



St Patrick's Parish Discover Church Stewardship Program

PO BOX 87 Stawell 3380



Stewardship Program Progress Report 1 October 2020

Dear Parishioner,

This brief report is an update on our current Stewardship program. Covid continues to cause chaos around the world and here in Victoria we are still to get through the Second Stage. This of course completely disrupted the move towards opening up of our churches and consequently, has once again stopped parishioners from attending Sunday Mass with no clear indication of when we will be able to return. **Hence, we appreciate the efforts of those parishioners in making the effort to continue to contribute to the Program because our Parish expenses do not stop.**

In the past quarter our parishioners contributed an average of \$672 weekly, considerably down from the \$1146 per week reported in the first quarter of the Stewardship program, partially explained by the fact that the first quarter total is higher because of a few parishioners paying their contributions yearly or half yearly on a lump sum basis.

As you would be aware, the Stewardship Program only covers part of the Parish expenses and the Parish accounts are supplemented through income derived from the Parish Flats, rental from the old presbytery and return from the Op Shop, the latter being still closed because of Covid restrictions.

Yours sincerely,

John Launder (Program Chair)

To celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the canonization of Saint Mary MacKillop We invite you to order your free copy of **Encountering St Mary MacKillop in Prayer**. The Sisters of Saint Joseph have created a commemorative prayer booklet to inspire us all to **"take fresh courage..."** as Mary did so often. These prayers share details of her personal journey, highlighting Mary's values and spirit, and offering prayers and blessings for our modern world.

To order your exclusive copy please go to: www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/prayer-book or call us on Ph: 02 8912 2777



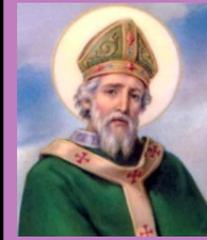
ST PATRICK'S PARISH, STAWELL

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St Patrick's,
Stawell

St Patrick's Parish Newsletter Stawell and Landsborough Sunday 11 Oct 2020 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year A

St Francis of Assisi,
Landsborough



Fr. Andrew Hayes

Let Them Dance

This week I'm watching the budget on TV and not understanding most of it, but it speaks to me of there being a long long road ahead of us. Reminds me of post-war recovery. There's a nation to rebuild, one job at a time. So we get onto it. I long for the churches to be full again. I'm hearing the pain of the dance class community. Children can dance at school at 3pm, but not in a dance hall at 4pm?! I don't know.

For now we wash our hands and wear our masks and talk to the top half of people on zoom. Not the same as in the real, is it? Have you noticed that fancy fashion statement masks are now a thing? Masquerade balls might make a comeback. Oh to be the upper crust!

Let them dance indeed!

Sunday Mass

We're watching the weather and deciding mid-week whether outdoor Masses are on each weekend. Most weeks it won't be. We're not having Mass in wind and rain. Nice day? We'll phone ten people.

Phone Messages

I was asked recently about how to contact me when I'm out or away. When parishioners phone the parish offices in Stawell or Ararat you can be confident that I receive your message instantly regardless of where I am. Please leave your name and number and an indication of the reason for the call. It lets me prioritise. Some calls will wait until the staff are in the office.

Sovereign Hill

I liked this one. Sovereign Hill are hosting an online lecture in which historian Dr Nicola Cousen will talk about the campaign to find a vaccination against smallpox on the Ballarat goldfields in the 1850s and 1860s. Living history!

Horsham Parish

Fr Peter Hudson will retire at Christmas. Monsignor Glynn Murphy will become the Parish Priest of Horsham, Nhill, Warracknabeal and Hopetoun parishes, while living in Warracknabeal. Fr Jim McKay will become the assistant priest and will reside in Horsham.

Fr. Andrew Cont'd:

Coming Home

In today's first reading the Israelites have landed themselves in Babylon. They're missing their temple and their prayers. In another text they cried "How can we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?" How they long to be home, in Jerusalem, in their church. "The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek" says Isaiah. I long to be back in the church, or at least for a nice day when we can celebrate Mass with dignity, even if it has to be in the carpark.

Mass Online

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au has a number of helpful resources Some of the links are listed here:

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat: Mass livestreamed daily from the Cathedral at 10.00am can be viewed here or on facebook.

St Mary Mackillop Parish, Western Border: Mass celebrated on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays can be viewed here. Follow their facebook page

St Joseph's Parish, Warrambool: Sunday Masses at 8.30am can be viewed here or follow the link on facebook.

St Patrick's Parish, Camperdown: Sunday Mass at 10.30am livestreamed here.

Phone Lines

Victorian Coronavirus Hotline — 1800 675 398

If you suspect you may have the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) call the dedicated hotline – open 24 hours, seven days.

Older persons COVID-19 Support line — 1800 171 866

Translations for Victorian Government coronavirus website - www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/translations

1800RESPECT

Confidential information, counselling and support service for people affected by or experiencing sexual assault, domestic or family violence and abuse.

Relationships Australia — 1300 364 277

Support services for individuals, families and communities.

