



Holy Spirit  
Parish  
Gariwerd

# Sunday February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## FIFTH 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 **Job 7:1-4. 6-7**

A reading from the book of Job

Job began to speak: Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages, months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!' Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

#### Responsorial Psalm **Ps 146:1-6. R. v.3**

**(R.)** Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted. Praise the Lord for he is good; sing to our God for he is loving to him our praise is due. **(R.)**

The Lord builds up Jerusalem and brings back Israel's exiles, he heals the broken-hearted, he binds up all their wounds. He fixes the number of the stars; he calls each one by its name. **(R.)**

Our Lord is great and almighty; his wisdom can never be measured. The Lord raises the lowly; he humbles the wicked to the dust. **(R.)**

#### Second Reading **1 Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me. So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for

the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

#### Gospel Acclamation **Matthew 8:17**

Alleluia, alleluia!

He bore our sickness and endured our suffering. Alleluia!

#### Gospel **Mark 1:29-39**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark  
On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them. That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was. In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.



# Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

**Parish Priest** Fr. Andrew Hayes [andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
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## Mass Times

**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

## Readings for next Sunday

11th February 2024  
Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46/ 1 Corinthians 10:31 – 11:1/  
Mark 1:40-45

## Changes to Masses this Week

Tues 6<sup>th</sup> Stawell Mass earlier 9.30am - School Opening Mass  
Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> 10am Marian College Opening Mass (Gym)  
Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> 12 Noon St Mary's Opening Mass (Church)  
Fri 9<sup>th</sup> 11am Ararat - Prayers

## 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

## Ash Wednesday Distribution of Ashes

Stawell Tues Feb 13<sup>th</sup> 10am Mass / Ararat Wed Feb 14<sup>th</sup> 10am Prayers

## Lenten Discussion

Stawell after 10am Mass on Tuesdays - starts Feb 13 / Ararat 10am on Thursdays - starts Feb 15

## Anniversaries

Mary Hennessy, Mons. Louis Conway, Wendy Vernon, Mary Riddington, Elizabeth Brennan, Frank Melbourne, Michael Seearly 1978, Jeni-Anne Dunn 1997, Valerie Seearly 2019, Dell Delaney, Ken Walker, Lindsay Lee, Charles Evans 1951, Christopher Brown 1971, Catherine Monaghan 1973, James Aubrey 1993, Margaret Ryan, Fr Frank Harney, Mary-Ann Molan 1969, Lance Forster 1982, Leonie Wright 1985, Beverly Woods, Joan Abbott, Roy McInerney 1984, Margaret Devery 2003, Lillian Scott 2002, Alan Giles 2020, Mark Hunt, Robert Thistlethwaite, Sarah Smith 1961, Jessie Toogood 1967, Tom D'Arcy 2001

## Lake Bolac Roster

Sat Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> Reader Rosemary Liston/Praters of Faithful Phillip Meek/Cleaning Jane Higgins  
Sat Feb 17<sup>th</sup> Reader Helen Smith/ Prayers of Faithful Judy Aldouss

## Ararat Roster

Sun Feb 4<sup>th</sup> Facilitator Rebecca /Reader Elizabeth S /Euch Min Mary C  
Sun Feb 11<sup>th</sup> Facilitator Pat L /Reader Peter B /Euch Min Margaret O  
Sun Feb 18<sup>th</sup> Facilitator Cathy McA /Reader Jan C /Euch Min Jim C  
Sun Feb 25<sup>th</sup> Facilitator H Collins /Reader Charlie R /Euch Min Anna C

## Stawell Roster

Sun Feb 4<sup>th</sup> S/Minister M R Thomas /Reader J Van Diesen/ Offertory Pasqual Family  
Sun Feb 11<sup>th</sup> S/Minister K Ashton/Reader D O'Donnell / Offertory Heenan Family  
Sun Feb 18<sup>th</sup> S/Minister M Maestros/Reader C Barker/ Offertory Gooden/ Pascall  
Sun Feb 25<sup>th</sup> S/Minister H Potter/Reader L Morgan / Offertory J Croton

## CWL Ararat

Next meeting Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 1pm in the Parish Centre all welcome.

**A Christian Mission opportunity for local volunteers.** Would you be willing to help support people if there was a local emergency - bushfire or flood are 2 examples. Would you be willing to spend time at an evacuation centre to provide personal support and a listening ear. Victorian Council of Churches Emergencies Ministry is running training in Stawell for people willing to volunteer for this ministry. Training will be held at **St Patricks Church Hall on Saturday March 2nd from 9.00am - 4.00pm.** A poster and a brochure have been emailed to your church so please look out for those for more information, or ring VCCEM local representative Jenny Greenberger on 0408571375. Information on how to enrol is provided on the poster which has been placed on the church notice board.

