

Sunday November 5th, 2023 THIRTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 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 Malachi 1:14 – 2:2. 8-10

A reading from the prophet Malachi

I am a great king, says the Lord of hosts, and my name is feared throughout the nations. And now, priests, this warning is for you. If you do not listen, if you do not find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of hosts, I will send the curse on you and curse your very blessing. You have strayed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching. You have destroyed the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of hosts. And so I in my turn have made you contemptible and vile in the eyes of the whole people in repayment for the way you have not kept to my paths but have shown partiality in your administration. Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

1. O Lord, my heart is not proud nor haughty my eyes. I have not gone after things too great nor marvels beyond me. (R.)

Ps 130

- 2. Truly I have set my soul in silence and peace. A weaned child on its mother's breast, even so is my soul. (R.)
- 3. O Israel, hope in the Lord both now and for ever. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9. 13

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

Like a mother feeding and looking after her own children, we felt so devoted and protective towards you, and had come to love you so much, that we were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our whole lives as well. Let me remind you, brothers, how hard we used to work, slaving night and day so as not to be a burden on any one of you while we were proclaiming God's Good News to you. Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message,

you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 23:9. 10

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have one Father, your Father in heaven; you have one teacher: the Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 23:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, 'The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must therefore do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them? Not they! Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi. 'You, however, must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one Master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be

exalted.'





Parish Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

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

Parish Bulletin Online www.ballarat.catholic.org.au - follow link to parish Secretary / Child Safe Jill Croxford 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 1st 3rd 5th Sundays 6.30pm Vigil Sat

Landsborough 2nd 4th Sundays 12.30pm

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

Readings for next Sunday

12th Nov 2023

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Wisdom 6:12-16/1 Thessalonians 4:13-18/

Matthew 25:1-13

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 11am Lowe St

3rd Wednesday 10.30am Garden View

4th Wednesday 10am ARVillage

Anniversaries

Mons. Henry Nolan, Laurie Rutter, May Uniacke 1964, Dahne Pollock 1970, John Mullen 1989, Laurence Rutter Mary Jaensch, Juan Alforique Snr, Florentini Alforique, Aproviani Alforique, Abraham Alforique, Servando Alforique, Joshine Radley, Julian Upton, Vincent Flynn 1969, Ethel Phillips 1980, Val Gaylor 1986, Charles Turner 1999, Benedicta Bartels 2002, Bernard Browne 2007 Edward Lynch, Bridget Lynch, John Stapleton, Peter Dover, Bill Vilkavickos, Maria Hickey, Anna Molan 1947 Ivy Ferguson, James Norbury, Jeff Pendlebury, Anne Whitfield, Catherine Mills 1947, Alice (Dolly) Kelly 1953, Robert Presser 1998 Leanne Arnold, Charles Squire 1991, Veronica Dickenson 2013, John Schwab, Jim Clinton, Max & Ethel Murray, Monica McGeogh, Tom Liston, James Morrissey 1982, William Elliot 2008, Marjorie McOwan.

Golden Gate Roster Sun 5th Nov Jim & Jan/ Sun 12th Nov Elizabeth/Sun Nov 19th Teresa/Sun 26th Nov Harry &

Anna/Sun Dec 3rd Jim & Jan

Lake Bolac Roster Sat Nov 4th Reader Phillip Meek/ Prayers of Faithful Denise Haslett/Cleaning Rosemary Liston

Sat Nov 18th Reader Val Albert/ Prayers of Faithful Deb Glasson

Ararat Roster Sun Nov 5th Facilitator Harry C /Reader Teresa G /Euch Min Mary C

Sun Nov12th Facilitator Cathy McA /Reader Kath L/Euch Min Anna C Sun Nov19th Facilitator Peter B/Reader Sr John/Euch Min Charlie R

Stawell Roster Sun Nov 5th S/Minister M Rowe/ Reader Mary Rita Thomas / Offertory Pascual Family

Sun Nov 12th S/Minister K Ashton/ Reader K Dallinger/ Offertory Heenan Family

Sun Nov 19th S/Minister M Howard/Reader J Van Diesen/Offertory P Gooden/ G Pascall

Christmas Cards by St Mary's Students

The students at St Mary's have participated in a competition to make Christmas Cards. To help raise money for the St Vinnies Christmas Appeal and Art supplies for the school, the cards will be on sale from the school and after Church on Sundays in Ararat. \$10 for 10 cards. Linda Lyons

St Vinnies Shop Ararat Columban calendar 2024, now available for sale \$10.00 each.

Marian College Graduation Mass November 16th 2023 6pm

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Arrangements While Fr Andrew is on Annual Leave

Fr Andrew will be on annual leave from November 6 to December 1. During this time the office will still be staffed and the phone will still be monitored. Fr Peter Hudson will be available to fill in on a limited basis.