Australian Red Cross — 1800 RED CROSS

Vinnies Ararat Phone: (03) 5352 5560

Salvation Army Australia — 13 SALVOS

First Reading Is 25:6-10

The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.

On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so.

That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 22. R. v.6

(R.) I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)
2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of Darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. (R.)
3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. (R.)
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. (R.)

Second Reading Phil 4:12-14. 19-20

I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation See Jn 15:15

Alleluia, alleluia!
I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!



Gospel Mt 21:33-43

He leased his vineyard to other farmers.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see?'

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

Gospel Reflection

Who you ate with in Jesus' time was very important – it reflected your own status. To share table with people who were regarded as 'lesser' by nature of their lifestyle or illness was seen to lessen the status of other participants. Sharing table was as much a political action as it was a social one. This week's gospel is an important one for understanding Jesus' message of an inclusive kingdom. The king invites all the 'right' people to attend his son's wedding banquet but they shame him by refusing his invitation and murdering his messengers. This would have been an extraordinary action in Jesus' time. An invitation to the table of your social superior would not be rejected lightly. To try to save face and regain some honour, the king sends his servants to bring in people off the street – the poorest and least socially acceptable people. The invitation to the people off the street, 'bad and good alike', is a reflection of Jesus' own attitude to sharing table. Jesus ate with those who were regarded as unworthy: tax collectors, prostitutes and sinners. It was one of the harshest criticisms of Jesus made by the Pharisees and Scribes: 'He eats with tax collectors and sinners!' One of Jesus' strongest messages was about the inclusive nature of the kingdom and he lived it day to day. His inclusive table fellowship was a powerful statement about the fact that the kingdom is an invitation to all – rich and poor alike, regardless of status in this world. This parable highlights the invitation to join in the kingdom of God that has been rejected by the Jewish leaders but taken up by the 'lesser' people of society. The wedding banquet is a metaphor for the kingdom of God.

ANNIVERSARIES: Oct 12th—Oct 18th

Jessie Merrigan 1956, Helen Robinson 1997, Ronald Healy 2003, William Rathgeber 1943, Barrie Mason 2011, Gertrude Woods 1961, Jess Auld 1973, Margery Power 2001, Patrick Rutter 1986 Mavis Sheedy 1996, William Ormesher 2000 Leslie Williams 2006, Sarah Oates 1979, Nancy Rutter 2018, Emma Crawford 1993, Margaret Rathgeber 1952, Bridget Mullens 1962, Monica Sullivan 2008 and John Day 2011

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Please contact the office if you would like your name to be on the sick list. Names are kept on this list for one month—and be put on again.

Anyone in hospital wishing to have communion, please contact the office on 53525460.

Ministry to the Sick:

Please email Fr. Andrew during these difficult times to discuss Ministry to the sick on andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au Or phone the office on 5358 1119 Stawell (Thursdays) Or Ararat on 5352 5460

Pope Francis—Twitter

Belief in God, and the worship of God are not enough to ensure that we actually live in a way pleasing to God. The guarantee of an authentic openness to God is a way of practising the faith that helps open our hearts to our brothers and sisters. #FratelliTutti

Prayer for the Moment

We Bring Your Love. *Loving God, Help us to focus on what we have not on what is removed or changed. Strengthen us when we feel discouraged or overwhelmed. Embrace us so that we know your loving presence within us and among us. Walk with us as we bring your love, and carry your light, into our world. Amen.* Sandra Lucas, MDiv., BCC

Readings	Oct 18th 2020
First Reading	Is 45:1.4-6
Second Reading	1 Thes 1:1-5

10th October World Mental Health Day

The words we use matter when speaking about people who are often stigmatised by society through inappropriate or thoughtless use of language. For people with mental illness, the stigmas surrounding the illness, rooted in misconceptions and erroneous beliefs, is compounded by the language and descriptions we use. As people of compassion, we should never use stigmatising, demeaning language that refers to people as "crazy" or "mental", "psycho" or "lunatic".

We should use appropriate language to describe diseases of the brain, and be careful not to misuse terms. For example, schizophrenia is an illness that has symptoms of delusions and hearing voices. It is not having a split personality. Careful use of language is more than being "politically correct". It is a way of communicating that people with mental illness, as Pope John Paul 11 said, "have the inalienable right not only be considered as an image of God and therefore as a person, but also be treated as such."

www.catholic.or.au/do-not-be-afraid/what-do-I-say-how-do-i-talk-about-mental-illness

"This year's World Mental Health Day, on 10 October, comes at a time when our daily lives have changed considerably as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The past months have brought many challenges: for health-care workers, providing care in difficult circumstances, going to work fearful of bringing COVID-19 home with them; for students, adapting to taking classes from home, with little contact with teachers and friends, and anxious about their futures; for workers whose livelihoods are threatened; for the vast number of people caught in poverty or in fragile humanitarian settings with extremely limited protection from COVID-19; and for people with mental health conditions, many experiencing even greater social isolation than before. And this is to say nothing of managing the grief of losing a loved one, sometimes without being able to say goodbye."

World Health Organisation, mental Health Day 2020

Pope Francis' Prayer for Protection from Coronavirus

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.