

No Child Left Behind – Refugee Council of Australia

There are currently around 16,000 children in families seeking protection in Australia. Many people seeking asylum have lost their jobs as a result of COVID-19, as they often work in the service sectors worst affected. People seeking asylum are not eligible for the JobSeeker or JobKeeper payments, like many other workers. Some don't even have access to Medicare. The Refugee Council of Australia is bringing together a coalition of educators, carers and students are working to put pressure on the Federal government to ensure adequate support is provided for people in this situation. COVID-19 does not discriminate, and neither should access to a safety net or assistance during this time. We are in this together and there must be support for all who need it, regardless of visa status.

We are collecting signatories from educators, parents and students, and the relevant bodies representing them, for a joint statement directed to the Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Minister for Families and Social Services Anne Ruston. Principals, Teachers, Parents, Students and education groups can sign on here: <https://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/no-child-left-behind/>

OFFICE HOURS

- The office will be closed for the second week of the school holidays:
- **CLOSED** July 8th—10th inclusive

ANNIVERSARIES: July 6th to 12th

Mary McCormick, Gerry Oliver, Margaret Pippard, Elizabeth Shevlin, David McAdie, Vincent Sertori, Mons Bill McMahon, Horace Howlett, Isabella Tonkin, Barbara McCubbin, Fr Len Monk, Fr Coley McKenzie, Jack Ryan, Maurizio Cannata, Michael McRae, Vera McAloon, Maureen McMaster, Jean Thomas, Michael Rowe, **July 13th to 19th** Joseph Noonan, David O'Connor, Margaret Morris, Vince Gemmola, Robert Oliver, Laurie Walsh, Brian Molony, Norma Schwab, Rem Pezzutti, Heinz Helmich, Frances Miller, Fr Bill O'Connell, Helen Grano, Helen Stevens, George Driscoll, Russell McLean, William Smith, Fr Peter Elder, Lorna Weeding, Sr. Marie Feiss CSB, Sr Aileen Vear CSB, Fr Jim Green, Margaret Skidmore, George Smythe, Vera Hayes.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Sally Rook, Geraldine Mckendrick

PRAYERS OF FAITHFUL

Priest: God's providence is for all. Let us turn to God, leaving no soil untilled, and bring the needs of the world before him.

Reader: That nations will resist creating wealth by rendering the earth barren. Hear us, we pray

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who work to sow the seeds of justice will be met with acceptance, not resistance. Hear us, we pray

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those suffering financial hardship will be supported and encouraged by their governments and communities. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That our community will always be receptive to the Gospel and share generously what we have received from God. Hear us, we pray

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That parish communities will resume public gatherings safely and sensitively. Hear us, we pray

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That scientists will be guided in their work to develop vaccines for Covid-19 and other diseases. Hear us, we pray

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That this community be known by its outreach and concern for others. Hear us, we pray

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who have died and those whose anniversaries occur at this time, that they will reach their eternal reward. Hear us, we pray

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: O God, sower of the seed, your word transforms all who have ears to hear. Hear these prayers and may your word in us yield a fruitful harvest. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen. © Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd

Parish Social Profile—2016 Census

Ararat—total population 10,206

Catholic Population—2,047 (20.1% of pop). Median age is 45. Total number of Catholic Families is 780 (849 in the 2011 census). 255 Catholics live alone. 174 were born overseas. 13 Catholics do not speak English well. 121 Catholics need assistance.



Sunday 05 Jul 2020

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time A

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's Annual Leave

I will be taking a break for the next two weeks. There will be no Masses next weekend, July 4/5. During these weeks the phone will still be answered. Liaise with Gloria and Joyce in the parish offices in the usual way. Should a funeral be required my hope is that we have prayers and burial in the usual lay-led manner and families will be welcome to have a requiem Mass when I return. Joyce and Gloria will be able to assist you in the first instance. In Stawell the prayer leaders will be Kevin Dallinger and Mary Rita Thomas. In Ararat we have Sioux Reid and Harry Collins.

Back to Twenty People

Our fifty people rule has been stepped back for at least a week. For now our limit is twenty people in the churches. It is hoped that fifty will be allowed in by the weekend of June 18/19. We'll wait and see. In Stawell Gloria will continue to arrange the twenty. In Ararat parishioners are invited to put your names on the notice board in the church foyer.



St Patrick's Op Shop – Volunteers Needed

The Op shop will be reopening in July and we are seeking some more volunteers. If you are able to help us out 4 hours per fortnight or more please contact Helen Potter on 0427590318. We would love to be able to open up on Saturdays but due to the lack of volunteers it has not been possible.

Pope Francis—Twitter

Evil never gives peace. It causes frenzy first then leaves bitterness. Instead, God's voice never promises cheap, easily acquired joy. He invites us to go beyond our ego to find that true good: peace.

Planned Giving Envelopes now in the foyer for collection—many thanks

Covid 19 Arrangements

For all public liturgy we will require names and numbers and sanitising of hands, seats and door knobs.

Weekday Mass in Stawell – Everyone welcome

Usually Tues-Fri 10am but do consult the website and bulletin.

Funerals – We are able to have fifty people. We will not yet be catering for cuppas after funerals.

