

ROSTERS:

LANDSBOROUGH (8.30AM):

This Week (December 25)
Readers: C Browne/M Browne
Procession of Gifts: R & C Brown
Ext Minister: C Browne

Next Week (January 1)
Readers: J Murphy/J Browne
Procession of Gifts: J & C Browne
Ext Minister: B Amarant

Church Care: M Browne
Church Grounds— January—J Browne

STAWELL:

This Week (December 24) 7.00PM
Welcomer: S Blake
Readers: J Raeburn/A Ellis
Ext. Ministers: M Howard/S Howard
Procession of Gifts: Children

10.30AM (December 25)
Readers: E Driscoll/J Van Diesen
Ext Ministers: M Rowe/V Enriquez/K Ashton
Procession of Gifts: M & L Habben

Next Week (December 31) 7.00PM
Welcomer: M Cray
Readers: N Rathgeber/T Brady
Ext. Ministers: D Jones/M Maestros
Procession of Gifts: P Price

(January 1) 10.30am
Readers: E Driscoll/H Potter
Ext. Ministers: G Comitti/M R Thomas/F Harney
Procession of Gifts: G & G Pickering

Counters: Today: M & L Habben
Next Week: E Driscoll/G E Pickering

Altar Society: December 24—Gabrielle & Pat

MARY'S STATUE: Dec 25-31 P & K Fenwick;
Jan 1-7 M Kinane; 8-14 D & J O'Donnell;
15-21 M Rowe; 22-28 E T Driscoll; 29—Feb 4 D Duffy

Any queries relating to rosters and volunteers please contact June Raeburn on 53583506.

READERS PLEASE RETURN THE BOOKS TO THE SACRISTY AFTER MASS.

Extraordinary Ministers, please clean Sacred Vessels after Mass and prepare for the next Mass—fill wine and water cruets, etc.

WEEKEND MASSES YEAR B:

Stawell: Saturday at 7.00pm (Summer time—Daylight Saving), 6.00pm (wintertime—end of Daylight Saving)) Sunday at 10.30am.

Landsborough: Sunday Mass at 8.30am.

WEEKDAY MASSES (YEAR 1):

Tues; Wed; Thurs; Fri 10.00am. 2nd & 4th Wednesday of Month-Eventide-10.30am.
(Check front of Bulletin for any changes to this routine)

RECONCILIATION:

Stawell: 1st & 3rd Saturday 10.00 am, before or after each weekday Mass (by request) or by appointment at any time. At Landsborough: Before 8.20 am Sundays

MEETINGS & GATHERINGS:

Prayer Group: every Monday, 1.30pm.
Cuppa tea Stawell—2nd Sunday after Mass; Landsborough—3rd Sunday after Mass.
St Vincent de Paul: 2nd & 4th Tuesdays 2.00pm in Parish Hall.
CWL: 3rd Wednesday commencing with 10.00am Mass.
Scripture reflection group Thursday 2.00pm in the presbytery.

The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.

Our diocesan website: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au
Our parish website can be accessed through the diocesan site.
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ST PATRICK'S PARISH, STAWELL

Parish Priest: Fr. Eric Bryant.
Address: 27 Patrick St.,
PO Box 87, Stawell, 3380.

Phone: 03 5358 1119
Fax 03 5358 3000
E-mail: stawell@ballarat.catholic.org.au or eric.bryant@ballarat.catholic.org.au

ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL

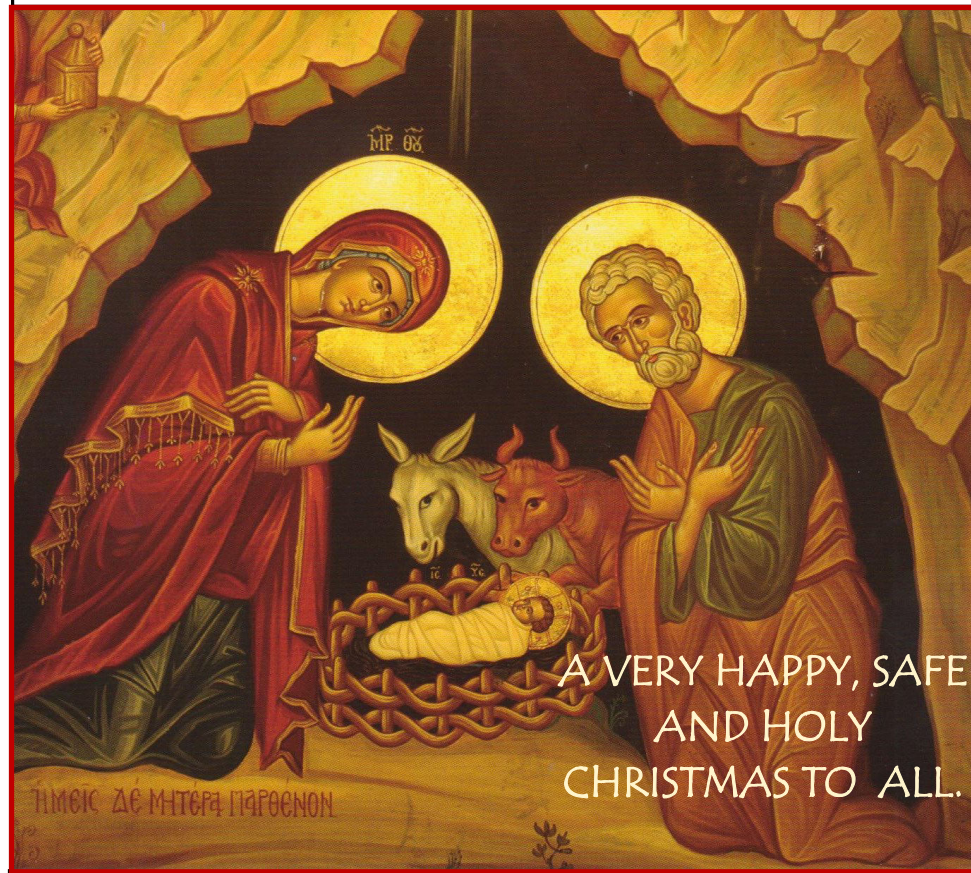
Principal: Mrs. Kate Harney
PO Box 856
Phone 03 5358 2493



