

**ROSTERS:**

**LANDSBOROUGH (8.30AM):**

This Week (December 3)

Readers: K Vance/J Murphy

Procession of Gifts: B G & BW Browne

Ext Minister: K Christie

Next Week (December 10)

Readers: M Browne/B G Browne

Procession of Gifts: R & C Brown

Ext Minister: J Murphy

Church Care: M Browne

Church Grounds— December—B & P Browne

**STAWELL:**

This Week (December 2) 6.00PM

Welcomer: M McCray

Readers: L McIntyre/J Raeburn

Ext. Ministers: C Barker/A Ellis

Procession of Gifts: M, H, J, A Smith

(December 3) 10.30AM

Readers: J Van Diesen/E Driscoll

Ext. Ministers: K Ashton/P Wait/V Enriquez

Procession of Gifts: G & G Pickering

Next Week (December 9) 6.00PM

Welcomer: D McIntosh

Readers: J Raeburn/D Jones

Ext. Ministers: M Howard/S Howard

Procession of Gifts: P Price

(December 10) 10.30AM

Readers: L Morgan/S Little

Ext Ministers: K Dalton/G Comitti/G Little

Procession of Gifts: Cain/Rutter Family

Counters: Today: G Pickering/E Driscoll

Next Week: T & A Ellis

**ALTAR SOCIETY:** December 9 Liz & Kay

**MARY'S STATUE:**

Dec 3-9 PN & H Rathgeber; 10-16 G Comitti; 17-23 M Rowe; 24-30 K & P Fenwick

*Extraordinary Ministers, part of your duty is to clean the Sacred Vessels in the sacristy after Mass and prepare them for the next Mass—fill wine and water cruets, etc. Put filled cruets in the fridge.*

**WEEKEND MASSES YEAR A:**

Stawell: Saturday 6.00pm

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. Funeral Masses take the place of weekday Mass)

**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 Mondays 2.30pm 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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Any queries relating to rosters and volunteers please contact June Raeburn on 53583506.

**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. Liz McIntyre

PO Box 856

Phone 03 5358 2493



**St Patrick's Parish Community**  
Stawell-Glenorchy-Great Western-Halls Gap-Landsborough

First Sunday of Advent - Year B

December 3, 2017

**SUNDAY MISSAL Pg. 50**



**“Christmas is not a happy time for those in need. Last year Stawell Inter Church**

**Council Welfare and St Vincent de Paul distributed Christmas grocery shopping vouchers to 95 needy households in our area, made up of 278 individuals, and new toys and books to 106 children aged 13 years and under. You can help locals in need by leaving a donation of a new unwrapped toy (NO FLUFFY TOYS PLEASE) or a new children's book under the Christmas giving tree in the Church. Donations will be collected on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec and will be distributed on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec.”**



**STAWELL CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

Sat 9 and Sun 10<sup>th</sup> Dec. AT THE Town Hall. Poster and Christmas tree entry forms on the church notice board. Well worth a visit.

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES PROPOSAL:**

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6.00pm Stawell

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>, 10.30am Stawell

6.00pm Stawell

8.00pm Landsborough

Monday (Christmas Day, 9.00am or 10.00am Stawell????

No Sunday, 8.30am Mass at Landsborough????

**FINANCES LAST WEEKEND:**

Presbytery Collection: \$ 434.90

Parish Collection: \$ 571.00

Loose Collection: \$ 77.00

*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.*

**ANY NEW PARISHIONERS—OR OLD PARISHIONERS) PREPARED TO CONTRIBUTE**

**SICK LIST**

Noah Amarant; Kathryn Young; Glenis Leddin; Val Seary; Lourdes dela Cerna; Kath Hayes (Ballarat); John Delaney; Lynn Wright; John Jess; Simon Monas; Angela Moore; Jeff O'Donnell; Peter Duffy (Canada); Nance Rutter; Kate Sargent, Yvonne & Alf Evans; Margaret Boag; Nigel James (Canberra), Ian Kindred, Terry Bartlett (WA); Sharron Pickering; Andrew Van Diesen; Benjamin Wolfson; Bernie O'Callaghan; Patty Fenwick; Robby Laxton; Nicole Lee (Horsham); Dominic Browne; Pat O'Callaghan; Brian O'Loughlin

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

TO PARISH COSTS THROUGH PLANNED GIVING ARE ASKED TO SEE FR ERIC OR GLORIA PICKERING OR FILL IN ONE OF THE CENSUS FORMS IN THE CHURCH. THANK YOU.