Prayer on Friday 3rd July in Ararat

Parish Centre, 11am followed by tea & bikkies

CWL Meeting

CWL will meet in the Parish Centre on Tuesday July 14th at 1:30pm.

Mass Times

Ararat 8.30am—sheet on notice board in foyer
Stawell 10.30am— by ballot system
Landsborough 6pm Sat Vigil 2nd 4th Sundays
Lake Bolac 6.30pm Sat Vigil 1st 3rd 5th Sundays
(Glenthompson have Mass on the 2nd and 4th Sundays)

Parish Priest: Fr. Andrew Hayes

andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Download Church Bulletin—www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Secretary: Joyce Clery

ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Office: 03 53525460

PO BOX 92, Ararat, VIC 3377

Office Hours: Wed/Thurs/Fri 10am-3pm

(Closed Public Holidays)

Readings July 19th 2020

First Reading [Wis 12:13,16-19](#)

Second Reading [Rom 8:26-27](#)

First Reading Zec 9:9-10

See how humbly your king comes to you!

The Lord says this: 'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion! Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!

See now, your king comes to you; he is victorious, he is triumphant, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

He will banish chariots from Ephraim and horses from Jerusalem; the bow of war will be banished.

He will proclaim peace for the nations. His empire shall stretch from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 144:1-2. 8-11. 13-14. R. v.1

(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

1. I will give you glory, O God my King,
I will bless your name for ever.
I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever. **(R.)**
2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**
3. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God. **(R.)**
4. The Lord is faithful in all his words
and loving in all his deeds.
The Lord supports all who fall
and raises all who are bowed down. **(R.)**

Second Reading Rom 8:9.11-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body, you will live. Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

Gospel Acclamation See Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 11:25-30

I am gentle and humble of heart.

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

Gospel Reflection

When we hear the term, *yoke*, we tend to think about the yoke that is used to harness oxen together or the yoke that someone might carry on their shoulder to balance a heavy load. This yoke across the shoulder was adopted into tailoring and so the shoulder piece set into a shirt is also called a yoke. However, in the Jewish tradition there is a completely different meaning to the term. The yoke of a rabbi was his particular interpretation of Torah (the Law); his particular teaching. Disciples who followed a particular rabbi sought to take on his yoke; his particular interpretation. The yoke of any rabbi was best identified by asking him, 'Which is the greatest commandment?' A rabbi's answer to this question revealed his interpretation of Torah. When Jesus is asked that question, he answers, 'Love God and love your neighbour,' and goes on to say that all of the rest of the Law and the prophets flows on from these two commandments. This is the yoke – the interpretation of Torah – that Jesus taught.

In today's gospel, Jesus calls to him all those who labour and are overburdened. It is the Pharisaic interpretation of the Law that burdens these people. Trying to maintain the Law was burdensome and complicated for the everyday person. Jesus says, 'Shoulder *my* yoke and learn from me ... my yoke is easy.' The yoke of Jesus *was* easy: Love God and love your neighbour. Compared to the 613 *mitzvot* (commands) set out in the Torah and strictly maintained by the Pharisees, the yoke of Jesus was incredibly easy to understand and adopt. So simple, in fact, that it required a child-like simplicity to accept this yoke.

@gregsunter

Fourteenth Sunday of the Year - C

A VOCATION VIEW: Jesus says: "The harvest is rich, but the labourers are few; therefore, ask the harvest-master to send workers to the harvest. Pray for Vocations.



Sunday 12 Jul 2020

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time A

First Reading Is 55:10-11

The rain makes the earth fruitful.

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 64:10-14. R. Lk 8:8

(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

1. You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches. Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. **(R.)**
2. And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. **(R.)**
3. You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. **(R.)**
4. The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat. They shout for joy, yes, they sing. **(R.)**

Second Reading Rom 8:18-23

All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 13:1-23

A sower went out to sow.

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Gospel Reflection

The teaching of Jesus is grounded firmly in the Jewish world of the 1st Century. For most of his listeners, that world was an agricultural one and so the stories Jesus told were about the everyday realities of peoples' lives. He told stories about vineyards, wheat fields, building houses, planting seeds and reaping harvests. The imagery he used was drawn from the lived experience of those he taught. Jesus used a style of storytelling that was popular at the time: parable. A parable is a story with a moral or a lesson. A parable usually involves an extended metaphor and, at its heart, is teaching the listener about how to live or how to behave.

Another feature of parables is that they can be understood at different levels. At one level, there is the literal meaning of a parable – what it says is what it is about. In today's gospel, the parable of the sower can be read or heard as a literal story about sowing seed and the lesson one might take from it is to be careful where you throw the seed when sowing. At another level, parables have a metaphoric meaning. In this instance, Jesus actually explains the symbolism of the parable to his disciples. There is a further, interpretive level of a parable where a modern reader asks, 'What has that story got to say to me here and now?' In his conversation with the disciples, Jesus makes clear that only some people are open to understanding the depth of the message contained within his parables. Some people will only ever hear the story and never hear the message. Mind you, he still has to explain the parable to the disciples! He has just chastised those who fail to understand and yet walks the disciples through the parable step by step! @gregsunter

A VOCATION VIEW: Treating others with compassion is a mark of a follower of Jesus, whether known as The Good Samaritan, Mother, Priest, Sister, Deacon or Brother.