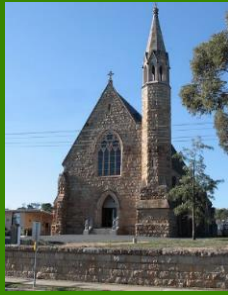




## HOLY SPIRIT PARISH



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 the traditional custodians of this land, and pay our respects to their elders both past, present, and future, for they hold the memories, the traditions and culture of our ancient land, Australia. We honour the presence of these ancestors who reside in the imagination of this land and whose spirituality flows through all creation.

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

**Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C**

### **First Reading**

**Wisdom 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.

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.

**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.)**

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Matthew 24:42. 44**

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

### **Gospel**

**Luke 12:35-40**

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.'

### **Second Reading**

**Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-12**

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

# Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

**Parish Priest** Fr. Neville Stanislaus [neville.stanislaus@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:neville.stanislaus@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
**Parish Bulletin Online** [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) – follow link to parish  
**Secretary / Child Safe** Jill Croxford [gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
**Parish Email** [gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto: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 9am  
**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 12 noon  
**Glenthompson** (Hamilton Parish) 2<sup>nd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays 8.30am

## Readings for next Sunday

17<sup>th</sup> August 2025  
Jeremiah 38:4-6. 8-10/ Hebrews 12:1-4  
Luke 12:49-53

## Weekday Masses (usual schedule)

**Tuesday:** 10am Stawell (**Not on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month**)  
**Wednesday:** Aged Care  
**Thursday:** 2.30pm 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 10am Lowe St  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 10am Garden View  
4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 10am ARVillage

Tuesday Mass in Stawell will no longer be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month.

If there is a Funeral on Tuesdays (Stawell) or Fridays (Ararat) there will be NO Mass on that day.

## Anniversaries

Barbara McCubbin, Thomas Jess 2005, Kevin Cross 2013, Gerardine Rathgeber, Jack Ryan, Maurizio Cannata, Ian McIntosh, Michael McRae, Vera McAloon, Maureen McMaster, Jean Thomas, Michael Rowe, Alice Nicholson 1975, Douglas Tozer 1987, James Morris 1992, Joseph Noonan, David O'Connor, Margaret Morris, Guesepina Musumeci 1998, Eileen Cooper 2009. Anne Bates. Ellen Devery 2002, Vince Gemmola, Robert Oliver, Laurie Walsh, Brian Molony, Norma Schwab, Rem Pezzutti, Heinz Helmich, Frances Miller, Helen Grano, Helen Stevens, George Driscoll, Russell McLean, Patricia Gilliland 2005, Faith Murphy .

## Lake Bolac

Sat Aug 16<sup>th</sup> Reader Rebecca Rodger/ Prayers of Faithful Tricia Higgins  
Sat Aug 30<sup>th</sup> Reader Tricia Higgins/ Prayers of Faithful Phillip Meek

## Ararat Roster

Sun Aug 10<sup>th</sup> Facilitator Elizabeth/ Reader Maria S / Euch Min Charlie/Mary C  
Sun Aug 17<sup>th</sup> Facilitator Harry / Reader TBA / Euch Min Anna/Charlie  
Sun Aug 24<sup>th</sup> Facilitator Pat M / Reader Jenny M / Euch Min Marg O/Nora

## Stawell Roster

Sun Aug 10<sup>th</sup> S/Minster L McIntyre & M Howard/Reader D OJones / Offertory T East  
Sun Aug 17<sup>th</sup> S/Minster S DeLeon & K Ashton /Reader K Dallinger / Offertory G Pascall/P Gooden  
Sun Aug 24<sup>th</sup> S/Minster M R Thomas/D Jones /Reader M Howard / Offertory J Croton

**Ararat CWL** The next get together will be at Fred & Betts for coffee on Tuesday afternoon 12<sup>th</sup> August at 2pm.

**Stawell CWL** Will be hosting a cuppa after next Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Mass. Everyone welcome.

**Stawell St Vincent de Paul** will meet at 2pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> August in the St Pat's Church hall.

**Combined Churches Service.** There will be Fifth Sunday Combined Churches Service on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August hosted by the City Heart, Church of Christ at 5pm. There's a cuppa afterwards and everyone will be made most welcome.

### **This Year's Sacramental Program**

Our parish will be running a Sacramental Program this year for Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation. We kindly ask parents to enrol their children—regardless of age—through their school before September. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Expression of Interest.** Holy Spirit Parish owns five one bedroom units in Stawell close to the church and presently occupied. These units were built to house elderly parishioners. If any parishioner wishes to be put on a list to be a tenant when a vacancy occurs please contact Jill on 53525460 or email [gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au) for an application form.

### **Caritas Australia invites us to light a candle and pray for the people of Gaza**

God of light, You meet us in the darkest places. Every year, when we light our Easter candle, we pray 'may the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our minds and hearts.' We pray today that all people may work with you to dispel the darkness of violence and war. May this fragile light be a sign of our hope for the people of Gaza. May they find healing and lasting peace. Amen.