#### **BEREAVEMENT TEAM:**

Any person interested in being part of a Parish Bereavement Team is asked to contact Fr Eric.



#### **WEEKEND MASS TIMES:**

Just a reminder that Saturday evening Mass is now 6.00pm all year round

#### **FRONT DOORS:**

The front doors of St Patrick's Church are closed on weekdays, to keep the bad guys out. However, the side door is always open to let the sinners in to pray.

#### **THIS WEEK:**

##### **WEEKDAY MASSES THIS WEEK:**

Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri 10.00am in the Church.

**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:**

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December.

Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring. Therefore, according to EVERY historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, EVERY single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen, had to be a girl.

We should have known... ONLY women would be able to drag a fat man in a red velvet suit all around the world in one night and not get lost.

#### **NEWS:**

##### **STUDENT ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION 'AT CRISIS POINT**

*Published: 28 November 2017*

Schools are struggling to cope with a sharp rise in anxiety, depression and self-harm among students as young Published: 28 November 2017 as 10 years old, with one Catholic school principal saying Australia has reached a "crisis point", ABC News reports.

In April a Mission Australia report found nearly one in four Australian teenagers met the criteria for having a "probable serious mental illness" — a 20 per cent increase from five years ago.

The principal of Canberra's Merici College, Loretta Wholley, said those figures aligned with her experiences in secondary education, but mental health issues were also presenting in younger students.

"Anxiety and depression and self-harm is coming through from primary school," she said. "This used to be an issue for years nine,

10 and 11. Now it is an issue for grades four, five and six."

Ms Wholley said her concern was that mental illness in children and teenagers would "cycle to a point where it gets out of control".

"It is at crisis point," she said.

"One in four, or 25 per cent, of our population is a huge number if you really think about that in terms of a family or any group in society."

It is an experience also shared at the ACT's public schools, with UC Kaleen High School principal Lana Read saying up to 30 per cent of students could be dealing with mental health concerns.

But she said there was now a change in attitudes where students also felt more comfortable to come forward.

"I think a school is very much a microcosm of broader society and we know that there has been a rise in mental health issues across the country and internationally," Ms Read said.

Ms Wholley said while her school was undertaking measures to help its students, the ACT government needed to commit to more than "band-aid solutions".

"At the moment I don't believe they know the solution," she said.

"[They] will give an extra \$400 to an agency and that will put in an extra three counsellors. That is actually not going to be a solution for 25 per cent of the population."

*ABC NEWS reported in CathNews*

#### **SCRIPTURE REFLECTION:**

Today's readings contain several images: the faithfulness of those who suffer, even as they lament their predicament; the admonition to watch and wait; the expectation of the coming of the Day of the Lord. As trustees of the one who is coming, we live in the 'in between' time of ambiguity and hope. The placement of these readings at the beginning of Advent shapes the context for understanding the entire season. They fix our gaze on the world of human pain and then moves beyond it to the hope of a brighter future. Lamentation and expectation find fulfilment in the Day of the Lord.

Waiting is a prominent image this Sunday. Some people wait to be released from suffering, others await the second coming of Christ. Waiting saps our energies and stifles our enthusiasm. Yet wait we must, and as we wait, we wonder: 'What should I be doing?' The readings suggest that we should wait with patient expectation for the day of reconciliation and peace; we should wait in joyful hope that what is to come will come soon. While we wait, we should faithfully fulfil our responsibilities. We believe that we have a future worth waiting for, that there are promises that God will keep. And so we look expectantly to the Day of the Lord, that future day of ultimate fulfilment.

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