

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 [Wis 18:6-9](#)

A reading from the book of Wisdom
That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage. This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you. The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

Responsorial Psalm [Ps 32:1. 12. 18-20. 22. R. v.12](#)

R) Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
They are happy, whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. (R.)
2. 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.)
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. (R.)

Second Reading (Shorter form) [Heb 11:1-2, 8-19](#)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews
Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended. It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God. It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the

promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.



Gospel Acclamation

[Mt 24:42. 44](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful and ready:
You know not when the
Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!

Gospel

[Lk 12:32-48](#)

Shorter form

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Jesus said to his disciples: 'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

**Lectionary Art and
Reflection by Jenny Close
Reflection by Artist**

Jesus' message indicates that the disciples should live as if every day was their last: keep the lamps burning and be ready to answer the door when the Son of Man knocks. There was a sense of urgency in the early church regarding the Second Coming.



Parish 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	1 st 3 rd 5 th Sundays 6.30pm Vigil Sat
Landsborough	2 nd 4 th Sundays 6pm Vigil Sat
Glenthompson	(Hamilton Parish) 2 nd 4 th Sundays 8.30am

Readings for next Sunday

August 14
Twentieth Sunday Ordinary Time Year C
[Jer 38:4-6. 8-10](#)// [Heb 12:1-4](#) // [Lk 12:49-53](#)

Weekday Masses (usual schedule)

Tuesday: 10am Stawell (Check bulletin for occasional changes)
Wednesday: Aged Care
Thursday: 3.30pm 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 ARV

Stawell Mass Tuesday 9th 10am – At school, with the children, to celebrate the Feast of Mary MacKillop. All welcome.

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries

Fr Leo McCormick, Rosalia Kolotelo, Lina Daghero, Denise Fromager, Angelo Casso, Mavis Scaletti 2001, William Oliver, Jan Tutton, Edward Byrne, Lola Lindholm, Danny Pollock, May Lenehan, Pat Liston, Daniel Pollock 2011, Margaret Nunweek 2015, Fr. Brendan Davey, Mavis Larkens 1988, Eliza O'Connor, Emma James, Sr Denise Allen C.S.B, Jeff Slatter, Georgiana Davies, Mary Pentney 1974, Beverley Austin, Frances Toner, Vin Fagan, John Hogan, Ralph Brown, Cyril Pickering 1980, Agnes Rutter 1981, Norm Manning 1985, Kathleen Morgan 2004

Golden Gate Roster

August 7 Jim Jan // 14 Harry Anna // 21 Libby // 28 Jim Jan
September 4 Harry Anna // 11 Libby // 18 Jim Jan // 25 Harry Anna

Lake Bolac Roster

Sat Aug 6 Reader Mick Brennan // Prayers of Faithful Rosemary Liston // Cleaning R Liston
Sat Aug 20 Reader Deb Glasson // Prayers of Faithful Tricia Higgins

Masses in Stawell for the next few weeks:

Sunday Masses will be at school.

Tuesday Masses will be in the parish hall.

The Stawell Anglican Parish have very generously made us welcome at Holy Trinity for funerals should the need arise.

Reconciliation in Stawell

Congratulations to the children in Stawell who celebrated their first reconciliation this week.

CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal: updated notice from last week

The CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal can be held this weekend or next weekend. CatholicCare Victoria works with individuals, families and communities to build strength, resilience and empowerment to reach their full potential. Your compassionate generosity will help the most vulnerable members of our community – those facing job loss and homelessness, those experiencing mental health issues, families struggling with relationship problems, people in hospitals and prisons, newly arrived refugees, and those experiencing anxiety, grief and trauma. Please donate to the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Your support and generosity will help the most vulnerable and marginalised in our community. You can donate using the appeal envelope available or online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9287 5513. All gifts of \$2 and above are tax deductible

Masks are Recommended in the State of Victoria

This from the vic.gov.au website this week:

Where face masks are recommended: [if you are in an indoor setting](#)

Catholic Women's League Victoria Wagga Wagga Annual Conference: August 20–21

Members of CWLVicWW, along with family and friends, are invited to attend the 2022 Annual Conference on Saturday, August 20 and Sunday, August 21 at Australian Catholic University in Fitzroy. Hear from Keynote Speaker Monica Doumit and others, while enjoying an opportunity to reconnect and refresh. Registration forms must be received by August 12 and are available via email cwlvicww@gmail.com. Info: <https://www.cwlvicww.org.au/current-event/conference/>

Online breakfast gathering to discuss plenary, women and leadership

ACRATH is hosting an online breakfast on Tuesday, August 16 at 8.00am (AEST) to celebrate women leaders going forward from the recent Plenary Council. The breakfast will feature speakers Clare Condon SGS and Elizabeth Young rsm sharing their thoughts about the Plenary Council, with breakout room discussions to follow. More information available at <https://acrath.org.au/join-acrath-for-breakfast/>

Africa Food Crisis

Drought and conflict in the Horn of Africa have left over 18 million people facing severe hunger. Four consecutive failed rainy seasons have devastated the crops of millions across the region. We must act now and “Make Hunger History.” Your generous donation means our partners in countries like Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Eritrea can respond quickly to support vulnerable communities during this crisis. Visit www.caritas.org.au/food-crisis or call 1800 024 413 toll free to donate now.

