

Sunday February 11th, 2024 SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

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.

First Reading Leviticus 13:1-2. 44-46

A Reading from the book of Leviticus

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons. 'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean". As long as the disease lasts, he must be unclean; and therefore, he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 31:1-2. 5. 11. R. v.7

(R.) I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Happy the man whose offence is or given, Whose sin is remitted. O happy the man to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, in whose spirit is no guile. (R.)

But now I have acknowledged my sins; my guilt I did not hide. I said: 'I will confess my offence to the Lord.' And you, Lord, have forgiven the guilt of my sin. (R.)

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, exult, you just! O come, ring out your joy, all you upright of heart. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 10:31 – 11:1

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone – to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved. Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 7:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 1:40-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said, 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course, I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.



Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

Parish PriestFr. Andrew Hayes andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.auParish Bulletin Onlinewww.ballarat.catholic.org.au– follow link to parishSecretary / Child SafeJill Croxfordgariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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Mass TimesReadings for next SundayAraratSunday 8.30am18th February 2024

Ararat Sunday 8.30am Stawell Sunday 10.30am

Lake Bolac 1st 3rd 5th Sundays 6.30pm Vigil Sat

Landsborough 2nd 4th Sundays 12.30pm

Glenthompson (Hamilton Parish) 2nd 4th Sundays 8.30am

Weekday Masses (usual schedule) Aged Care Roster

Tuesday: 10am Stawell (Check bulletin for occasional changes) 1st Wednesday 11.15am Eventide **Wednesday:** Aged Care 2nd Wednesday 11am Lowe St

Thursday: 2.30pm Hopkins 3rd Wednesday 10.30am Garden View

Friday: 11am Ararat (Check bulletin for occasional changes) 4th Wednesday 10am ARVillage

Shrove Tuesday

Pan Cake Dinner at Holy Trinity Anglican Parish, Ararat. Tues 13th Feb at 6pm for 6.30pm start.

Ash Wednesday Distribution of Ashes

Stawell Tues Feb 13th 10am Mass / Ararat Wed Feb 14th 10am Prayers

Lenten Discussion

Stawell after 10am Mass on Tuesdays - starts Feb 13 / Ararat 10am on Thursdays - starts Feb 15

Holy Week in Stawell

Each day during Holy Week Moira will lead stations of the cross at 10am. Everyone welcome.

Anniversaries

Frank Thomas, Carmela Zammitt, Joseph Zammitt, Terry Weeks, Colleen Peacock, Terry Weeks Fr John Kelly, Ann Pola, Sr Dorothy Molley, Stanley Hucker, Noel Peck, Peter Monaghan 1962, William McGarry 1974, Michael Mornane 1983 Glenda Sertori, Cec McOwan, John Kelly, Robin Wright, Petronella Van Keulin, Merna Dorothy McMaster Margaret Tyndall, Thomas Creenaune, Anthony Gordon, Imelda Gordan, Betty Parker, Margaret Traynor, Charles Forster 1950, John Trotter 1971, David McColl, Joyce Speechley, Eunice Downes, Ron Manneke-Jones, Rachel Dunn 1972, Kavon Sanford 1988 Teresa Glass, Peg Dacey, Mary Shea, James Devery 1983, Albert Archibald 1992, Patricia Cook 2010, Alice Bulger, Daniel Barry, Robert Archibald 1992, Laurence Healy 2017, Daniel Barry, Pauline Hulsen.

Lake Bolac Roster Sat Feb 17th Reader Helen Smith/ Prayers of Faithful Judy Aldouss

Ararat Roster Sun Feb 11th Facilitator Pat L /Reader Peter B /Euch Min Margaret O

Sun Feb 18th Facilitator Cathy McA /Reader Jan C /Euch Min Jim C

Stawell Roster Sun Feb 11th S/Minister K Ashton/Reader D O'Donnell / Offertory Heenan Family

Sun Feb 18th S/Minister M Maestros/ReaderC Barker/ Offertory Gooden/ Pascall

CWL Ararat Next meeting Tuesday 13th Feb 1.30pm in the Parish Centre all welcome.

CWL Stawell Will be hosting a cuppa after Mass on Sunday 18th Feb. Everyone welcome.

Stawell St Vincent de Paul Will be meeting in the St Pat's church on Monday 19th Feb at 2pm



Genesis 9:8-15/1 Peter 3:18-22/Mark 1:12-15

A Christian Mission opportunity for local volunteers. Would you be willing to help support people if there was a local emergency - bushfire or flood are 2 examples. Would you be willing to spend time at an evacuation centre to provide personal support and a listening ear. Victorian Council of Churches Emergencies Ministry is running training in Stawell for people willing to volunteer for this ministry. Training will be held at **St Patricks Church Hall on Saturday March 2nd from 9.00am - 4.00pm.** A poster and a brochure have been emailed to your church so please look out for those for more information, or ring VCCEM local representative Jenny Greenberger on 0408571375. Information on how to enrol is provided on the poster which has been placed on the church notice board.

