

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.

*To fit the Gospel on the page this week  
we have printed here only the psalm and the Gospel*

**First Reading** [Ex 32:7-11. 13-14](#)

**Responsorial Psalm** [Ps 50:3-4. 12-13. 17. 19. R. Lk 15:18](#)

(R.) I will rise and go to my father.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.

In your compassion blot out my offence.

O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)

2. A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)

3. O Lord, open my lips  
and my mouth shall declare your praise.  
My sacrifice is a contrite spirit;  
a humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn. (R.)

**Second Reading** [1 Tm 1:12-17](#)

**Gospel Acclamation** [2 Cor 5:19](#)

Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

**Gospel** [Lk 15:1-32](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke  
The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them: 'What man among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he found it? And when he found it, would he not joyfully take it on his shoulders and then, when he got home, call together his friends and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," he would say "I have found my sheep that was lost." In the same way, I tell you, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine virtuous men who have no need of repentance. 'Or again, what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one, light a lamp and sweep out the house and search thoroughly till she found it? And then, when she had found it, call together her friends and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," she would say "I have found the drachma I lost." In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing among the

angels of God over one repentant sinner.' He also said, 'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery. 'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father. 'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate. 'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant, "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening." 'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.'"

# Parish Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

Parish Priest	Fr. Andrew Hayes <a href="mailto:andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au">andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au</a>
Parish Bulletin Online	<a href="http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au">www.ballarat.catholic.org.au</a> – follow link to parish
Secretary / Child Safe	Jill Croxford <a href="mailto:gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au">gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au</a>
Parish Email	<a href="mailto:gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au">gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au</a>
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 <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 6pm Vigil Sat
Glenthompson	(Hamilton Parish) 2 <sup>nd</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays 8.30am

## Readings for next Sunday

September 18  
Twenty Fifth Sunday Ordinary Time Year C  
[Am 8:4-7](#) // [1 Tm 2:1-8](#) // [Lk 16:1-13](#)

## 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

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 ARV

**Changes to Masses this Week:** Tuesday 13 – there will be no Mass in Stawell

**Masses in Stawell:** From next Sunday, September 18, Masses will be in St Patrick's Church

## Recent Deaths:

### Anniversaries

Fr Edward Jerram, Kathleen Edwards, Tups Brady, John Griffin, Martha McGuan 1956, Mary Brown 1967, 2. Eileen Rees, John Seild, Fr Frank McLaughlin, Ross McCann, John Hennessy, Patricia Egan, Mary Auld 1973, Mark Sladdin 1982, Gertrude Brennan, Ronald Ryan, Vin Fitzpatrick, Fortunata Di Domenico, Margaret Kerin 1961, Stacey Falloon 1984, Kathleen Monaghan 1989, Molly O'Connor, Keith Young, Teresa Conroy, Geoffrey O'Brien, Stephen Gavin 1971, Donald McLean 1983, Leith Galway Thomas 2003, Ruth Molloy, John Molloy, Martin Creenaune, Maureen Rathgeber, Maureen Rathgeber 2006, Patricia Vendy 2008, Eileen Arnold, Hugh Waring, Judith Vos, Naomi Phillips, James Fleetwood Smith 1961, Anthony Delahunty 1967, Thomas Brown 1967, Mary Fallon 1988, Carmel D'Arcy 2001, Jan Smith, George Tutton, Julia Sweeney 1962, Arthur Connell 1964

**Golden Gate Roster** September 11 Libby // 18 Jim Jan // 25 Harry Anna

**Lake Bolac Roster** Sat Sept 17 Reader Leanne Breen // Prayers of Faithful Jane Higgins  
Sun Sept 25 Reader Rosemary Liston // Prayers of Faithful Phillip Meek // Cleaning Team Effort  
Sat Oct 1 Reader Helen Smith // Prayers of Faithful Michael Phillips // Cleaning Jane Higgins

## Cuppa after Mass in Stawell Today

Today after Sunday Mass in the St Pat's school hall there will be a cuppa hosted by the Stawell CWL. Everyone welcome.

