

# Sunday June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

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 Jer 20:10-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah Jeremiah said: 'I hear so many disparaging me, "Terror from every side! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All those who used to be my friends watched for my downfall, "Perhaps he will be seduced into error. Then we will master him and take our revenge!" But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero; my opponents will stumble, mastered, confounded by their failure; everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs.

But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice, who scrutinise the loins and heart, let me see the vengeance you will take on them, for I have committed my cause to you.

Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.'

# Responsorial Psalm <u>Ps 68:8-10. 14. 17. 33-35. R.</u> v.14

(R.) Lord, in your great love, answer me.

1. It is for you that I suffer taunts, that shame covers my face, that I have become a stranger to my brothers, an alien to my own mother's sons.

I burn with zeal for your house and taunts against you fall on me. (R.)

- 2. This is my prayer to you, my prayer for your favour. In your great love, answer me, O God, with your help that never fails: Lord, answer, for your love is kind; in your compassion, turn towards me. (R.)
- 3. The poor when they see it will be glad and Godseeking hearts will revive; for the Lord listens to the needy and does not spurn his servants in their chains. Let the heavens and the earth give him praise, the sea and all its living creatures. (R.)

#### Second Reading Rom 5:12-15

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all

from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

Jn 15:26. 27

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses.

Alleluia!

#### Gospel <u>Mt 10:26-33</u>

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the housetops. 'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So, there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows. 'So, if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'



# Parish Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

Parish Priest Fr. Andrew Hayes <u>andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au</u>

Parish Bulletin Online <a href="www.ballarat.catholic.org.au">www.ballarat.catholic.org.au</a> - follow link to parish Secretary / Child Safe <a href="mailto:jill.croxford">Jill Croxford</a> gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Email 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 8.30am 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 12.30pm

**Glenthompson** (Hamilton Parish) 2<sup>nd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays 8.30am

Readings for next Sunday

July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A 2Kgs 4:8-11/Rom 6:3-4.8-11/Mt 10:37-42

2NG3 4.0 11/NOM 0.3 4.0 11/Wit 10.37

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** 

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday 11.15am Eventide 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 11am Lowe St

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 10.30am Garden View

4th Wednesday 10am ARVillage

Changes to Masses this Week

This week and next the Tuesday 10am Masses in Stawell will be on Thursday mornings at 10am.

#### **Anniversaries**

Peter John Shea, Margaret Bushick, Fr Michael Jones, Margaret Sullivan, John Seeary 1971, Phyllis Walsh 1974, Hugh Nailon, Valda Jerram, Patrick Brennan, Lionel Egan, Dulce Makepeace, Fr. Austin Brennan, Beryl Nailor, Carmela Busuttil, Trish Cuthbert, Mary Raycroft 1976, Winifred Copley 1986, Maurie Delahunty 1986, John Keogh, Catherine Keogh, Edward Cleary, Patricia Grano, John Rieniets, Pat Kelly, Norman Turnbull, Irene Karslake, Fr Michael Fallon, Vin Hooper, Jean Keogh, Corrine Keogh, Fr Michael Doyle, Fr Don Dunne, John Murphy, Ern Trotter, Colin O'Toole, Daniel Shanahan 1995, Bob Rutter, Kit Morris, Nicholas Kalomiris, Dennis Keogh, Tony Van Diesen, Bernard Maddocks, Robert Rutter 1981, John Murphy 1989, Hellen Stewart 1992, John Krause 1998, Joan Noone 2015, Bernard Maddocks 2016, Antonius Van Diesen 2016, Richard O'Neill, Tony Niccolaci, Alan McLoughlin, Ronald Seeary 2003,

Golden Gate Roster Sun 25<sup>th</sup> June Harry & Anna/ 2<sup>nd</sup> July Margaret

Lake Bolac Roster Sat July 1st Reader Leanne Breen// Prayers of Faithful Jane Higgins/ Cleaning Tricia Higgins

Sat July 15<sup>th</sup> Reader Rosemary Liston// Prayers of Faithful Phillip Meek Sat July 29<sup>th</sup> Reader Helen Smith// Prayers of Faithful Judy Aldous