### Butterfly Season

Recently I drove from Ballarat to Daylesford through a swarm of little white butterflies. Collective noun for butterflies? I looked it up: flutter, flock, swarm or kaleidoscope. I might add "dirty windscreen" of butterflies. On another day recently I read about the six seasons of Gariwerd. For thousands of years the locals had decided upon six observable seasons. When the British arrived they just brought the four from England and put them upside down. I looked up the forever seasons and learned that we're just finishing butterfly season. I suppose they'd been getting dirty windscreens for thousands of years before the Europeans arrived. Ballambar season (butterflies) has just finished and we're entering Kooyang (eel) season. Here's a short version of Kooyang. This is from the Gariwerd Calendar on the BOM. You can google it. *Fr Andrew*

### Kooyang - Late January to Late March

<b>Eels</b>	Eel trapping is common during this season, a favourite food of the Gariwerd people.
<b>Plants</b>	Mistletoes, messmate, long leafed box. The flowers of river red gums attract honeyeaters.
<b>Mammals</b>	Mammals emerge during kooyang. Boxing kangaroos can be seen.
<b>Birds</b>	Red wattle birds, fantails. Young birds are emerging.
<b>Amphibians</b>	Tree frogs can be heard squeaking.
<b>Reptiles</b>	Snakes are seen basking in the sun.

**Insects** Many insects can be seen in larval form or beginning to hatch: labyrinth butterflies, longhorn beetles emerge from wattle trunks, featherhorn beetles emerge, gum emperor moths, spitfire grubs of sawfly wasp eat new leaves on seedling gums, stick insects eat treetop leaves

**Butterflies are frequent:** Imperial white butterflies, symmons skipper butterflies, brown tailed moth butterfly found on mistletoe



### Covid Restrictions

This week we received information from Bishop Paul regarding covid restrictions. Bishop Paul was particular about the manner of receiving Holy Communion, which is to be in the host only, and in the hand only. We will now be allowed to have holy water at the doors. Nothing was said about the sign of peace. Presumably this will continue as a wave for most people.

### Mass to Launch Project Compassion 2024

Mass to launch Project Compassion 2024 will be held on Sunday, February 11, 2024 at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 5.00pm. Bishop Paul Bird CSsR will be the Main Celebrant and will commission Student Leaders as Ambassadors for Caritas 2024. All welcome to attend.



### Mass of the Oils 2024 & 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat

The Mass of the Oils this year will incorporate acknowledgement of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat and will be held on Monday, March 25, 2024 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 11.30am (please note change of time). Lunch and displays will follow in the Hall. At the Mass we are inviting 1 – 2 volunteers from each parish to present a symbol or photo that best represents their parish. Many parishes have multiple communities, so the symbol or photo can represent the whole parish or it can be something from the different communities. The symbol/photo framed should be 5in x 7in (12cm x 17.5cm) or for the larger parishes who may need more room, up to 8in x 10in (20cm x 25cm) size framed.

**I asked my wife** if she'd like a new diamond ring to celebrate our anniversary. "Nothing would make me happier!" She replied. I took her at her word, so I got her nothing.



## Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close - Reflection by Artist

The first disciples of Jesus were recruited from among fisher folk. Simon and Andrew were told that Jesus would make them 'fishers of people'. For Simon's mother-in-law, the healing touch of Jesus is a call to discipleship: 'the fever left her and she began to serve them.' This unnamed woman became a fisher of people too.

## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate - The Divine Touch

The mother-in-law of Simon (Peter) was sick in bed with a raging fever. When Jesus learned about her

distressed state, he 'took her by the hand and helped her up'. He broke the taboo about physical contact with a woman not his relative because he wanted to holistically heal her dis-ease. Simon's mother-in-law didn't need an aspirin and a cup of tea. She felt quarantined, isolated, and needed a hand reassuring her of sociable relationships. Jesus overcame her fever and her dis-ease with the world. At every Mass we exchange a physical gesture at the greeting of Peace. This quite often overcomes being ill-at-ease with a family member or just with the neighbour in the pew. We need to take that symbolic action into the world. For somebody, it may be the most touching thing we ever do. We could pause for a moment to identify that person who needs us to reach out, to take their hand and help them up.

## REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we see three snapshots from the photo album of life. Suffering comes to everyone. It can take such a hold of us that the happiness of the past is swallowed up, the beauty of better days is forgotten, and the hope of a brighter future is imperilled. Life ceases to be an adventure and takes on the guise of drudgery. At such times suffering appears to be our permanent fate, and life seems too short for suffering to run its course. If we become identified with our distress, we will be tormented. Jesus knew the harshness of life, because he was one of us. He saw it in the lives of those he loved, and he was touched by their torment. He came to release people from the demons that possess them, from the illness that undermined their lives. He came to bring the reign of God, the reign of peace and fulfilment. He came to heal the brokenhearted, to bind up their wounds. Paul was a messenger of this gospel of salvation and fulfilment. He was so committed to his mission that he empathised with all those who heard his preaching – the slaves, the weak, the brokenhearted, all those who knew well the harshness of life. Now it is our turn. We are the disciples who must bring the good news to the brokenhearted, to those who are enslaved, to those who are weak. We are the ones who will then share in the blessings of this good news.

## Have you thought? Simon's Wife?

In this week's reading, it is Simon's mother-in-law who is healed. This obviously means that Simon is married. However, there is no mention whatsoever about his wife. Is she alive or dead? Do they have children? We have no indication. It is not until the writings of Paul (1 Cor 9:5) that we learn Simon Peter was indeed married and that his wife accompanied him on his travels. Perhaps this visit to his family home was to announce to his wife and family that he had decided to follow Jesus and give up fishing.

