



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** Acts 8:5-8. 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 65:1-7. 16.20. R see v.1

(R.) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth,  
O sing to the glory of his name.  
O render him glorious praise.  
Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! (R.)
2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow;  
shall sing to you, sing to your name!  
Come and see the works of God,  
tremendous his deeds among men. (R.)
3. He turned the sea into dry land,  
they passed through the river dry-shod.  
Let our joy then be in him; he rules for ever  
by his might. (R.)
4. Come and hear, all who fear God.  
I will tell what he did for my soul:  
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer  
nor withhold his love from me. (R.)

**Second Reading** 1 Pt 3:15-18

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so

that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

**Gospel Acclamation** Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

**Gospel** Jn 14:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of Truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you. In a short time, the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live.

On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.'



# Parish Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

<b>Parish Priest</b>	Fr. Andrew Hayes <a href="mailto:andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au">andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au</a>
<b>Parish Bulletin Online</b>	<a href="http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au">www.ballarat.catholic.org.au</a> – follow link to parish
<b>Secretary / Child Safe</b>	Jill Croxford <a href="mailto:gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au">gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au</a>
<b>Parish Email</b>	<a href="mailto:gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au">gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au</a>
<b>Parish Office</b>	304a Barkly St Ararat. Open Thursdays and Fridays 9am – 3pm
<b>Phone</b>	03 5352 5460
<b>Post Box</b>	PO BOX 92, Ararat, VIC 3377

## Mass Times

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

## Readings for next Sunday

May 21st, 2023  
The Ascension of the Lord A  
Acts 1:1-11/Eph 1:17-23/Mt28:16-20

## Weekday Masses (usual schedule)

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

## Aged Care Roster

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday 11.15am Eventide  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 11am Lowe St  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 10.30am Garden View  
4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 10am ARVillage

## Recent Deaths

Julie Sonnichsen nee Arnold (Canada) & Brian Edmund Joyce.

## Anniversaries

Paul Raeburn 1990, Harriett Jackson, Des Woods, Steven Pauling 1948, Mary Blake 1994, Patrick Gillespie 2017, Peg Ronald, Jack Ronald, Anthony Cain, Aileen Grinter, Terrance Coleman, Anna Homzova, Dolores Thomas, Daisy Healy 1963, Cathleen Sertori, William Barry 1952, Ted Holt, Bill Overington, Linda Weinert, Patricia Mahoney, Marie Scanlon, Michael Joseph Moran, Sr Adrian Murphy 1999, Frank Sanderson, Leslie Moore 1961, Mary Waring, Tom Upton, Aileen Brennan, Suzanne Leithhead 1974, Ethel Phillips 1976, Charles Portelli 1991, Mary Monaghan 2010.

## Golden Gate Roster

Sun 14<sup>th</sup> May Elizabeth

## Lake Bolac Roster

Sat May 20<sup>th</sup> Reader Mick Brennan// Prayers of Faithful Rosemary Liston  
Sat June 3<sup>rd</sup> Reader Deb Glasson// Prayers of Faithful Tricia Higgins/Cleaning Rosemary Liston  
Sat June 17<sup>th</sup> Reader Damian Phillips// Prayers of Faithful Helen Smith

## Ararat Roster

Sun May 14<sup>th</sup> Welcomer Rosalie N//Facilitator M Olle//Reader Kath Leggett//Euch Min Marg M  
Sun May 21<sup>st</sup> Welcomer Nora B//Facilitator Harry C//Reader Elizabeth S//Euch Min Anna C  
Sun May 28<sup>th</sup> Welcomer Charlie R//Facilitator P Brady//Reader Rebecca R//Euch Min Sr John

## Stawell Roster

Sun May 14<sup>th</sup> S/Minister Kath Ashton// Reader Joan Van Diesen // Offertory Pascual Family  
Sun May 21<sup>st</sup> S/Minister M R Thomas// Reader M Howard // Offertory M McGaffin  
Sun May 28<sup>th</sup> S/Minister Marg Rowe// Reader Di O'Donnell // Offertory Heenan Family

## Stawell CWL

Cuppa after next Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March 10.30am Mass. Everyone welcome.