### **Caritas Australia - Relay of Hope**

The Relay of Hope is a symbolic gesture on a global scale proposed by Caritas Internationalis as part of the Turn Debt into Hope campaign for the 2025 Jubilee. Inspired by the Olympic torch, this candle-lighting activity reflects our shared mission to spread light, life and hope. Rooted in the official Jubilee theme of Pilgrims of Hope, the Relay of Hope will connect communities worldwide and symbolize our unity and solidarity in calling for debt and economic justice. This gesture was chosen because light represents hope that the Jubilee principles will inspire much-needed change. The relay signifies the Caritas family and wider global community journeying collectively to spiritual and social transformation. Each lit candle represents a call to action for debt justice and turning debt into hope. Although it can be done at any time in the Jubilee Year, we are invited to especially organize a Relay of Hope during the Season of Creation between Monday, September 1 and Saturday, October 4, 2025. This will contribute to a wave of action around the world, forming a symbolic chain of unity and solidarity.

### **Sisters of the Good Samaritan Writing Awards 2025**

Entries are invited for The Good Oil 2025 Writers' Award, an initiative of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan in partnership with Garratt Publishing. The award aims to support and encourage the development of aspiring and published writers. In this Jubilee Year in the Church, the theme of the award is Pilgrims of Hope. The winner of The Good Oil 2025 Writers' Award will receive mentoring by Garratt Publishing to support their writing goals. A judging panel will award first, second and third place. The prize for the winning entry is \$600; second prize \$400; third prize \$200. A new Encouragement Award with a prize of \$250 is being sponsored by Garratt Publishing. Prize-winning entries will be published in The Good Oil. Entries close August 29, 2025. For more information go to <https://www.goodsams.org.au/article/entries-invited-for-the-good-oil-2025-writers-award/>.

### **Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) – Melbourne 2025**

ACYF will take place in Melbourne from Sunday, November 30 - Tuesday, December 2, 2025. This national event brings together young Catholics (Year 9–25 years) for three days of faith, fun, and community. The Festival includes prayer, Mass, talks, concerts, workshops, games, and more. Watch this video of invitation from Archbishop Comensoli, Archbishop of Melbourne <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=evbj5eFg3HM>. There is an opportunity of sponsorship from the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Foundation for pilgrims attending the Festival. If you're interested in going, please contact your school or local parish office. Learn more at [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) or scan the QR code.



### **Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Online Study**

The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF) is a growing initiative to offer adult religious education and faith formation anytime and anywhere, online. This low-cost (\$50usd) online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parishes is available through our partner, Dayton University. The Cycle 6 begins September 8. There are 31 subjects to choose from – find one that interests you!



## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate / The Gospel and the Commonwealth

Jesus lived in a remote part of the Roman Empire where the majority eked out an existence. One of the few ways in which redistribution of wealth could occur was by voluntarily giving to the poor. So Jesus instructs his followers: 'Sell your possessions and give generously to those in need.' We live in a very different society: 'The Commonwealth of Australia.' 'Common-wealth' indicates that the wealth of this nation, its people and resources, are meant to be directed to the common good. So, we must respond to Our Lord's command in ways very different to what was possible in his day. We have a compulsory taxation system which forces us to give up some of our possessions, some of our wealth to the common-wealth. Taxation and social justice policies help fulfil Our Lord's command to create a society more humane than anything remotely possible under the Roman Empire. And that would please Our Lord. Why? In part because those in need are helped. But, perhaps in greater part, because it makes us larger hearted people. We have to arrive at the moment of death with a heart so capacious that it can include the billions of people we hope inhabit heavenly existence. We might pause for a moment to pray for our hearts to be expanded by our contribution to the common-wealth of all peoples throughout the world.

## 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.

### REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

'All creation', Pope Leo affirms, 'exists solely in the form of coexistence ... always interconnected.' While we might be lonely at times, none of us exists alone. We are all, always, part of something bigger. Focused on encouraging unity, the pope repeatedly calls for the Church to become ever more synodal – more conscious that we travel together. He wants us to 'recognise our own poverty and our riches,' allowing ourselves the grace to 'feel part of a greater whole.' None of us is saved

alone. As the pope points out, 'even the most original and unique of charisms' – or gifts – will 'wither' if it is directed away from the community it is called to serve. The pope calls us to follow 'the way of the Beatitudes, a path that we tread together, between the "already" and the "not yet,"' hungering and thirsting for justice.' He calls us to be 'poor in spirit, merciful, meek, pure of heart, men and women of peace.' In this context, the pope shows us what spreading the Gospel really means. 'Evangelisation,' he says, 'is not our attempt to conquer the world, but the infinite grace that radiates from lives transformed by the Kingdom of God.' It is not you or me who evangelises, but the Spirit – taking each of us in our seeming ordinariness and changing the world.