**Ararat CWL Meeting** on Tuesday 13th September 2022 at 1.30pm, in the Parish Centre. All welcome.

## St Bernard's Church, Lake Bolac celebrations

The Lake Bolac community is celebrating the combined 150th and 60<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of the old and new churches. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Paul Bird on Sunday, September 25, 2022 at 11.00am, followed by lunch at 12.30 at the Lake Bolac Memorial Hall. RSVP to Leanne Breen, ph. 0400 301 100 or Jane Higgins, email [mjhiggins58@bigpond.com](mailto:mjhiggins58@bigpond.com)

## Safeguarding Sunday - TODAY

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place where people feel safe and supported. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at [www.catholic.org.au/safeguardingsunday](http://www.catholic.org.au/safeguardingsunday)

### **Prayer for Safeguarding Sunday**

Gracious God, you love and care for all of your children, especially the smallest and most vulnerable.

We entrust to you the lives of children and adults at risk who have been sexually abused, and whose trust and innocence have been destroyed.

Help us to hear their cries of pain and to take responsibility for those whose lives have been broken.

Help us to recognise the hurt felt by those wounded by abuse, and the failure to be heard.

We pray that with the help of your grace communities and families will find understanding and support, so that now and in the future their wounds may be healed and they may find lasting peace.

Let your grace and love fall gently now upon our children and adults at risk,

giving them the inner strength, peace and resilience to seek out assistance when required.

We ask this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen

### **Food Drive - Ararat St Vincent de Paul**

Ararat St Vincent de Paul Conference will be having a food drive over the next few weeks for Emergency Relief. We would appreciate any donations of non-perishable foods [eg tea, coffee, long life milk, soup, spaghetti, baked beans, pasta, cereal or anything else that you would like to give, would be helpful to us. There will be a box at the back of the Church for any donations. Many thanks for your support

### **Op Shop Volunteers Needed**

St. Patrick's Op Shop is looking for volunteers. The operating hours are

Monday to Friday from 10am to 1pm and another shift from 1-4pm // Saturday morning 10am to 1pm.

If you have 3 hours a fortnight to help out at the shop please contact June on 0427 670 658.

### **Sing Assembly Sing – save the date**

All are welcome to attend a day to explore the role of the Assembly in enriching the Mass. The Assembly will be held on Saturday, October 8, 2022 at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Ballarat from 10.00am – 4.00pm. Speakers include Paul Taylor, Fr Kevin Lenehan, Sophy Morley. Further information and booking details to come.

### **Ballarat Clergy Support Fund**

The Ballarat Clergy Support Fund relies on your generosity to enable it to continue supporting our sick and retired priests. You are still able to contribute, by using the special envelope provided, or in an envelope marked "Ballarat Clergy Support Fund." A credit card facility is available for your convenience, and contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible.

CARING FOR THOSE WHO CARED FOR US – THE CHURCH COMMUNITY'S RESPONSIBILITY



### **Ballarat Diocesan Launch of the Social Justice Statement 2022-2023**

Save the date for this free event. Saturday, October 1, 2022 from 10.00am – 12.00noon.

This is a unique opportunity to learn about this year's statement entitled

"Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse." Join a parish hub or attend online via zoom. More details in coming weeks.

### **Catholic Social Justice Statement**

This year's Social Justice Statement, Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse, invites us to engage with a complex and confronting social reality. It explores the roots of violence and abuse, honours the voices of victims, offers a social and theological exploration of the reality of violence, especially against women and children, and invites us to develop relationships in all parts of our lives 'marked by equality and reciprocity rather than domination and violence, respect and freedom rather than coercion and control.' We welcome this urgent call from our Church to deepen our faith through full and frank discussion and dialogue, advocacy and action. <https://bit.ly/SJS22-23>