St Patrick's Parish Community
Stawell-Glenorchy-Great Western-Halls Gap-Landsborough

Christmas Eve./Day - Year A

December 25, 2016



SICK LIST

Noah Amarant; Kathryn Young; Glenis Leddin; Val Seary; Lourdes dela Cerna; Kath Hayes (Ballarat); John Delaney; Lynn Wright; Laurie Healey; John Jess; Simon Monas; Wendy Shea; Angela Moore; Jeff O'Donnell; Peter Duffy (Canada); Margaret McIntyre; Nance Rutter; Theresa Ellis (Edinburgh); Kate Sargent, Yvonne & Alf Evans; Margaret Boag; Nigel James (Canberra), Ian Kindred, June McKee (Mother of Anglican Deacon Heather Scott); Terry Bartlett (WA); Sharron Pickering; Andrew Van Diesen; Benjamin Wolfson

NB: A FAMILY MEMBER OF THE SICK PERSON MUST CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE TO HAVE NAMES ADDED OR REMOVED.

SUNDAY MISSAL Eve: pg 119
Day: pg 132

ANNIVERSARIES:

Tom Fenwick, William Thomas Fee

BISHOP'S APPEAL FOR THE NEEDY: This collection will be taken up as a leaving collection at each of the Christmas Masses this weekend.

NO WEEKDAY MASSES UNTIL FRIDAY THIS WEEK.

FINANCES LAST WEEKEND:

Presbytery Collection: \$ 511.00

Parish Collection: \$ 571.00

Loose Collection: \$ 80.60

(1st Collection is for the clergy stipend, presbytery costs and support of the bishop and sick and retired priests. The 2nd collection is for the upkeep of the parish.)



THIS WEEK:

MASSES THIS WEEK: Mass Fri 10.00am

THURSDAY— Scripture Reflection—No reflection during January.

CONFESSIONS —Before or after 10.00am weekday Masses by request (i.e. – just ask Fr Eric.) ; 10.00am 1st & 3rd Saturdays. Landsborough—before Sunday Mass. Any other time by appointment.

HUMOUR:

No Room In The Inn?

A boy wanted to be Joseph in the Sunday School pageant. He was cast as the landlord and objected loudly, but to no avail. When the pageant was presented, Mary and Joseph knocked on the door and asked him if he had a room for them. The boy smiled and said, "Yes, sure. Lots of room. Come on in!"

NEWS:

THE MEANING OF '12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS' (celebrated after Christmas, not before)

There is one particular Christmas Carol that has always baffled Will and Guy. What in the world do leaping lords, French hens, swimming swans, and especially the partridge who won't come out of the pear tree have to do with Christmas?

We would like to thank a site reader, who emailed us, to let us know the real meaning behind this carol.

From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practice their faith openly. Someone during that era wrote this carol as a catechism song for young Catholics. It has two levels of meaning: the surface meaning plus a hidden meaning known only to members of their church. Each element in the carol has a code word for a religious reality which the children could remember. 12 Days of Christmas Carol

The partridge in a pear tree was Jesus Christ.

Two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments.

Three French hens stood for faith, hope and love.

The four calling birds were the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

The five golden rings recalled the Torah or Law, the first five books of the Old Testament.

The six geese a-laying stood for the six days of creation.

Seven swans a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit: Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership, and Mercy.

The eight maids a-milking were the eight beatitudes.

Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control.

The ten lords a-leaping were the ten commandments.

The eleven pipers piping stood for the eleven faithful disciples.

The twelve drummers drumming symbolized the twelve points of belief in the Apostles' Creed.

So there is your history for today.



SCRIPTURE REFLECTION



Today the Christmas celebration gains a new depth of theological meaning. At midnight, the birth in history was proclaimed. At dawn, the initiative of God's gift was declared and the community's joyful gratitude was announced. In this third celebration, the identity of Christ and the new way of life that he brings is announced.

If our eyes are open and alert, we can see that God has won a victory for us, one that is tangible and realised in our midst. It is an overwhelming victory, one that permanently conquers the enemy. This victory has a profound impact on every place, every time and every people. The birth of the infant, the king in David's line, promises salvation to all who long for it. This salvation is a new vision of wisdom, one that has been realised in Christ, God's agent of grace in the world. It is a new world, one of inclusivity and of righteous honour. It is a new age, one that is ushered in by the child who is leading a victory procession.

Ultimately, only eyes of faith allow us to see the fullness of God's revelation. The glory of the infant king is the very presence of God made flesh. Jesus is the eternal incarnate Word who has pitched his tent among us. Ours is not a distant God; the incarnate wisdom of God is among us, and we are called to a change of heart that will allow us to see this wonder.

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