



Holy Spirit Parish Gariwerd



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 20th July 2025

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

First Reading

Genesis 18:1-10

A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord appeared to Abraham at the Oak of Mamre while he was sitting by the entrance of the tent during the hottest part of the day. He looked up, and there he saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them, he ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them, and bowed to the ground. 'My lord,' he said, 'I beg you, if I find favour with you, kindly do not pass your servant by. A little water shall be brought; you shall wash your feet and lie down under the tree. Let me fetch a little bread and you shall refresh yourselves before going further. That is why you have come in your servant's direction.' They replied, 'Do as you say.' Abraham hastened to the tent to find Sarah. 'Hurry,' he said, 'knead three bushels of flour and make loaves.' Then running to the cattle Abraham took a fine and tender calf and gave it to the servant, who hurried to prepare it. Then taking cream, milk and the calf he had prepared, he laid all before them, and they ate while he remained standing near them under the tree. 'Where is your wife Sarah?' they asked him. 'She is in the tent,' he replied. Then his guest said, 'I shall visit you again next year without fail and your wife will then have a son.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1

(R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?

He who walks without fault; he who acts with justice and speaks the truth from his heart; he who does not slander with his tongue. **(R.)**

2. He who does no wrong to his brother, who casts no slur on his neighbour, who holds the godless in disdain, but honours those who fear the Lord. **(R.)**

3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may; who takes no interest on a loan and accepts no bribes against the innocent. Such a man will stand firm for ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Colossians 1:24-28

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians
It makes me happy to suffer for you, as I am suffering now, and in my body to do what I can to make up all that has still to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body, the Church. I became the servant of the Church when God made me responsible for delivering God's message to you, the message which was a mystery hidden for generations and centuries and has now been revealed to his saints. It was God's purpose to reveal it to them and to show all the rich glory of this mystery to pagans. The mystery is Christ among you, your hope of glory: this is the Christ we proclaim, this is the wisdom in which we thoroughly train everyone and instruct everyone, to make them all perfect in Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

See Luke 8:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance. Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 10:38-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered: 'Martha, Martha,' he said, 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.'



Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

Parish Priest Fr. Neville Stanislaus neville.stanislaus@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Parish Bulletin Online www.ballarat.catholic.org.au – follow link to parish
Secretary / Child Safe Jill Croxford gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au
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Mass Times

Ararat Sunday 9am
Stawell Sunday 10.30am
Lake Bolac 1st 3rd 5th Sundays 6.30pm Vigil Sat
Landsborough 2nd 4th Sundays 12 noon
Glenthompson (Hamilton Parish) 2nd 4th Sundays 8.30am

Readings for next Sunday

27th July 2025
Genesis 18:20-32/ Colossians 2:12-14
Luke 11:1-13

Weekday Masses (usual schedule)

Tuesday: 10am Stawell (Check bulletin for occasional changes)
Wednesday: Aged Care
Thursday: 2.30pm Hopkins
Friday: 11am Ararat (Check bulletin for occasional changes)

Aged Care Roster

1st Wednesday 11.15am Eventide
2nd Wednesday 10am Lowe St
3rd Wednesday 10am Garden View
4th Wednesday 10am ARVillage

Landsborough Sunday Mass 27th July 2025 Cancelled

Fr Neville will be away until July 28th, 2025
During this time Tuesday Rosary in Stawell and Friday Communion Service
Sunday Masses and Funerals will be covered by a replacement Priest.

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

Anniversaries

Laurence Cashin, Stan Parker, Bridget McGuan 1958, Mary Healy 1994, Carmel Kelly, Thomas Fitzgerald 1959, Amy McKeon 1980, Christopher Peters 2007, Trevor Kane, Patrick Reed, Laurence French 2000, Monica Cronin, Leo Heenan, Noel Coughlin, Peter McLoughlin, Mary Healy 1972, Mary McGee 1975, Luigi Martino 1987, Mary Bryant, Kevin Harrison, Mary Dwyer 1970, Laurence Cross 1992, Leo Heenan, Lorna Norbury, Gavan Peters 1967, Win Cawthorne 1992, Gregory Maloney 2004, Marli Tilley 2014, Frances Murray 1955, Catherine Holland, Patrick O'Neill, Michael Molan 1997.

Lake Bolac

Sat Jul 19th Reader Deb Glasson/ Prayers of Faithful Jane Higgins
Sat Aug 2nd Reader Rosemary Liston/ Prayers of Faithful Rebecca Rodger /Cleaning Rosemary Liston

Ararat Roster

Sun July 20th Facilitator PatMc / Reader Jenny Mc / Euch Min Mary C/Charlie
Sun July 27th Facilitator MaryAnne Mc / Reader Harry / Euch Min Anna/Nora

Stawell Roster

Sun July 20th S/Minster J DeLeon & D Jones /Reader MR Thomas / Offertory M McGaffin
Sun July 27th S/Minster S DeLeon & M R Thomas/ Reader G Madafferi / Offertory Timor E

Stawell CWL Will be hosting a cuppa after this Sunday's Mass. Everyone welcome.

Stawell St Vincent de Paul next meeting this Monday 21st at 2pm in the St Pat's Church hall.

