

ROSTERS:

LANDSBOROUGH (8.30AM):

This Week (November 27)

Readers: B G Browne/G Douglas

Procession of Gifts: B & B O'Callaghan

Ext Minister: Betty Amarant

Next Week (December 4)

Readers: M Browne/C Browne

Procession of Gifts: K & G Blake

Ext Minister: C O'Callaghan

Church Care: B O'Callaghan

Church Grounds— December—B & P Browne

STAWELL:

This Week (November 26) 7.00PM

Welcomer: S Blake

Readers: J Raeburn/D Jones

Ext. Ministers: M Howard/S Howard

Procession of Gifts: P Price

10.30AM (November 27)

Readers: K Dalton/K Dallinger

Ext Ministers: H Potter/S Enriquez/G Comitti

Procession of Gifts: Cain/Rutter Family

Next 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

Counters: Today: L & M Habben

Next Week: G Pickering & E Driscoll

Altar Society: December 2 Marie & Gloria

MARY'S STATUE: Nov 27-Dec 3 D McIntosh

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: 1st & 3rd 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 © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.

Our diocesan website:

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 or 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

First Sunday of Advent - Year A

November 27, 2016

SUNDAY MISSAL Pg. 102

RECENT DEATHS: John Coughlan



ADVENT

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.

THE PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH

will be held at the Goldfields Motel, 7 Ararat Rd., Stawell, on Wednesday, December 7 at 12.00 noon. The cost is \$25.00 per head for a two course lunch.

Anyone interested in coming is asked to put their names on the clipboards at the doors of the church. **NAMES NEED TO BE IN BY DECEMBER 1ST.**

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



THE LUTHERAN CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL is being held in the Town Hall, today. There will be an ecumenical Advent service at 1.30pm.

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.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Please pray for the children celebrating First Reconciliation this week. Also, pray for three children who will; celebrate Confirmation and First Communion on December 11.

FINANCES LAST WEEKEND:

Presbytery Collection: \$ 545.70

Parish Collection: \$ 671.00

Loose Collection: \$ 124.55

(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.

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.

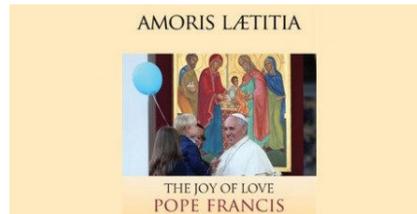
HUMOUR:

After having children, Adam and Eve started getting a lot of questions from their kids about why they no longer lived in Eden. Adam has a simple answer for this: “Your mother ate us out of house and home.”

NEWS:

FUSS BEHIND AMORIS LAETITIA HINTS AT CARDINALS' DEEPER ANXIETY

Published: 24 November 2016



"Why does making space for some married and divorced couples to receive communion arouse such anxiety? The fact that it already exists in much pastoral practice suggests the concern is symbolic of a more general anxiety," writes Andrew Hamilton SJ.

In the years after Vatican II many theologians gave public lectures to Melbourne audiences on renewal. Jesuit moral theologian Arnie Hogan encouraged the move from a command and control approach to Christian living, to an approach based on personal responsibility.

Many of his hearers thought he was not renewing but selling out faith. They flocked to his lectures to grill him. One evening someone asked him whether it was a mortal sin to miss Mass on Sundays. (Mortal sins were a ticket to hell, and in Church teaching to miss Mass on Sunday was a mortal sin.)

In response he began to explain the importance of free consent, grave matter, and mature decision etc. His questioner interrupted him, demand-

ing a yes or no answer. Arnie again took the conversation to a broader level, only to be told, "You are evading the question, Father. Is it, or is it not, a mortal sin to miss Mass on Sunday?"

Arnie paused for a moment and said, "Well, for you, it would be!"

I was reminded of this story when reading that four Cardinals had sent a letter to the Pope demanding yes or no answers as to whether his reflection *Amoris Laetitia* was faithful to Catholic tradition in its treatment of the reception by divorced Catholics of communion. On not receiving a reply they published their letter, and one Cardinal followed it up with murmurs about impeachment.

The incident prompts reflection on the propriety of cardinals questioning a pope in this way and on the reasons why discussion of communion for the divorced should raise such passion.

I am in two minds about the Cardinals' action. Those who consider it inappropriate argue that cardinals are chosen to act as a pope's consultants. They cannot exercise this role effectively if they are involved in public disagreement with him.

They also argue that it is vital for any community organisation to focus on what matters: The cause it represents and the people it serves. The Cardinals' action switches the focus to politics as politics — the disagreements and power relationships between its leaders — to the detriment of the Church.

The four Cardinals argued that they were merely accepting the Pope's invitation to open discussion of the issues raised in *Amoris Laetitia*. Certainly, an open exchange of views can allow the truth to appear. It also allows people to assess which of the participants in the debate are trustworthy in their pursuit of truth. Demanding yes or no answers to complex questions may put lead in your saddlebags in that respect.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

We may be accustomed to think of Advent as the time when we prepare for the coming of God, but the readings also train our attention on our own journey to God. We see this most clearly in this first Sunday with readings that tell us the identity of the pilgrims, the destination toward which they travel, and the way of life that is required of them on their journey. As the Vatican Council has proclaimed: We are a pilgrim people.

Both the reading from Isaiah and the psalm response speak of the pilgrimage to the mountain of the Lord, the place where God can be found. Although the psalm speaks about Jerusalem and refers to the temple there, the broader theological significance of the mountain, the city and the temple is one and the same. They represent the presence of God in our midst, and this presence is the goal of our striving. There are clear directions about how we are to live while we are on this pilgrimage to God. In Isaiah we learn that we must put away our instruments of violence and hatred, our swords and our spears. Lest we pick them up again, we are told to convert them into life-producing implements, into ploughs and pruning hooks. Paul exhorts us to put away our deeds of darkness and self-indulgence and to clothe ourselves instead in the deeds of Jesus Christ. Matthew points out the need for alertness, attentiveness, a disposition that is open to a change of heart.

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