



St Patrick's,  
Stawell

# St Patrick's Parish Newsletter Stawell and Landsborough

6th Sunday of Lent —Year A  
May 17th, 2020



St Francis of Assisi,  
Landsborough

As we celebrate, we acknowledge the Indigenous owners of the land on which our Churches are built, the Tjapwurong people, and we respect the presence of the spirits of their ancestors among us.

## Fr. Andrew Hayes

### Masses Online in the Diocese

Masses online are coming out of Hamilton, Warrnambool, Mildura and St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat. Links to these Masses are on the diocesan website. At the top of the lead page is a section marked "Pastoral Guidance Regarding Covid 19." Links can be accessed from there.

### We're back in the Churches – Alleluia!

In the state of Victoria places of worship are now able to operate under very limited circumstances. We will be allowed a maximum of ten people. We will be required to keep names and phone numbers of each attendee. Serious cleaning will be required. We're now accustomed to the distancing. It's important that we keep people healthy! How will we organise the ten? For the moment Masses will be by invitation only. We'll have a weekly raffle and let people know when your numbers come up. When it's your turn you will be invited.

### Churches Open

As of this weekend we hope to have the churches in Stawell and Ararat opened each day as we did before the lockdown. Parishioners will be very welcome to pop in for a visit at any time. As above, we will need to record names and phone numbers, sanitise hands and chairs, limit visitors to 10 at a time, sit at a distance and so on.

### Mass Times

We are returning to public liturgy. The following will be our new Mass times: **Max 10 people, by invitation ONLY**

Ararat 8.30am—by ballot system

Stawell 10.30am— by ballot system

Landsborough 6pm Sat Vigil 2<sup>nd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays

Lake Bolac 6.30pm Sat Vigil 1<sup>st</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays

(Glenthompson have Mass on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)

## Online Pentecost Pilgrimage

With Pentecost just around the corner parishioners might consider this free online pilgrimage: [www.pentecostpilgrimage.com](http://www.pentecostpilgrimage.com) The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney is a primary sponsor. There are lots of interesting speakers from around the world including the founder of "Mother Effect," some Australian archbishops, a Hawthorn premiership player and a reformed gangster. The Hawthorn player is not the reformed gangster. There's no way back once you've played for Hawthorn, or Collingwood, or Port Adelaide. This online pilgrimage is well worth a look!

### Scripture this Sunday

Belief in the risen Lord is growing! The Acts of the Apostles was written in about year 80 or 90. This is 50 or 60 years after Jesus. Faith in the risen Lord is now spreading to Samaria. Samaria! This is the last place that the people of the time might expect faith to grow. Remember the Good Samaritan story. The Samaritans were despised, mistrusted, and the feeling was mutual. That faith was growing in Samaria was fantastic. The responsorial psalm, though written centuries before fits the milieu. "Let all the earth cry out to God with joy." We're nearly ready for Pentecost when people from all around were in Jerusalem, all to be re-enlivened in God's Spirit. I think it's lovely that we are being allowed into the churches again just now, the first timid re-entry into our new different normal. Still got to keep people healthy.

### Funerals in the Churches

Now that the next phase has begun we will re-open the churches for funerals. We can have twenty people in the church and thirty at the cemetery, with the same arrangements as above. We'll need lists of attendees with phone numbers, and so on.

### First Reading Acts 8:5-8. 14-17

*They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.*

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 65:1-7. 16. 20. R. see v.1

#### (R.) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth,  
O sing to the glory of his name.  
O render him glorious praise.  
Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! (R.)
2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow;  
shall sing to you, sing to your name!  
Come and see the works of God,  
tremendous his deeds among men. (R.)
3. He turned the sea into dry land,  
they passed through the river dry-shod.  
Let our joy then be in him;  
he rules for ever by his might. (R.)
4. Come and hear, all who fear God.  
I will tell what he did for my soul:  
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer  
nor withhold his love from me. (R.)

### Second Reading 1 Pt 3:15-18

*In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life. Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong. Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.*

### Gospel Acclamation Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel Jn 14:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live.

On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me;  
and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

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### REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

We live in hope because we have been blessed with the opportunity of participating in the exaltation of Jesus. This hope is based on promises: the promise that we will not be left orphaned when Jesus returns to his Father; the promise that we will be comforted by the Spirit whom Jesus will send. It is trust in God that enables us to live in this world as if the promises have already been fulfilled, for in fact, it is precisely such living that fulfils them.

We have not celebrated the Ascension, and yet all three readings speak of the Spirit. The same Spirit, who quickened the resurrected life of Jesus, enlivens us. This Spirit strengthens, comforts, guides and inspires us. Life in the Spirit requires that we conform our lives to the commandments of God, not in a legalistic or constraining way but out of love. The love that comes to us through the Spirit will then overflow into the lives of others, and we will be agents of God's love in the world.

The Spirit given by Christ is mediated through the laying on of hands. This still happens in our day in the gentle touch of friends, in the loving touch of parents, in the healing touch of those who cure both the body and the spirit. The liturgical year is preparing us for the Ascension of Jesus into heaven, and Jesus is preparing us for life in the Spirit here on earth. This is the reason for our hope.