### **Pakistan Flood Crisis appeal**

The devastating floods in Pakistan have left a trail of destruction across the country, claiming the lives of more than 1100 people. The United Nations estimates that around 33 million Pakistanis have been affected by the flooding. More than one third of the country has been completely submerged by the heaviest recorded monsoon rains in a decade. There are fears that the death toll will continue to rise. Caritas Australia's partners are responding to support flood-affected communities who need immediate assistance. Your generous support can help provide emergency support to help families recover and rebuild from disaster. Donate now by visiting <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/pakistan-floods>

## We will be back in St Patrick's Church for Mass next Sunday, September 18

The renovation is far from finished, but the church is clean and safe to use. The painting is complete other than for some minor touch-ups after the electricians do their work. The new wiring and screen are coming soon. For now we'll make do. It's not finished, but welcome home.

### Renovation: What's Happening at St Patrick's?

Our Lady's Chapel - is nearly ready for Mary. The door has been covered with a wooden panel, ready to be adorned with beautiful fabric, and then Mary's statue and candles can be put in place.

Baptism Font – Rev'd Heather Scott, the Anglican priest in Stawell, has made a very generous suggestion. The Anglican Parish have had in storage for some years the magnificent Italian marble baptism font from their church in Glenorchy. It seems very sensible that the font come into our church to match our existing marble, and that it once again be used to baptise children. The Anglican parish have discussions scheduled for the coming days before they can formalise the offer. Heather is also suggesting that we make available to them one of our three fonts (four if the Glenorchy font comes to us) to be used for sand and candles for prayer at their Mary shrine.

### Salesian Volunteer Opportunity

Australia-Pacific Region - The Cagliari Project, Salesians of Don Bosco  
We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for January 2023 to work with young people in our Salesian communities with disadvantaged young people in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Australia. Applications close October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Send us an inquiry - [www.cagliari.org.au](http://www.cagliari.org.au) or [lhichaaba@salesians.org.au](mailto:lhichaaba@salesians.org.au)

### Season of Creation: September 1 – October 4

Welcome to the Season of Creation. "Listen to the voice of creation" is the theme and invitation of this year's Season of Creation. The ecumenical phase begins on September 1 with the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and concludes on October 4 with the feast of Saint Francis. It is a special time for all Christians to pray and work together to care for our common home. If we learn how to listen, we can hear in the voice of creation a sweet song in praise of our Creator God; along with an anguished plea, lamenting our mistreatment of this, our common home. Our Earth weeps and implores us to put an end to our abuses and to her destruction. Our children plead with us to do everything possible to prevent, or at least limit, the collapse of our planet's ecosystems and to preserve the ancestral lands of our first nations peoples. During this 2022 Season of Creation, let us pray that the human family can work effectively in confronting the double crises of climate change and the reduction of biodiversity. May we respond in prayer and action so that we and future generations can continue to rejoice in God's creation. Resources for the celebration of the Season of Creation 2022 are available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/catholic-earthcare-ballarat-diocese/season-of-creation-2022/>

### Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The God who spoke to Moses is pained by the depravity of the people yet moved to show them mercy. Who could ever have imagined such a God? The God depicted in the gospel actually searches for what is lost. He seems to abandon the safe ones for the sake of the one who has strayed. She goes to great lengths to find one coin. As a spurned yet loving father, God patiently waits until we come to our senses. Who could ever have conceived of such a God? Our God seems consumed with an insatiable desire to reestablish a relationship with us after we have turned our backs on God, have chosen to commit our loyalties elsewhere, have thoughtlessly wandered off into danger that threatens our well being, not God's. What is it about us that makes us so desirable? The answer has less to do with us than with the magnanimous character of God. It is almost as if unconditional love is not simply a characteristic of God, but God's very essence and no human frailty or depravity can change this. Paul insists that it is through Christ that all of this is accomplished. It is through the sacrifice of Christ that the depraved are forgiven, that sinners are saved, that the lost are found. It is through Christ that we are sought by God, and Christ is the very gift of mercy, the forgiveness of our sins, the celebration of our return.