New Testament Commentary by Mary Coloe PBVM

Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19; Luke 12:32-48

Get yourselves treasure that will never wear out.

The Letter to the Hebrews moves towards its conclusion in chapter 11 by providing an overview of Israel's history, emphasising the faith of the ancestors: Abel, Abraham, Sarah, Moses, Samson, David and others. This long chapter leads into the affirmation we will hear next week – ‘with such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us...’ The writer puts before the community the past experience of Israel, and how Israel's faith brought about the many blessings God had promised: land, children, freedom and kingship. Faith in God's promises requires hoping in a future that is not yet seen. Looking to the past, to what has happened, can provide assurance that such hope is not unfounded.

While the writer is reflecting on history on a grand scale of centuries, I think each of us can take this same approach when reflecting on our personal history. By recalling the patterns of God's actions in our lives, we can find assurance during those times when God's ways are more mysterious, for not only does today's reading affirm Israel's faith, it also assures us that God is faithful, God keeps faith with us. Each of us has a personal story which includes ‘a great cloud of witnesses’ most likely within our own family. I recall seeing my own mother kneel beside her bed every morning to spend some minutes in prayer before beginning the day; and my father active in the parish within the St Vincent de Paul Society. Their witness, so ordinary in its simplicity, spoke to me of faith and possibly had more impact on my life than the classes of religious education. Today you might spend time recalling your own ‘faith’ ancestral history – the people, teachers, family members, friends whose faith has surrounded you and provided your personal ‘cloud of witnesses’.

In the time of the first Christian communities, there was an expectation that Jesus would return to them very soon, even in their own lifetime. They certainly did not think that two thousand years would pass with Christians still waiting for Jesus' return. Gradually, as time passed this imminent expectation of Jesus' return declines. By the time Luke is writing, the edge of this expectation has worn off. For Luke's community it is fifty years since the Easter event and people are getting on with their day-to-day living. In this passage, Luke is keeping alive the prospect of Jesus' imminent return. He could come any day now – will you be ready?

If you knew next Saturday was the last day, how would you live this week? What would be different? This is the attitude Luke is trying to arouse in his community; live each day as if it was your last! The parables speak of employees having everything right when the ‘boss’ returns, or an owner staying up and being prepared because he has been warned about a burglary.

Luke provides a saying with great wisdom, ‘Where your treasure is, there will your heart also be.’ Sometimes people discover too late that they have spent their time and energy in the wrong place. Here, particularly for parents, getting the balance is crucial. Work is necessary in order to provide the necessities for the family, but it may be worth considering what is really necessary. If time and energy is not also given within the family, to building good relationships, then the house may be filled with many things, but not really be a home. Where your treasure is – there is your heart. What do you treasure most? Where do you put your best time?

Christians are called to live leaning into God's future and having priorities that reflect this. This is not to be a burden arousing fear or anxiety, as Jesus promises, ‘There is no need to be afraid, it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom.’ Jesus speaks in the past tense. We Christians have been given the *basiliea*; it is not something we need to earn by our good works or good living, it is a gift already given. Now let us live this truth in joy and thanksgiving.

Renovations

Masses in Stawell for the next few weeks:

Sunday Masses will be at school.

Tuesday Masses will be in the parish hall.

The Stawell Anglican Parish have very generously made us welcome at Holy Trinity for funerals should the need arise.

What's Happening at St Patrick's Church?

This week the painters are in. They seem to be mostly patching cracks at the moment. People have asked. Yes, while they are up there they will clean the marble above the tabernacle. (The patron saint of marble workers is St Clement.) Last weekend, after Mass, we moved some furniture to give parishioners an idea of what the church will look like with the sanctuary platform gone and a centre aisle. This week we also had a look in the porch that will become Our Lady's Chapel. I discovered (do you remember?) that it has floor tiles to match the sanctuary.



Working with Children and Police Checks

All parishes in the diocese now have new rules regarding:

1. Online child-safety training
2. Working with Children Checks
3. Police checks

Online Training

All parishioners on these lists will now be required to do some online training regarding child safety. Parishioners are asked to provide the parish with your email address and then the diocese will send you a link to access the online training.

Please email ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au with your name and email address

Who needs only a Working with Children Check?

- Ministers of the Eucharist // Cleaners and Gardeners // Caterers including CWL // Sacrament Program Leaders

Who needs both Children's and Police Checks?

- Visitors to people's private homes, aged care and hospital on parish behalf - eg with communion
- Parish Office Staff // Parish Finance Committee // Parish Pastoral Council // All Op Shop Volunteers

How much will it cost?

- ❖ Children checks are free for volunteers
 - ❖ Police Checks have a cost that can be reimbursed by the parish
 - ❖ Police checks are cheaper by using church's CVF code (Community Volunteer Fee) which is CVF4574
 - ❖ Registered teachers only need to show your VIT – it covers your children's check
- You will still need to do the online training