## St Vincent de Paul

Our next meeting will be on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May, in the St Patrick's Church Hall 2pm

## CWL Day of Reflection - Feast Day of Mary Help of Christians – Wednesday 24th May 2023

St Mary's Church-52 Anderson Street Warracknabeal 10.30am – 3pm. All Welcome to attend the whole or part of the day. 10.30am Celebration of Mass, 11.15am Morning Cuppa (Church Foyer), 11.30am Guest Speaker Marie Shaddock, 12.30 Lunch (The Anglican Parish Centre cost \$17), 1.45pm Prayer, 3pm Final Prayer and Afternoon tea. Could one person from each church please confirm their number of attendees for lunch and RSVP BY 17TH May to Frances Casey 0458317815 or [lcasey@people.net.au](mailto:lcasey@people.net.au)

### **Prayer for Mother's Day – Sunday, May 14, 2023**

Loving God, we pray for our mothers, who have given us life and love, that we may show them reverence and love, and others who show us a mother's love.

We pray for adoptive mothers and for the women who wish to give birth but experience challenges, that they know your care.

We pray for mothers who have lost a child through death, that their faith may give them hope, and their family and friends support and console them.

We pray for those who wish to serve as mothers, but are not able to do so, that they know your comfort.

We pray for mothers who have died, that God may bring them into the joy of his kingdom. Amen.

### **National Families Week Australia: May 15-21, 2023**

Family Week is a perfect time to come together to celebrate the power of family relationships in all their diversities, and the importance they play in our lives and community. CatholicCare Victoria's theme for Family Week this year is "Circle of Inclusion." Resources from CatholicCare are available at

<https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/page/103/familyweek>. The National Families Week website is <https://nfw.org.au/>

### **A Blessing for Families**

Heavenly Father, please bless our families with Your everlasting love. Give our families strength to overcome hardship and difficulties. Give our families courage to admit our faults and forgive others. Give our families joy to live life to the full and spread our joy to others. May all families find comfort, support and guidance under Your loving care. Amen.

### **National Volunteer Week: May 15-21, 2023**

National Volunteer Week (NVW) is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteers. This week is a chance for all of us to celebrate and recognise the vital work of volunteers and to say thank you and this includes people in our diocese, parishes and agencies. The theme for NVW 2023 is "We are the Change Makers." This campaign celebrates the powerful impact volunteers make supporting individuals, communities and the nation. The Volunteering Australia website has National Volunteer Week resources, certificates of appreciation, volunteer thank you gifts and merchandise available at <https://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/national-volunteer-week-2023-resources-now-available/#/>

### **Prayer for Volunteers**

We pray for all those who volunteer in our parishes. May we value the many talents and gifts that God has given to these people. We thank them for generously offering their time to parish ministries. For all these gifts, given out of your love, we thank you, God of all goodness. Amen.

### **Pondering Grief**

This day offers an invitation to reflect on and honour our inner life of change and transition. With creativity, space and gentle guiding support, this workshop will offer a sacred place for the breadth of human experience and spirit to guide individual exploration. Facilitated by Linda Espie a counsellor of loss, grief and bereavement for over 35 years on Saturday, May 20, 2023 from 10.00am – 3.30 pm (AEST) at the Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Cost is \$80.00 and includes 'Pondering Grief' book (BYO lunch). Book and pay via website [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne) or email [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne) or ph. 9890 1101.