**ANNIVERSARIES ST PATRICK'S PARISH  
STAWELL 17 – 24 MAY**

Ken Allan, Patrick Daly, John Forster, William Gavan, Bernie Gavin, Myrna Griggs, Nicholas Hammond, Ciff Healy, Patrick Healy, Carmel Kinsella, Stella Kuhn

Lucy Maher, Jack Merrett, Maud Molan, Patrick Nunan

Honor O'Kane, Irene Peters, Glenda Pulley

Francis Rogers, Francis Seeary, Andrew Walsh

Mary Wheeler

**Next Week's Readings**      **May 24th 2020**

**First Reading**                      [Acts 1:1-11](#)

**Second Reading**                      [Eph 1:17-23](#)

**OFFICE INFORMATION**

**Parish Priest:**      **Fr. Andrew Hayes    Ararat & Stawell**

andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Download Church Bulletin—[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Finance Manager: Gloria Pickering**

stawell@ballarat.catholic.org.au

**Parish Office:**      **03 5358 1119**

PO BOX 87, Stawell, VIC 3380

Office Hours:      **Thurs 11am-5pm**

**ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL**

**Principal: Mrs. Michelle Hogan**

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**[catholic.edu.au](http://catholic.edu.au)**

**Prayers of the Faithful**

**6th Sunday of Easter**

**Priest:** My sisters and brothers, trusting in God's mercy, let us pray for the needs of the world and those of all humanity

**Reader:** For nations seeking peace and harmony in the world. In the spirit we pray

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For ourselves, called to live in Christ with gentleness and reverence. In the spirit we pray

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For communities and nations experiencing suffering due to the Covid-19 pandemic. . In the spirit we pray

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For students, facing uncertainty in their lives. In the spirit we pray

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For those who are suffering financial hardship because of the pandemic. In the spirit we pray

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For communities and nations experiencing suffering due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

In the spirit we pray

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For scientists, working to develop vaccines for Covid-19 and other diseases. In the spirit we pray

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For those who have died and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time and this week and for their loved ones and friends. In the spirit we pray

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Priest:** You care for us, O God, and have sent us your Advocate. Hear our prayers and enable us to reveal your love and life to all the earth. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen. © Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd**



**SICK LIST**

Noah Amarant; Kathryn Young; Glenis Leddin; Lourdes de la Cerna; Kath Hayes (Ballarat); John Delaney; Lynn Wright; Simon Monas; Angela Moore; Kate Sargent; Yvonne Evans; Margaret Boag; Nigel James (Canberra); Ian Kindred; Sharron Pickering; Andrew Van Diesen; Benjamin Wolfson; Robbie Loxton; Nicole Lee (Horsham); Brian O'Loughlin; Steven Oates; Maree Parkin; Rosemary Chisholm (Bendigo); Harry Comitti; John Dalziel; Mollie Barton; Patty Fenwick; Bailey Young, Graeme Blake, Pat Rathgeber; Kate Whelan; Sam Sharrock.

**NB: A Family member of the sick person must contact the Parish Office to have names added. They must also have the permission of the sick person if they are able to give it.**

**Finances**

Thank you for your continued support at this incredibly hard time. Please phone the office 03 5358 1119 to discuss contributions for the Planned Giving Program and the Presbytery. During office hours—Thurs 11am-5pm, there will be a box to place your envelopes in. Otherwise you can make a direct debit into the following account:

St Patricks Parish    BSB 013 815    Account No 2863 26347

Please reference your Family name

*Deus te Benedicat—God Bless You*

**Pope Francis—Twitter**

“May God have mercy on us and put an end to this tragedy, this pandemic, as well as the pandemics of hunger, war, and children without an education. This we ask as brothers and sisters, everyone together.”

**Humour**

Sally was selling batteries down at the park. Yes, she sells C cells by the seesaw

**People who wonder whether the glass is half empty or half full miss the point. The glass is refillable.**

**WHO CAN I CALL FOR HELP?**

<p><b>LIFELINE</b></p> <p><b>13 11 14</b></p> <p>24 HOURS/7 DAYS CRISIS SUPPORT SUICIDE PREVENTION</p>	<p><b>BEYOND BLUE</b></p> <p><b>1300 22 4636</b></p> <p>24 HOURS/7 DAYS ONLINE FORUMS &amp; CHAT FUNCTION</p>
<p><b>HEADSPACE</b></p> <p><b>1800 650 890</b></p> <p>AGES 12-25 PHONE &amp; ONLINE SUPPORT (eheadspace)</p>	<p><b>KIDS HELPLINE</b></p> <p><b>1800 551 800</b></p> <p>AGES 5-25 24 HOURS/7 DAYS COUNSELLING</p>
<p><b>HEADSPACE BALLARAT</b></p> <p><b>5304 4777</b></p> <p>AGES 12-25 REFERRALS DROP IN SERVICE: MON-FRI 9AM-4PM VIA TELEHEALTH</p>	<p><b>NATIONAL CORONAVIRUS HELPLINE</b></p> <p><b>1800 020 080</b></p> <p>24 HOURS/7 DAYS INFO ON COVID-19</p>

*“Be yourself; everyone else is already taken”—Oscar Wilde*