Ararat Roster Sun June 25<sup>th</sup> Welcomer Sr Maree//Facilitator Peter Brady//Reader Sr John//Euch Min Teresa G

Stawell Roster Sun June 25<sup>th</sup> S/Minister Moyra Maestros // Reader Di O'Donnell / Offertory M McGaffin

Sun July 2<sup>nd</sup> S/Minister Marg Rowe // Reader Kevin Dallinger / Offertory Pascall Family Sun July 9<sup>th</sup> S/Minister Helen Potter // Reader Joan Van Diesen / Offertory Heenan Family Sun July 16<sup>th</sup> S/Minister Kath Ashton // Reader Lesley Morgan / Offertory P Gooden &G Pascall

Sun July 23<sup>rd</sup> S/Minister Mary Rita Thomas // Reader D O'Donnell / Offertory J Croton Sun July 30<sup>th</sup> S/Minister Marg Rowe // Reader Kevin Dallinger / Offertory L Habben

#### Food Collection for Vinnies Ararat

A reminder that we have a food collection container in the church foyer in Ararat for non-perishable food for Vinnies.

#### Collection for the Work of the Pope

This annual collection for the work of the Vatican will take place next weekend, July 2.

The Stawell Baptist Church will be holding its last Service on Sunday  $25^{th}$  June at 10am. The Celebration of the life of the Baptist Church Service will be from 10am - 11.30am and will be followed by a light lunch. Everyone is invited. Please RSVP to Pastor Irene Gould stawellpastor@gmail.com by Monday  $19^{th}$  June.

If you can help towards the catering of the lunch contact Mary Rita Thomas gmrt@netspace.net.au ASAP."

#### Celebration with Stawell Anglican Church - Sunday July 2

Both parishes have wonderful new additions to celebrate in our churches. At St Patrick's we have been using our beautiful new baptism font, a gift from the Anglican parish. The Anglicans are installing a new Marian shrine with a framed artwork and candle holder. The candle holder is a gift from St Patrick's. For those who are able, we will pray and bless the mutual gifts. At St Patrick's we will bless our new Marian chapel at the same time.

10am Anglican Mass at Holy Trinity

10.30am Catholic Mass at St Patrick's (30 minute Mass)11.15am approx Prayer and Blessing of Marian shrine at Holy Trinity

11.45am approx Prayer and blessing of baptism font and Marian chapel at St Patrick's

12.15pm approx Lunch in St Patrick's Hall

For catering purposes please RSVP to <a href="mailto:gariwerd@ballarart.catholic.org">gariwerd@ballarart.catholic.org</a> or phone 53525460

#### **Planned Giving**

A reminder that the new planned-giving envelopes have arrived for those who asked for them. All parishioners in the planned-giving program will have new numbers. Ararat will start having two collections from the beginning of June.

#### St Mary's School Ararat

In 2024 our parish school will undergo a 3.3M renovation requiring substantial demolition of existing buildings. To help this process, the school will use the Parish Centre as classrooms for much of 2024. During this time the parish will have no access to the Parish Centre other than for the toilets on Sundays. What we do with other usual Parish Centre events will be discussed as we figure things out.

#### **Food Collection for Refugees**

Foster's Mensland in Ararat has kindly allowed RAR to put a box in their shop for collection of food for the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre in Footscray. It would be preferable that we collect peanut butter and honey in small containers, but other non-perishable things such as cans of lentils, chickpeas, mixed veggies, tomatoes, or tuna or mackerel in oil. Other items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, small containers of dishwashing and clothes washing detergent are also welcome. Please pop along to Foster's Mensland in Ararat and add your donation to the box. If you are in Stawell and wish to donate you can flick me a message or call on 0427762582 and I am happy to collect and take things to Ararat. Thanks again for your continued generosity and kindness, Bonnie Carter

#### NATSICC launches new website on the Indigenous Voice to Parliament

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) has launched a new website called "One Journey, Together" for Catholics to learn about the Indigenous Voice to Parliament. The website hosts stories and anecdotes from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations, Catholic figures and Catholic organisations.

#### Aboriginal Our Father: Diocese of Broome has granted permission for use of this prayer.

You are our Father, You live in heaven, We talk to You. Father You are good.

