched on Australia Day but called it Mourning Day.

Australia Day is still celebrated on the anniversary of the beginning of Indigenous expropriation, but out of the struggle NAIDOC Week was born and continues. Its date was changed to expand the occasion beyond protest to include the celebration of the Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander heritage. This generous decision to light a candle rather than curse the darkness provides an opportunity for all Australians to join in celebrating their culture, aspirations and hopes. And also to listen to their voice and support those who fight for their rights.

The theme of NAIDOC Week, to Keep the Fire Burning, is appropriate at many levels. It echoes the importance that lighting and controlling fire had in Indigenous cultures. Fire lay at the heart of the meals, the feasts, the care for the land, and the community life of Indigenous Australians. To keep it burning was a communal task of mutual service and of service to the land. It was the difference between a thriving and energetic community and one that had lost hope and was dying out. This year the theme of NAIDOC Week marks the determination to honour the fire in the heart that led to the birth of the Week, and to ensure that the fire continues to burn.

For non-Indigenous Australians NAIDOC Week is an occasion to honour the culture of our First Peoples and the tenacity with which they have insisted that their culture and their rights be respected. It is also a time for sober reflection on where our nation is going and on what we want it to be. It is about reaching out to form the respectful and decent relationships that engender shared pride within diverse communities. It is a time for engaging with one another, for recognising and celebrating the many and often painful ways in which pride is being built in Indigenous communities, and for pressing for respect in all the personal and institutional relationships that link non-Indigenous to Indigenous Australians.

The theme of NAIDOC Week reminds all of us Australians of the urgent need to shape a world that offers us enduring shelter, renewal and sustenance, built on the harmony between people and land. The First Peoples developed a mastery of the technology of fire in a way that both renewed the bush and helped sustain both animal and human life. The settler culture developed far more sophisticated technologies as part of a wealthier society. Prosperity, however, has incurred the heavy cost of damaging the natural world and of threatening the lives and welfare of our descendants. The NAIDOC week call to keep the fire burning is also a call to respect the ancient wisdom that respected the environment and the delicate relationships on which human flourishing depends. It invites us all to enter a culture of participation and leave behind one of exploitation.



# Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close Reflection by Artist

Jesus advises his disciples to 'take nothing for their journey' but the bare essentials — a pair of sandals and a staff. Travelling light is clearly essential so that nothing will hold them back from spreading the Good News. Their task is like sowing seeds which others will nurture and bring to fruition.

# REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate - The Big Picture sets you free

As St Paul would have put it in terms of

modern science, before the cosmos was big-banged into existence, before human creatures evolved over the aeons, before you were loved into existence through your parents, God conceived of you, 'God chose you in Christ'. The universe was erupted into existence by Divine Ecstasy so that creatures might be drawn to evolve into human beings so that you, personally, might enjoy a wonderful destiny. That destiny is to be an ensouled body totally transfigured by Divine Light, made radiant by Divine Energy, living through love in God's presence. That is the Big Picture, the 'Very Big Picture'. Grasp that, or rather be grasped by that, and it will enable you to do things you would otherwise not risk doing. One way could be that portrayed in today's Gospel. Jesus could say to his missionary followers: "take no purse, no haversack" because they had an interior freedom from anxiety about the future, a freedom generated from knowing that they had been divinely loved even before time began. You might take a moment to pray for the courage to make a generous response to the truth spoken directly to you by St Paul. 'Before the world was made, He chose you, chose you in Christ.'



## REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

God chooses ordinary people and confers on them an extraordinary responsibility. Amos was a shepherd and a dresser of sycamores. Most of the apostles were fishermen. Paul was a tentmaker. Christians today are mechanics

and clerks, teachers and engineers, doctors and housekeepers. These are all people following ordinary trades or professions, but what they do in them is truly remarkable. They touch minds and hearts and souls, and they heal them. They instruct and comfort people, and they help to drive out the demons that possess them. They participate in very ordinary ways in the extraordinary establishment of the reign of God.

Jesus inaugurated the reign of God on earth. He chose disciples and sent them out to continue the work that he had begun, to preach his gospel and, through healings and exorcisms, to conquer the forces of evil that threatened that reign. And now we have been called; in him we have been chosen, in all of our brokenness and vulnerability. The task to which we have been called is awe-inspiring; and every spiritual blessing in the heavens has been bestowed upon us so that we will be able to accomplish it. If we allow Christ's saving power to take possession of us, we too will further his prophetic ministry. We will bring the saving grace of God to the world that is terrified and that writhes in pain; we will bring it to those places where healing is needed and where demons still hold sway. We will bring all things under the headship of Christ.

## Have you thought? Sent in pairs

It is interesting that the disciples were sent out in pairs. It is indicative of the fact that such ministry is difficult to accomplish alone. When we are engaged in ministry it is important that we seek and provide mutual support. Whether it is a hospitality ministry at Sunday Mass, visiting the sick, or a street ministry to the homeless, we will feel more confident and willing to reach out to others if we know that we are sharing that ministry and are supported by others. It is important to invite others to join in our ministry but it is also important to make sure that we support them as they enter into it.