### **World Communications Day: May 14, 2023**

The Church in Australia marks World Communications Day on the Sixth Sunday of Easter – May 14 this year. Pope Francis' message for the Day is titled 'Speaking with the heart: The truth in love'. Access Pope Francis' message for World Communications Day and resources at <https://www.catholic.au/s/article/World-Communications-Day-2023>. Words from Pope Francis: "Listening without prejudice, attentively and openly, gives rise to speaking according to God's style, nurtured by closeness, compassion and tenderness. We have a pressing need in the Church for communication that kindles hearts, that is balm on wounds and shines light on the journey of our brothers and sisters."

## IDAHOBIT Day, May 17 - International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia

Events are being held in Ararat at 1.45pm and in Stawell at 4.30pm.

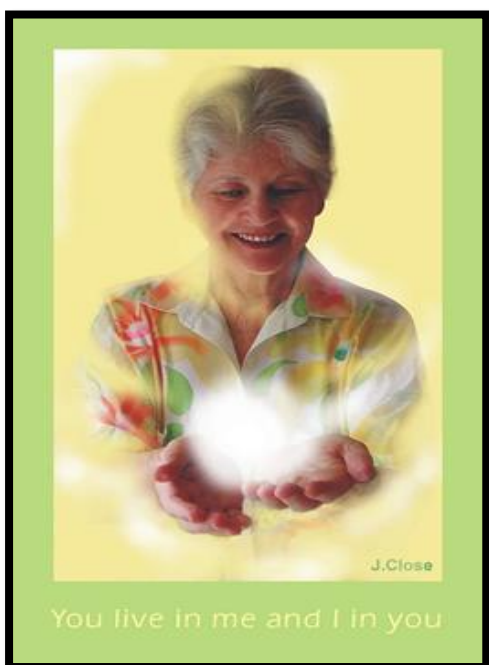
I will be attending these events again this year. I hope that friends will join me.

Why? A fundamental belief of all Catholic moral and social teachings is that each person is made in the image and likeness of God. The dignity of all people in God is to be affirmed always. It is important, then, that every member of the community welcome and not alienate the other. The love, care and compassion of Jesus is not diminished by gender diversity. The dignity of the human person is not diminished by having a colour on the rainbow flag.

Pope Francis: We would like before all else to reaffirm that every person, regardless of sexual orientation, ought to be respected in his or her dignity and treated with consideration, while 'every sign of unjust discrimination' is to be carefully avoided ...

Enlarge the Space of Your Tent: The Holy See, 2022 ... the vision of a church capable of radical inclusion, shared belonging and deep hospitality according to the teachings of Jesus ...

Good word for Scrabble: That's why I'll be going to IDAHOBIT Day. It's the *Jesusest* thing that I can think of to be doing just now. Fr Andrew



### Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close

In this Sunday's gospel reading Jesus describes his relationship with us in terms of being 'in' us: 'I am in my Father and you in me and I in you.' What does this mean, that God is an organic part of us? There is no way to test this assertion using scientific reasoning. But scientists are apt to get lyrical these days : astronomers use evocative, poetic terms like 'event horizon' and 'singularity' and they come remarkably close to theology when they describe the fate of the universe as 'infinite'. One theorist claims that everything in the universe derives from stardust. If that is so then, metaphorically speaking, God is the ultimate star and it is God's Spirit, the 'Advocate', who lights up our lives – from the inside.

## STAWELL GOSPEL MUSIC CELEBRATION

**DATE:** Saturday 20th May, 2023  
**VENUE:** Stawell Town Hall  
**TIME:** 7:00 - 10:00pm

**Admission = \$10.00/Person  
Children Under 12 = Free**  
All funds raised will go towards a local project & the Vanuatu Flood Victims  
**ALL WELCOME**  
Contact Jenny on # 0408571375

**FEATURING:**  
Living Testimony Singers  
Commissioners of Vanuatu  
Scott Harrison & Ruby Page

**Plus Others:**  
• VAWC Choir  
• Ecumenical Choir  
• City Heart Band  
• Samoan Dance Group (Ararat)  
• Donald & Grace Gragasin (Baptist Church)  
• Cleve House (Stawell SDA Church)

