



Holy Spirit Parish Gariwerd

Sunday May 7th, 2023 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A

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 6:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:1-2. 4-5. 18-19. R. v.22

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **(R.)**

For the word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and and fills the earth with his love. **(R.)**

The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Pt 2:4-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but

for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Jn 14:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.' Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me? 'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. 'I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'



Parish Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

Parish Priest	Fr. Andrew Hayes andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Parish Bulletin Online Secretary / Child Safe	www.ballarat.catholic.org.au – follow link to parish 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	1 st 3 rd 5 th Sundays 6.30pm Vigil Sat
Landsborough	2 nd 4 th Sundays 12.30pm
Glenthompson	(Hamilton Parish) 2 nd 4 th Sundays 8.30am

Readings for next Sunday

May 14th, 2023
Sixth Sunday of Easter Year A
Acts 8:5-8.14-17/1Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21

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

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

Anniversaries

Kathleen Morris-Rowe, Frank Peterson, Vincent Rathgeber 1964, Leonardo Musumeci 1991, Fr Tom Brophy, John Monaghan 1949, Catherine Dinan 1955, Mons. Dan Brazil, Joe Price, Sarah Kinsella 1960, Robert Murphy 1975, Les Brown, Joyce (Bub) Joyce, Eileen Dawson, Robert Wilson, Cath Howman, Eric Pinzone, Ralph Bernie 1995, Sampson Thomas 2007, Winifred Brookward, Des North, Fr Matt Joyce CSsR, Michael McNamara, Pat Mahoney, Josef Kapp, Bernard Considine 1997, Gerald Harrington, Fr Mick Philbin, Kerry Shea, Robert Cummins, Tony Shea, Archbishop Patrick Delaney, Fr Basil Thomas, Wendy Shea, Donald McDonald 1961, Daniel Oates 1971, Ernest Smith 1994, Steven Healy 1997, Ivy Boag 2000, Laci Vamos 2006, John Herdman 2012.

Golden Gate Roster Sun May 7th Jim & Jan/14th May Elizabeth

Lake Bolac Roster
Sat May 6th Reader Jane Higgins// Prayers of Faithful Deb Glasson
Sat May 20th Reader Mick Brennan// Prayers of Faithful Rosemary Liston
Sat June 3rd Reader Jane Higgins// Prayers of Faithful Deb Glasson/Cleaning Rosemary Liston
Sat June 17th Reader Damian Phillips// Prayers of Faithful Rosemary Helen Smith

Ararat Roster
Sun May 7th Welcomer Gwen M//Facilitator Charlie//Reader Pat Lardner//Euch Min Mary C
Sun May 14th Welcomer Rosalie N//Facilitator M Olle//Reader Kath Leggett//Euch Min Marg M
Sun May 21st Welcomer Nora B//Facilitator Harry C//Reader Elizabeth S//Euch Min Anna C
Sun May 28th Welcomer Charlie R//Facilitator P Brady//Reader Rebecca R//Euch Min Sr John

Stawell Roster
Sun May 7th S/Minister M Howard// Reader Carmel Barker// Offertory L Habben
Sun May 14th S/Minister Kath Ashton// Reader Joan Van Diesen // Offertory Pascual Family
Sun May 21st S/Minister M R Thomas// Reader M Howard // Offertory M McGaffin
Sun May 28th S/Minister Marg Rowe// Reader Di O'Donnell // Offertory Heenan Family

Ararat CWL Afternoon Tea Tuesday 9th May 2023 **2pm** Parish Centre, All Welcome.

Grandmothers Get together Monday May 8th, 2pm at Bernadette Harrington House, All Welcome.

Friendly Reminder Could all Caritas/Project Compassion envelopes and boxes please be returned ASAP.

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 – 3.pm. 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

Prayer for the coronation of King Charles

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR offers the following prayer to mark the coronation of King Charles this coming weekend: Let us pray for King Charles as he is anointed for his mission of service. May he serve with wisdom and courage. Loving God, hear us.

Response: Loving God, hear our prayer.

Laudato Si Week: May 21-28, 2023

Globally, from May 21-28, Catholics are asked to celebrate Laudato Si' Week, the eighth anniversary of Pope Francis encyclical Laudato Si': On the Care of Creation. The theme for the 2023 is "Hope for the Earth, Hope for Humanity" and is a time to reflect on the progress we have made in protecting our common home. The Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, together with the Laudato Si' Movement and Catholic Earthcare Australia, is encouraging a screening of "The Letter: a message for our Earth" in your community or parish during this week in order to respond to Pope Francis' call. This beautifully directed documentary was released in October 2022 in collaboration with Pope Francis, and tells of the stories of four representatives of those on the peripheries impacted by climate change and environmental destruction, the displaced, the youth, the indigenous communities and biodiversity and who are invited to travel and speak to Pope Francis of their experiences and hopes for the future. The recipients of Pope Francis invitation are a Muslim man from Senegal, a 13 year old girl from India, an Indigenous leader from Brazil and a husband/wife scientific team. Laudato Si' was an invitation not only to Catholics, but to people of all faiths and the secular world to care for our world and this is also seen in the faith perspectives of those who are invited to speak to Pope Francis.