Arrangements for Sunday Masses

November 11/12 Mass as usual with Fr Peter Hudson November 18/19 Mass as usual with Fr Peter Hudson

November 25/26 Sunday Assemblies in the absence of a priest

Arrangements for 10am Tuesday Weekday Prayers in Stawell

Tues 7th Stay home and watch the Melbourne Cup

Tues 14th Prayers
Tues 21st Meditation
Tues 28th Rosary

Tues Dec 5 Fr Andrew will be back - Mass as usual

Arrangements for Weekday Prayers in Ararat

Friday 11am each week will be prayers Wednesday Aged Care Masses will be prayers

Arrangements for Funerals

Fr Peter Hudson will mostly be available on Fridays and Mondays. Funerals on other days will be lead by our funeral ministry volunteers.

December Roster

Tues Dec 5th, 7pm Mass for the Dead in Ararat (usually held in November)

Reconciliation Lake Bolac Dec 16th during Mass

Tues Dec 19th Reconciliation 5pm Stawell / 6.30pm Ararat Fri Dec 22nd Carols and Supper in Ararat Parish Centre

Christmas Eve Roster

Sunday 24 December

8.30am Ararat (simple Mass)
10.30am Stawell (simple Mass)
12.30pm Landsborough (Christmas Mass)

6pm Stawell (Christmas Mass with Carols at 5.30pm)

7.30pm Ararat (Christmas Mass) 9.15pm Lake Bolac (Christmas Mass)

Altar Wine

Noel Maslamoney from Dadswells Bridge has received a gift of altar wine from his nephew in South Africa, Fr. Ansty. Thankyou very much Fr Ansty. We will use this wine in Stawell. We wish Fr Ansty every blessing in his ministry.

Renovation in Stawell

The renovation of the toilets is not far away. It's now looking likely that we'll do a very simple spruce-up rather than an expensive renovation. Expect new lino and paint, that type of simple revamp. Coming soon. We're still wondering about replacing the stairs to the choir loft. More info when we have it. Painting will begin soon on the outside of Fr Eric's house (convent.)

Nazareth House Auxiliary Monster Garage Sale

Will be held on Saturday, November 18, 2023 at 218 Mill Street, Ballarat at 10.00am. Furniture, books, prints, cake and gift stall, morning tea. Cash only. Contact Margaret, ph. 0419003415.

Three men are traveling on a ship, when they are accosted by the Devil. The Devil proposes that if each man drops something into the sea and he cannot find it, he will be that man's slave. If the Devil does find it, however, he will eat that man up. The first man drops a pure, clear diamond, and immediately gets eaten. The second drops an expensive watch, trying to impress the Devil, and gets eaten. The third man fills a bottle with water and pours it into the sea yelling, "You think I'm a fool? Try finding that!"



Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close Reflection by Artist

The greatest among you must be your servant' — this is a teaching repeated often in the scriptures. Humility is a key value of the Kingdom and is intrinsic to the gospel image of Jesus.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate - Titles and Burdens

There have been periods in the church's history where the burdens placed on the shoulders of people – particularly an exaggerated sense of guilt for certain sins – truly weighed people down, creating a terrible sense of unworthiness, leading to the living of distorted lives. Our Lord makes it clear that leaders cannot evade responsibility for this by hiding behind honorific titles. In the Gospels, we find the One who said: 'Come to me all you who toil and are burdened and I will refresh you. Take my yoke upon you and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden light.' (Matt 11:28-30) If people don't find that the burden laid on them by Church leaders (who often long to be greeted obsequiously) leads to refreshment and rest for their souls, then it is right to question the burden, and to question the leaders who impose such burdens. Perhaps we could pause for a

moment to pray for Pope Francis whose favoured titles are simply: 'Bishop of Rome', 'Servant of the Servants of God'.

Scriptural context – Laying down the Law

Throughout Matthew's gospel Jesus is portrayed as the new law-giver, the new Moses. The five-part structure of the gospel reflects the five books of law that make up the Torah. This week's gospel is the beginning of an extended passage of criticism against the Pharisees (all of Ch 23). The sustained criticism is about how the Pharisees have actually 'got in the way' and made it more difficult for people to come to know God. Jesus, as the new law-giver, tells the people to put aside the distractions of the Pharisees and to recognise that God alone is the source of what is right and wrong; that the Christ is the only teacher.

Living the Gospel – Christian Leadership

The Christian model of leadership often flies in the face of societal concepts of leadership. Many of the models of leadership we witness in society focus on exerting power over others. People are praised for showing 'strong' leadership when they manipulate situations, bully less powerful people and bulldoze their way through others' opinions. Whilst this model of leadership may have a certain effectiveness in the short term, there is certainly nothing 'Christian' about its operation and ultimately it forces a wedge between the leader and the led. Christian leadership focuses on empowering all parties and rather than power over others, it embraces power through and with others.

Gospel Focus – Contrasts

Jesus' description of the Pharisees' behaviour offers a stark contrast to his own way of bringing about the Kingdom of God. By their actions, the Pharisees place burdens on the shoulders of others — burdens of guilt, shame, duty and punishment. Throughout his ministry, Jesus



acted to lift such burdens from the shoulders of the downtrodden and marginalised. Jesus accuses the Pharisees of being motivated by drawing attention to themselves – the way they dress, the way they like to be addressed, even where they sit in the synagogues. In contrast, Jesus' ministry was typified by his humility and focus on others.