



Holy Spirit
Parish
Gariwerd

Sunday August 18th, 2024

TWENTIETH 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

Proverbs 9:1-6

A reading from the book of Proverbs
Wisdom has built herself a house, she has erected her seven pillars, she has slaughtered her beasts, prepared her wine, she has laid her table. She has despatched her maidservants and proclaimed from the city's heights: 'Who is ignorant? Let him step this way.' To the fool she says, 'Come and eat my bread, drink the wine I have prepared! Leave your folly and you will live, walk in the ways of perception.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33:2-3. 10-15. R. v.9

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. (R.)
2. Revere the Lord, you, his saints. They lack nothing, those who revere him. Strong lions suffer want and go hungry but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing. (R.)
3. Come children and hear me that I may teach you the fear of the Lord. Who is he who longs for life and many days, to enjoy his prosperity? (R.)
4. Then keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit. Turn aside from evil and do good; seek and strive after peace. (R.)

Second Reading

Ephesians 5:15-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
Be very careful about the sort of lives you lead, like intelligent and not like senseless people. This may be a wicked age, but your lives should redeem it. And do not be thoughtless but recognise what is the will of the Lord. Do not drug yourselves with wine, this is simply dissipation; be filled with the Spirit. Sing the words and tunes of the psalms and hymns when you are together and go on singing and chanting to the Lord in your hearts, so that always and everywhere you are giving thanks to God who is our Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

John 6:56

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who eat my flesh and drink my blood live in me and I in them, says the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel

John 6:51-58

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
Jesus said to the crowd:

'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.' Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied: 'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'



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
Parish Email gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Parish Office 304a Barkly St Ararat. Open Thursdays and Fridays 9am – 3pm
Phone 03 5352 5460
Post Box PO BOX 92, Ararat, VIC 3377



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

25th Aug 2024
Joshua 24:1-2. 15-18/Ephesians 5:21-32/
John 6:60-69

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

Anniversaries

Vin Fagan, John Hogan, Ralph Brown, Cyril Pickering 1980, Agnes Rutter 1981, Norm Manning 1985, Kathleen Morgan 2004, John Stevens, Leslie Shevlin, Fr Tom Kiniry, Con McDermott, Len Christian, Denise Fromager, Noël Fromager, Irene Jenkinson, Thomas Mullins, Patrick Mullins, Mary-Anne McInnes, Paul Anthony DiDomenic, John Molan 1947, Joseph McGuan 1961, Paolo Ronchi 1971, Madeline Stephens 1996, Lurlene Delahunty 2006, Joan Pickering 2013, Agnes Declerq, Keith Watson 1993, Marjorie Carlson, Br. James Threadgold, Brain Pickering, Myrtle Leggett, Mary Stephens 1974, Ronald Lewis 1975, Harriet Torney 1987 Mararet Miethke. Maureen Pye. John Vermeend, Des Callaghan, Eileen Carroll, Jean Williams, Barry McArthur, Bernadette Maddocks 1974, Christopher Tilley 1997, Eileen Gavin 2001, John Hozjan 2007, Barry McArthur 2018

Lake Bolac Roster

Sat Aug 31st Reader Leanne Breen/ Prayer of Faithful Jane Higgins
Sat Sept 14th Reader Rosemary Liston / Prayer of Faithful Phillip Meek/Cleaning L Breen
Sat Sept 21st Reader Helen Smith/ Prayer of Faithful Judy Aldous
Sat Oct 5th Reader Jane Higgins/ Prayers of Faithful Val Albert/ Judy Upton
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

Ararat Roster

Sun 18th Aug Facilitator Pat L/ Reader Elizabeth S / Euch Min Marg M
Sun 25th Aug Facilitator C McAdie/ Reader Peter B / Euch Min Marg O
Sun 1st Sept Facilitator Charlie R / Reader Jim/ Euch Min Jan C

Stawell Roster

Sun Aug 18 S/Minster M Maestros /Reader G Madafferi/ Offertory Pascual Family
Sun Aug 25 S/Minster H Potter /Reader M Howard/ Offertory L Habben

Stawell St Vincent de Paul - Next meeting conference will be on Monday 19th August at 2pm in the St Pat's Church Hall.

Stawell CWL - will be hosting a cuppa after 10:30 Mass on Sunday 25th August. Please note the change of date for this month from the usual 3rd Sunday of the month cuppa. Our Bishop Paul will be visiting our parish the weekend of the 24th and 25th and this will enable us to have a cuppa with him.

Lake Bolac Shared Tea

There will be a shared tea in Lake Bolac after Mass on Saturday August 31.

Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoeboxes. – Stawell

If you would like to provide a shoebox of fun for a needy child please contact Robyn Anyon on graeme.anyon@bigpond.com or -0419 133 189 to buy an empty box for \$1 and \$12.50 for the postage of that box to a needy child. Once you have your shoe box you then buy new items to fill it – toys, clothing, hygiene items and school supplies. The filled boxes are then taken to the Stawell Uniting Church Hall on September 27th between 10:30am and 2pm

150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat - Formation

In preparation for the Diocesan Assembly in November 2024, there will be formation sessions held around the diocese with a focus on leadership and governance. In 2023, Bishop Paul asked parishes to focus on leadership in their local communities, either by forming or developing further a parish council or leadership team according to local circumstances. The Diocesan Assembly will bring together clergy, representatives of the leadership teams in parishes, schools and Catholic organisations to consider how we might develop leadership and governance in our communities in the future. The formation opportunity is for Clergy in parishes, Parish Leadership Team/Parish Councils, School Leadership Teams/School Advisory Councils, Catholic Organisations Leaders. An invitation is also extended to people who have leadership potential and who would like to participate. Leadership teams are invited to nominate others who might benefit from this experience. Remaining dates is Warrnambool - August 25 – 10.30am – 4.00pm – St Joseph's Church, Warrnambool.

ACU Big Sing for a Big Cause - August 25, 2024

The Australian Catholic University, in partnership with St Patrick's Cathedral (Melbourne) and St Patrick's College (Ballarat) is hosting "Big Sing for a Big Cause", which will see singers, choirs and instrumentalists combine for a special performance, raising funds for those affected by homelessness. The concerts will be in Ballarat and Melbourne, performing Street Requiem, a piece co-composed by Dr Kathleen McGuire, a renowned composer and ACU senior lecturer in Music Education. Donations will be raised for Peplow House (a ministry of CatholicCare Victoria) and ACU's Urgent Financial Hardship Grant. For more information go to <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/acus-big-sing-for-a-big-cause/>

Diocesan Social Justice Commission Reflection Day – Saturday, September 7, 2024

The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission invite all members of the diocese to a Reflection Day, in celebration of the launch of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2024-2025, "Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World" on Saturday, September 7, 2024 from 10.00am - 2.30pm at Ss Michael and John's Horsham Parish Centre. Facilitator for the day is writer and educator, Michael McGirr. Registrations are essential through trybooking. Scan or click the QR code. A flyer is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/ballar-at-diocesan-social-justice-commission-reflection-day-with-michael-mcgirr-saturday-september-7-2024/>. The prayer for Social Justice Sunday is also available from the diocesan website.

REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

'The Eucharist', Pope Francis famously said, 'is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.' Reflecting on today's Gospel passage, the Pope encourages us to avoid becoming 'arbiters of grace'. Rather, he says, we should be 'its facilitators'.

As the Pope points out, Jesus gives us the Eucharist 'with a specific purpose: that we may become one with him.' 'The Eucharist is Jesus himself who gives himself entirely to us', the Pope reminds us, which helps us to become a living 'gift to God and to our brothers and sisters.'

In one sense, we do this individually. Being nourished by the Eucharist, the Pope explains, 'means entering into harmony with the heart of Christ, assimilating his choices, his thoughts, his behaviour.' Each of us therefore seeks to become what we consume.

But we do not do so alone. Communion is a celebration of the Body of Christ – the Church – which means we are being transformed together as the pilgrim People of God. Communion, the Pope says, 'means entering into a dynamism of love and becoming people of peace, people of forgiveness, of reconciliation, of sharing in solidarity.'

What this all means is that we should approach the Eucharist with openness to being changed, individually and collectively, into the Bread of Life for all.



Season of Nesting Birds

We have moved into a new Gariwerd season, the season of nesting birds. Look for owls and eagles. It's a time for rivers to run high.



Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close

Reflection by Artist

The food image is continued in this reading from John. Jesus calls his flesh 'true food' and his blood 'true drink'. Anyone who eats this food will be one with Jesus and gain eternal life. Life is an integral part of this food image: the living God sent Jesus and Jesus gives eternal life through his body.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate - The Greatest Gift

When I was a boy (is it so long ago?) it was still the rule at Mass that only the priest drank from the chalice. One of the great actions of the Church over the last fifty years has been the recovery of the ancient practice of offering Holy Communion under the appearance of both bread and wine. The reception of both the consecrated bread and the consecrated wine is in perfect harmony with today's Gospel: 'Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life.' Note the present tense: 'has' – right now! This is because, as St John Paul II put it: 'We digest, as it were, the secret of the Resurrection.' Of course, Our Risen Lord is really present under the appearance of either the bread or the wine. For a Jew, (unlike the Greeks) the *body* was absolutely core to being the person one is. For a Jew, *blood* was identified as the life-force of any animal. So, for the Jewish Jesus, to say 'This is my body... this is my blood' was to gift us his core identity, his deepest vitality. Either the consecrated bread or consecrated wine gives us His whole life. But to receive both the Heavenly Bread and the Spiritual Drink does enable us to more fully respond to Our Lord at the Last Supper: 'Take, eat ... take, drink'. Then the words of today's Gospel can more physically resonate in our own bodies: 'He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I in him.' We could take a moment to pray in thanksgiving that we are able to join in the tradition starting with the Apostles at the Last Supper and, in doing so, to enter into Holy Communion with the only One who can embody in us the secret of His resurrection.