Catholic Earthcare Australia "Action" online event

Catholic Earthcare Australia is also hosting an online "Action" event. In two hours, participants will engage in ten actions, designed to help bring forth an integral ecology and care for creation. All ten actions are in some way inspired by Laudato Si' and can be done from the comfort of your own home. The event will be held over zoom and is FREE! This also will be a wonderful way to join with parishioners all over Australia. Wednesday, May 17, 2023 from 4.00pm – 6.00pm AEST. Bookings are essential at <https://www.trybooking.com/CHVPE>

Position Vacant: Pastoral Practitioner at St John of God Hospital Ballarat

The hospital has an exciting opportunity available for a dedicated and committed Pastoral Practitioner to join our Pastoral Services team in promoting and providing holistic pastoral services to patients and clients. Will include on call across 24 hours and weekends. For more information about this position, please contact Margaux Chant on (03) 53202503

Visit of Father Robert McCulloch

Fr Robert will be in Ballarat on Monday, May 8, 2023 and will celebrate Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral at 12.05pm. Following Mass he will give a presentation in the Mary Glowrey room, updating us on current events in Pakistan and beyond. A light lunch will be provided. Donation envelopes will be available. Entry by donation. Enquiries to ph. 0401 175 045

Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close

When a seed grows it doesn't need to be taught how to grow: the new shoot 'knows' how to find the light and the roots 'know' where to go for moisture. This kind of knowing is somehow built into the genetic structure of the plant. Our relationship with God is like that too, it is part of the fabric of our being. Built into our human structure is the knowledge of God, but in the coming and going of life we lose the ability to access that knowledge easily. In the Gospel, Jesus names himself 'the Way, the Truth and the Life'. To us he says 'you know the way' and this is our challenge, to rediscover our organic knowledge of God by looking at Jesus.

Historical Context – It is for the best...

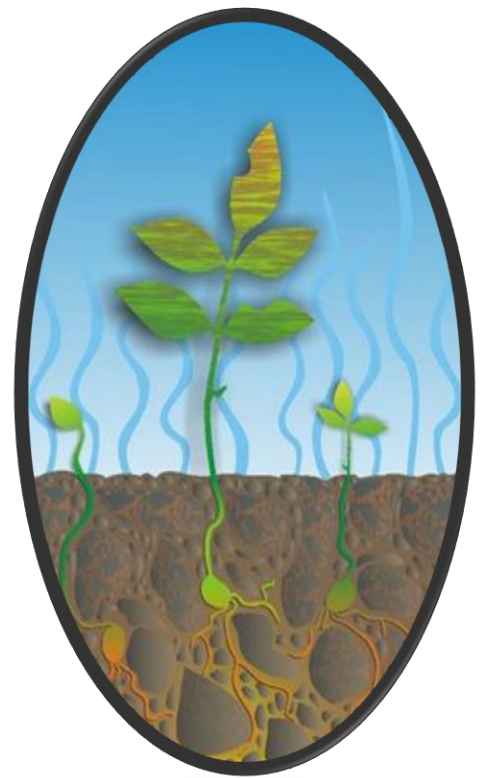
At the time of this gospel's writing, some 70 years after the events it describes, amazing things have taken place in the early Christian community. Rather than everything falling apart with the death of Jesus, the message of Jesus has spread further than he himself could ever have accomplished. It is the departure of Jesus from their midst and the sending of the Spirit that really prompts the disciples to act on what they had experienced while Jesus lived among them. The gospel writer has Jesus saying that he has to go away so that the disciples can reach their potential.

Scriptural context – The gospel of John

The gospel of John is very different from the other three 'synoptic' gospels. The other three have a very narrative style and can be seen together as different recounts of the same events. Whilst the gospel of John also has some beautifully narrated stories, it is better known as a more theologically reflective piece of writing. It assumes that the readers of this gospel are already familiar with one or more of the others, so it doesn't need to tell the story again. Rather, it presents a sweeping image of God, through Jesus, reaching out, in, through, and with love to the people.

Living the Gospel – The Way, the Truth and the Life

When Thomas asks, 'we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus answers by saying, 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.' The reader of the gospel has known this truth all along from the opening line of the gospel, 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.' Our aim, as Christian people, is to be one with God, not only by sharing in the resurrection but also in the way we live. Jesus makes clear that the way to be with God is by following his example.



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)