Candles and prayer cards: As part of the 150th Anniversary year, the diocese will provide candles and prayer cards to all parishes, schools and agencies. The distribution of these in underway.

Holy Water in fonts

Bishop Paul issued the following update last week regarding Holy Water in fonts:

Following some recent discussions about COVID provisions, I was asked about restoring Holy Water to fonts in our churches. While we did empty fonts at the height of the COVID pandemic, this restriction seems unnecessary now. Some parishes restored Holy Water to fonts quite some time ago and I fully support this. This makes Holy Water readily available for those who wish to use it. Of course, any parishioner who has concerns need not use the Holy Water from a font. God bless you all. Bishop Paul

Notes about Holy Communion

Bishop Paul issued the following information for people of the diocese last year and this is still relevant:

Now that the Covid pandemic is less in the news, a number of people have asked about arrangements for the reception of Holy Communion. Some have proposed reintroducing options that were permitted before the pandemic, particularly receiving the host on the tongue and sharing the chalice. Over the past few weeks, I have consulted various people about this, including the members of our Diocesan Liturgical Commission. I have also received advice from a medical point of view. This has included advice from the Chief Executive Officer of the Southern Grampians Health Service and the Head of the Infectious Diseases Department at the Alfred Hospital. These consultations have highlighted the fact that Covid infections are still a serious concern and that we can reduce the risk of infections by continuing the present provisions regarding Holy Communion. I have concluded that it is not yet time to reintroduce the sharing of the chalice. While reception of Holy Communion under both species of bread and wine is a fuller sign of our sharing in the banquet of Christ, we can find reassurance in the teaching of the Council of Trent that the whole Christ, body and blood, soul and divinity, is contained under each species. So, even when we simply receive the host, we are receiving the whole Christ. In regard to the way of receiving the host, recognising the continuing risks of the pandemic, and out of consideration for the health of all parishioners, I recommend reverent reception of the host in the hand rather than reception on the tongue. May our Communions draw us ever closer to Christ and strengthen our love and care for one another. God bless you all. Bishop Paul

Project Compassion 2024

Lent fundraising: Caritas Australia, the international aid and development agency of the Catholic Church in Australia, launch Project Compassion 2024. As many of you know, Caritas works with people living in the most vulnerable situations around the world and helps those living in poverty regardless of their ethnicity, religion, or political beliefs. Project Compassion is Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal. During the six weeks of Project Compassion, millions of Australians unite to help end poverty, promote justice, and uphold dignity. This year, Caritas Australia celebrates 60 years of service. To donate or for resources, scan or click on the QR code.





Mass to Launch Project Compassion 2024: Mass to launch Project Compassion 2024 will be held on Sunday, February 11, 2024, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 5.00pm. Bishop Paul Bird CSsR will be the Main Celebrant and will commission Student Leaders as Ambassadors for Caritas 2024. All welcome to attend.

World Day of the Sick: Sunday, February 11, 2024



In his message to mark the 32nd World Day of the Sick on February 11, Pope Francis reflected on the way serious illness could cause vulnerability, uncertainty and insecurity. Prayer of the faithful for World Day of the Sick: We pray for the sick, the vulnerable and the poor. May they be at the heart of our human concern and pastoral attention. We

pray to Mary Most Holy, that she may intercede for those most in need. Lord, hear us.

Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close - Reflection by Artist

This is the second of three gospel readings about healing: last Sunday a woman with fever was revived, today a man with leprosy is cleansed and next week a paralysed man is forgiven and made whole. It is apparent that God's work of creation is an ongoing process in which Jesus plays a part. Through his hands the creative and nurturing power of God is at work in the world.





Caritas Project Compassion Sunday 10 & 11 February



Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **for all future generations**.

With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction.



Project Compassion 2024 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for all future generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

2024 PROJECT COMPASSION PRAYER

God of all hope, we pray for our world with all its beauty and need. We thank you for the love in our lives that is a mirror of your unending love. May all creation know your compassion this Lent and may we take courage to share it, especially with those who don't have what they need. In our time, we hear the same words you spoke to Moses: 'I will be with you,' when you ask us to do courageous things. Through our prayer, fasting and almsgiving, move us to act in the company of your Spirit, showing compassion and acting for justice to renew the face of the Earth, now and for all future generations. We ask this in the name of Christ. Amen.





A company owner was asked a question: "How do you motivate your employees to be so punctual?" He smiled and replied its simple, I have 30 employees and 29 free parking spaces and one paid parking.