

**ROSTERS:****LANDSBOROUGH (8.30AM):**

This Week (December 4)

Readers: M Browne/C Browne

Procession of Gifts: K & G Blake

Ext Minister: C O'Callaghan

Next Week (December 11)

Readers: J Murphy/J Browne

Procession of Gifts: D & M Browne

Ext Minister: J Murphy

Church Care: G Douglas

Church Grounds— December—B & P Browne

**STAWELL:**

This Week (December 3) 7.00PM

Welcomer: M Cray

Readers: N Rathgeber/A Ellis

Ext. Ministers: J Raeburn/P Price

Procession of Gifts: I Robinson

(December 4) 10.30am

Readers: J Van Diesen/E Driscoll

Ext. Ministers: K Ashton/M Rowe/L Morgan

Procession of Gifts: G & G Pickering

**Next Week**

(December 10) 7.00PM

Welcomer: D McIntosh

Readers: T Brady/J Raeburn

Ext. Ministers: A Ellis/D Jones

Procession of Gifts: J Allan

**10.30AM** (December 11)

Readers: M Maestros/S Little

Ext Ministers: K Dalton/G Comitti/G Little

Procession of Gifts: Carey Family

Counters: Today: G Pickering & E Driscoll

Next Week: T & A Ellis

Altar Society: December 10 Liz & Kay

**MARY'S STATUE:** Nov 27-Dec 3 D McIntosh;  
4-10 G Comitti; 11-17 E & N Musumeci; 18-24 P & H  
Rathgeber; 25-31 P & K Fenwick; Jan 1-7 M Kinane;  
8-14 D & J O'Donnell; 15-21 M Rowe; 22-28 E T  
Driscoll; 29—Feb 4 D Duffy

Any queries relating to rosters and volunteers please  
contact June Raeburn on 53583506.

**READERS PLEASE RETURN THE BOOKS TO THE SACRISTY  
AFTER MASS.**

Extraordinary Ministers, please clean Sacred Vessels after Mass  
and prepare for the next Mass—fill wine and water cruets,  
etc.

**WEEKEND MASSES YEAR B:**

Stawell: Saturday at 7.00pm (Summer time—  
Daylight Saving), 6.00pm (wintertime—end of  
Daylight Saving)) Sunday at 10.30am.

Landsborough: Sunday Mass at 8.30am.

**WEEKDAY MASSES (YEAR 1):**

Tues; Wed; Thurs; Fri 10.00am. 2nd & 4th  
Wednesday of Month-Eventide-10.30am.

(Check front of Bulletin for any changes to this  
routine)

**RECONCILIATION:**

Stawell: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 10.00 am, before or  
after each weekday Mass (by request) or by  
appointment at any time. At Landsborough:  
Before 8.20 am Sundays

**MEETINGS & GATHERINGS:**

Prayer Group: every Monday, 1.30pm.  
Cuppa tea Stawell—2nd Sunday after Mass;  
Landsborough—3rd Sunday after Mass.  
St Vincent de Paul: 2nd & 4th Tuesdays 2.00pm  
in Parish Hall.  
CWL: 3rd Wednesday commencing  
with 10.00am Mass.  
Scripture reflection group Thursday 2.00pm in  
the presbytery.

*The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the  
Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel  
Acclamations from the Lectionary for Mass ©  
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Our diocesan website:

[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)

Our parish website can be accessed through the  
diocesan site.

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**ST PATRICK'S PARISH, STAWELL**

Parish Priest: Fr. Eric Bryant.

Address: 27 Patrick St.,  
PO Box 87, Stawell, 3380.

Phone: 03 5358 1119

Fax 03 5358 3000

E-mail: [stawell@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:stawell@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or  
[eric.bryant@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:eric.bryant@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL**

Principal: Mrs. Kate Harney  
PO Box 856

Phone 03 5358 2493



# St Patrick's Parish Community

Stawell-Glenorchy-Great Western-Halls Gap-Landsborough

Second Sunday of Advent - Year A

December 4, 2016

**SUNDAY MISSAL** Pg. 102

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

Brian Molan, Veronica Friend, Win Heenan

**ADVENT SCRIPTURE REFLECTION**

is a great way to remember "the reason for the season". Come along to the presbytery on Thursdays from 2-3.30pm and prepare yourself for Christmas in a way doesn't involve shopping or cooking.

**Advent Giving Tree**. Last year St Vincent de Paul and the Stawell Inter Church Council helped make Christmas a bit easier for 220 needy people by giving Christmas Grocery Shopping vouchers to 80 households and new toys and books to 85 children up to the age of 13 years old. Please help us by donating a new **UNWRAPPED CHILDREN'S TOY OR BOOK** and putting it under the Advent giving tree at the back of the church by next Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec. We will be distributing grocery shopping vouchers, toys and books on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec. If you know of anyone who needs help this Christmas please

direct them to our Cottage, 20 Sloane St, which is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am-12.30pm.