Winter Appeal - CatholicCare Victoria

Many people are currently turning to CatholicCare Victoria for support. As one of Victoria's leading social service providers, they work across this vast state to meet people at their point of need. This is only made possible through the grace and generosity of compassionate people like you. Their Winter Appeal is open for donations <https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/winter-appeal/>

The Official Directory of the Catholic Church in Australia 2025-26

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is proud to announce the release of The Official Directory of the Catholic Church in Australia 2025-26. The Directory is the authoritative resource for clergy, parishioners, researchers, and anyone interested in the Catholic Church's activities and organisation across Australia. The directory is available in print and digital formats. The regularly updated digital version includes interactive features that allow for easy searching. The print and online versions can be ordered through the St Pauls Publications <https://secure.stpauls.com.au/strathfield/the-official-directory-of-the-catholic-church-in-australia-2025-2026-print-edition.html> or by calling 02 9394 3400. Email enquiries may be directed to sales@stpauls.com.au

Sydney Archdiocese calls for volunteers for International Eucharistic Congress

The International Eucharistic Congress will be held in Sydney in 2028. The Archdiocese of Sydney is seeking volunteers to assist at this major event. If you would like to express your interest in volunteering for the International Eucharistic Congress in 2028, or to be added to the mailing list for updates, please email iec2028@sydneycatholic.org

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 or scan the QR code.



Save with CDF Community Fund – it's in everyone's best interest

When you open a savings or term investment account with CDF Community Fund, you not only get a great return on your savings, but you will also help build new parishes for growing communities, classrooms for students, hospitals for the sick, aged care homes for the elderly, and social service facilities for the poor and vulnerable. With competitive interest rates across a range of accounts, including 4.85% pa* on a 6-month Term Investment, it's a way to save while doing good. Open an account today – it's in everyone's best interest. Visit www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund, scan the QR code, or speak to us on 1800 134 135.

* Interest rates subject to change. View current rates on the CDF website.



New Diocesan Website

Later in the year we will be launching a new diocesan website. More information to come.

Fifth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly – Sunday, July 27, 2025

The Fifth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will be celebrated on Sunday, July 27, 2025.

Diocesan e-News

The latest edition of e-News has been published and is available to view at <https://mailchi.mp/322993dae638/edition-119-february-15-14196755?e=a71230e294> or click or scan the QR code. You can also view this edition at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/> or you can subscribe on this page to receive future editions straight to your email address.



REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate / *A Cardinal Role for Women?*

Jesus turned the customs and taboos of his society upside down. In this Gospel, against all the rules of segregation, Jesus is alone with women who are *not* his relatives, completely at ease with their hospitality. It is personal relationships, not gender determined relationships, which are important to him. Further, here is Mary assuming the posture of a student at the feet of a Rabbi (teacher) listening to his teaching. We remember that Jesus had chosen his male disciples in order to teach *them*. Mary chooses *Him* to teach *her*! Maybe it was a counter-cultural step too far for Martha. Is that what she is really 'anxious and troubled' about? Jesus was willing to upset the social conventions and religious taboos of his day in respect of women. What would be a good contemporary response of the Catholic Church? The word 'cardinal' means hinge – 'hinge of the door' – an essential part of the structure of the Church which is our home, in which we listen to the words of Jesus Christ. Could the College of Cardinals be supplemented to include women alongside the ordained male prelates? Outstanding women, religious or lay, could head some Vatican departments and take part in the election of the Pope. That would be a strongly symbolic step with repercussions throughout the Church. We could pause for a moment to pray for the Church to show a greater willingness to sit, like Mary, at the feet of Jesus so that we may hear his words: 'You have chosen the better portion.'



Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close Reflection by Artist

The story of Martha and Mary seems like a simple one, but it has been the focus of a surprising amount of comment. Some say that Mary's contemplative stance is favoured because it brought her closer to Jesus or that it was more cerebral and therefore more honourable in some way. Others claim that Martha's honest toil is not sufficiently valued in the story or that Martha was one of those task-orientated persons who busied herself and missed the opportunity to be attentive. But both work and contemplation are significant parts of human life, like pleasure and

responsibility and, when a proper balance is found, surely both are equally honourable.

Different View – Feminist critique

Feminist theologian Elizabeth Schussler Fiorenza suggests that this story is less about an event in the life of Jesus than it is about events in the life of the early Church. In the first 30 to 40 years after the death of Jesus, women played an equal role in leadership and ministry to the community. However, by the time of Luke's gospel, men were becoming more dominant in the community. By portraying Jesus as admonishing Martha's active service and praising Mary's passive listening role, the passage can be interpreted as endorsing the relegation of women to less active roles.

Have you thought? – Action vs Reflection

This gospel is sometimes portrayed as a dichotomy between action and reflection. Many within the Christian tradition adopt the Martha approach of responding to Christ through service and action while others see Mary sitting at the feet of Jesus as a model for contemplation and reflection. The two different models have developed quite distinctly in the history of the Church and it must be said that the Martha approach of service and action has been in the ascendance for some time. However, action that is not grounded in prayerful reflection runs the risk of becoming well-intentioned busy-ness.