You are our Father, You live in heaven, We talk to You. Father You are good.

We believe your Word, Father, We are Your children, give us bread today.

We believe Your Word, Father, We are Your children, give us bread today.

We have done wrong, we are sorry, Teach us, Father, all about Your Word.

We have done wrong, we are sorry, Teach us, Father, all about Your Word.

Others have done wrong to us, And we are sorry for them, Father, today.

Others have done wrong to us, And we are sorry for them, Father, today.

Stop us from doing wrong, Father, Save us all from the evil one.

Stop us from doing wrong, Father, Save us all from the evil one.

### REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The demands of discipleship can be very difficult. The strength that is needed to continue on the chosen path despite its hardships can come only from God. We live in a world that desperately needs to hear the call to conversion, but it is a world that is subject to the death that entered it through the sin of Adam. Those who answer the call of God may have to face the hostility of this world, because their values and their commitment to righteousness threaten its moorings. To commit oneself to the reign of God is to challenge the reign of the world, and this can make one very unpopular. In the midst of this suffering we can find strength in the promises of God, and we believe that God is faithful to these promises. Only half of today's picture is bleak. The other half is radiant with hope. Paul assures us that the gracious gift that God offers us is far greater that the transgressions brought on by sin. This gracious gift is Jesus Christ himself. The gift exceeds anything for which we might have hoped. He is the comfort that will carry us through our disappointments. He is the strength that will enable us to endure the misunderstanding and hardship that come with discipleship. We are called to acknowledge him before the world, and we are promised that if we do, he will acknowledge us before God. There is light even in the midst of darkness. There is hope even in the midst of suffering.

## Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close Reflection by Artist

In this week's reading Jesus continues to prepare his most trusted disciples for their ministry. His tells them, three times, not to be afraid. The twelve are not to fear the darkness nor death, because God is all powerful and values the faithful. The twelve are to be the light in the darkness for others.

#### REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE – by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

God cherishes even the sparrows, who cannot fly without God's help. Yet sparrows are worth nothing compared with us. Is it easy or difficult to believe that you are cherished by God? How so? Is it easy or difficult to believe in yourself? Do you think you are significant? Why or why not? Do you think most people your age feel their worth from their friends'

opinions of them or from their own opinions about themselves? Explain your answer. Who else cherishes you? Who believes in you? Who knows you are significant? Jesus tells us to proclaim the truth from the rooftops. Jesus urges us to not be afraid of anyone who can only hurt our body, but to fear whatever can hurt our soul. What can hurt your soul? What influences from today's world can prevent you from being the best you can be? How do you counteract those influences? What things are you afraid to talk about because you may be teased or mocked? How often do you talk about your inner fears and concerns? How often do you talk about your biggest dreams for yourself and for the world? What is the most important focus of your life right now?

#### Gospel Focus – Fear

When scripture uses the term fear, it tends to fall into one of two meanings. When used in the context of 'do not be afraid' or 'fear not', it is a command to not be daunted by the woes and trials that the world imposes. The other use tends to be a command that we should fear God. In this context, the word does not mean to be frightened of God but rather to show proper reverence. To fear God is to stand in wonder and awe rather than to cower and hide. So, fear God, but do not be afraid!

### Living the Gospel – From the house-tops

One of the messages of Jesus to his disciples and, through him, of Matthew to the original community, is to have courage and to have pride in their belief. No matter what threat or persecution they are to endure, the command is to proclaim the message of Jesus from the house-tops. They are to be proud of what they believe and be prepared to share it with others. In a world today that is not always open to the message of Jesus, we too are called to be proud of what we believe and not whisper it in the darkness.

### Scriptural context – The Q source

This gospel passage that appears at Mt 10:26-33 is virtually reproduced in the gospel of Luke (12:2-12) but does not appear in the gospel of Mark. Both the gospels of Matthew and Luke draw extensively on the gospel of Mark as a source for their writing but scholars have also deduced that they shared another unknown source. The content of this lost source can only be deduced by the identification of parallel passages such as this one that appear in Matthew and Luke but not Mark. The undiscovered document is known as the 'Q source' after the German word, *Quelle* (source).