**THE PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH** will be held at the Goldfields Motel, 7 Ararat Rd., Stawell, on Wednesday, December 7 at 12.00 noon.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the children who celebrated First reconciliation on Thursday evening. Thank you to parents and teachers who prepared them so well. Twenty or so children and not one "new" sin recorded. ☺

**CONFIRMATION & FIRST COMMUNION** will be celebrated at 10.30am Mass next Sunday for the children who were absent in October.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CALENDARS ON SALE THIS WEEKEND. GET IN EARLY. Calendars \$9.00.**

**Cards \$5.00—Some 8 per pack, some 5 per pack—different quality.**

**FINANCES LAST WEEKEND:**

Presbytery Collection: \$ 540.00

Parish Collection: \$ 561.00

**SICK LIST**

Noah Amarant; Kathryn Young; Glenis Leddin; Val Seary; Lourdes dela Cerna; Kath Hayes (Ballarat); John Delaney; Lynn Wright; Laurie Healey; John Jess; Simon Monas; Wendy Shea; Angela Moore; Jeff O'Donnell; Peter Duffy (Canada); Margaret McIntyre; Nance Rutter; Theresa Ellis (Edinburgh); Kate Sargent, Yvonne & Alf Evans; Margaret Boag; Nigel James (Canberra), Ian Kindred, June McKee (Mother of Anglican Deacon Heather Scott); Terry Bartlett (WA); Sharron Pickering; Andrew Van Diesen; Benjamin Wolfson

**NB: A FAMILY MEMBER OF THE SICK PERSON MUST CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE TO HAVE NAMES**

Loose Collection: \$ 109.20

(1st Collection is for the clergy stipend, presbytery costs and support of the bishop and sick and retired priests. The 2nd collection is for the upkeep of the parish.)

### **CHILD SAFETY IN THE PARISH:**

A large amount of documentation relating to child safety in our parish is being prepared at the moment. This documentation concerns parish policies, tips to protect our children, the responsibilities of the parish in accepting volunteers, and a number of other matters. It is hoped that these will be posted in the church before Christmas, and that take home materials will be made available. These documents will be reviewed frequently, and any parishioners with ideas that may enhance the documents is encouraged to contact our Child Welfare Officer, Helen Potter, or the Parish Office.

### **HUMOUR:**

#### **Forgiveness?**

A story is about old Jack and old John, two board members of the First Church of Sheboygen, who were always at odds with each other. They were constantly at each others' throat especially in board meetings. When one of them said "yea," you could be assured that the other would say "nay."

So, one day old Jack dies and arrives at the pearly gate. He notices how St. Peter asks everyone a question, before they proceeded. When it was his turn, St. Peter said: "Hi Jack, to see if you qualify for heaven, I need to ask you to spell Jesus for me." "That's easy," says Jack, and goes: "J-E-S-U-S." Peter said: "great, you're in, but could you do me a small favor and take over here for a while; I just need to check on something. I'll be back"

Jack didn't mind and asked everyone in line to spell Jesus. Just then, old John was coming through the line. "What are you doing here?" asked old John. Said Jack; "O, I am just filling in for St. Peter asking everybody to spell a word before they can pass through." "O yeah, what's the word?" asked John. After thinking for a moment Jack said: "spell Albuquerque!"

### **NEWS:**

#### **VICTORIAN BISHOPS CONDEMN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: 'A CRISIS IN AUSTRALIA'**

*Published: 30 November 2016*



Victorian Bishops have issued a statement condemning domestic and family violence in the strongest possible terms, calling it "a crisis in Australia."The statement, issued yesterday, echoes the words of Pope Francis that "we must always say 'no' to violence in the home."

"Figures show that a woman dies at the hands of

her partner or ex-partner every week and that one in four children experiences the distress of witnessing their mother being abused," the statement says.

"The Bishops say that it is women and children who most suffer as victims of domestic violence. They urge for a society where all people are safe in their homes and families and where violence and abuse are simply not acceptable. They have asked that the whole Church community including priests, parishioners, teachers, and the victims themselves work to prevent violence.

The Bishops call for responses to domestic violence which "provide victims with protection and help in rebuilding their lives, which make offenders accountable and assist their rehabilitation, and importantly change those community attitudes from which violence emerges."

The statement also opens the door to joining with other Churches and faith communities to support the necessary change and congratulates the Royal Commission into Family Violence for its outstanding work and vital recommendations which have been promptly and positively responded to by the Victorian government.

It builds on the work of Catholic social service agencies in prevention and assistance to victims. These include CatholicCare, McAuley Community Services for Women, Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand, The Good Samaritan Inn, the Society of St Vincent de Paul, MacKillop Family Services, Jesuit Social Services, VincentCare, and others.

CentaCare Ballarat is the point of contact for the Ballarat dioceses.

The statement will be distributed in Catholic parishes across Victoria this weekend.

### **SCRIPTURE REFLECTION**

Today's readings are like Chaucer's Canterbury Tales. The biblical authors sketch profiles of individuals after whom we can model our lives as we embark on our pilgrimage to eschatological fulfilment. Isaiah depicts the righteous messianic king; Paul provides us with a glimpse of Jesus, the one who ministers to all; and Matthew describes John the Baptist, the prophet who prepared for the Advent of Christ.

The gifts Isaiah attributes to the messianic king are the same gifts that we receive with the anointing of the Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord. The image of the messianic king may have been fulfilled in Jesus, but it is also offered to us as a model after which we can pattern our lives.

Paul declares that Christ came for all. Just as the Canterbury tales describe pilgrims of all backgrounds and characters, so our companions on the pilgrimage come from diverse circumstances. Since the invitation was extended to all, we are expected to welcome all. Some of Chaucer's characters were quite unpleasant, but they were part of the group. Many of the people to whom Jesus ministered were quite unpleasant, but this did not deter him. His example is set before us today.

John the Baptist lived a life of radical self-denial, but he did not require this of others. He preached repentance or change of heart, not a rejection of the circumstances of life. He called for a return to righteousness, to relationships rooted in honesty and respect. He condemned presumption and arrogant reliance on one's religious origin, complacency and the shirking of responsibility, disinterest in the welfare of others.

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### **THIS WEEK:**

**MASSES THIS WEEK:** Mass Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri 10.00am

THURSDAY— Scripture Reflection— 2.00PM **IN PRESBYTERY.**

**CONFESSIONS** —Before or after 10.00am weekday Masses by request (i.e. – just ask Fr Eric.) ; 10.00am 1st & 3rd Saturdays. **Landsborough**—before Sunday Mass. **Any other time by appointment.**