

**ROSTERS:**

**LANDSBOROUGH (8.30AM):**

**This Week** (December 9)  
**Readers:** K Vance/B G Browne  
**Procession of the gifts:** BG & W Browne  
**Ext. Minister:** K Vance

**Next Week** (December 16)  
**Readers:** M Browne/C Browne  
**Procession of Gifts:** R & C Brown  
**Ext Minister:** J Murphy

**Church Care:** December 16 - C Browne

**Church Grounds—** December—B & P Browne

**STAWELL:**

**This Week** (December 8) 6.00PM  
**Welcomer:** D McIntosh  
**Readers:** J Raeburn/D Jones  
**Ext. Ministers:** M Howard/S Howard  
**Procession of Gifts:** M Smith Family

(December 9) 10.30AM  
**Welcomer:** K Ashton  
**Readers:** L Morgan/S Little  
**Ext Ministers:** K Dalton/G Comitti/G Little  
**Procession of Gifts:** Cain/Rutter Family

**Next Week** (December 15) 6.00PM  
**Welcomer:** M Rogers  
**Readers:** N Rathgeber/T Brady  
**Ext. Ministers:** A Ellis/E McIntyre  
**Procession of Gifts:** J Allan

(December 2) 10.30AM  
**Welcomer:** R Farrell  
**Readers:** K Dallinger/D O'Donnell  
**Ext Ministers:** M R Thomas/F Harney/L Morgan  
**Procession of Gifts:** P Gooden

**Counters: Today:** T & A Ellis  
**Next Week:** J Raeburn

**ALTAR SOCIETY:**

Next week: Margaret & Di

**MARY'S STATUE:**

Dec 9-15 H Prowd; 10-22 J Launder; 23-29 Fr Eric

*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.*

Your redemption is near at hand

**WEEKEND MASSES YEAR B:**

**Stawell:** Saturday 6.00pm  
Sunday at 10.30am.  
**Landsborough:** Sunday Mass at 8.30am.

**WEEKDAY MASSES (YEAR 2):**

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.

*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](http://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.  
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Finance Manager: Gloria Pickering (Thursdays 11.00-12; 1.00pm -5.00pm)

Welfare and Safety Officer: Helen Potter

**ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL**

Principal: Mrs. Liz McIntyre  
PO Box 856  
Stawell. 3380.  
Phone 03 5358 2493



# St Patrick's Parish Stawell Newsletter

## Second Sunday of Advent Year C—December 9, 2018

**THIS WEEK:**

**St Pauls Sunday Missal Page 740**

**WEEKDAY MASSES THIS WEEK:**

**TUES, THURS, FRI 10.00AM IN CHURCH**  
**WED- EVENTIDE 10.30AM**

**WEDNESDAY - CENTERING PRAYER IN THE PARISH HALL, 2.00PM.**

**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 contact Fr Eric 0419 597 063**

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

Lucas O'Callaghan



**CUP OF TEA:**

After 10.30am Mass today. All welcome.

**ROSTERS:**

New Liturgy Rosters are due to be done in the next few weeks.

Still looking for readers, extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist and individuals or families take part in the Procession of the Gifts. If you would be interested in being part of any of these Ministries please see Fr Eric or June Raeburn. Thank you.



**COLUMBAN CALENDARS:**

Available for sale. \$9.00 each. Get yours now.



**CHRISTMAS CARDS:**

Cards are available for sale. Most \$5.00 per pack of 8 cards. Some single cards for \$1.00 each.

**FINANCES LAST WEEKEND:**

Presbytery Collection \$ 432.30

Parish Collection: \$ 597.00

Loose Collection: \$ 125.00

*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.*

**OUR DIOCESAN COMMUNITY MAGAZINE:**

These are available (free). Take your home today.



**THE PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH**

will be on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at the Goldfields Motel at 12.30pm. and the cost is \$25.00. There are

clipboards for the names of those wishing to go to the lunch and these are inside the doors of the church.

**CHRISTMAS MASSES:**

**Eve—Stawell—Carols 5.30pm, Mass 6.00pm**

**Landsborough 8.00pm**

**Christmas Day—Stawell 9.00am.**

**New Years Day—10.00am Stawell**

**SICK LIST**

Noah Amarant; Kathryn Young; Glenis Leddin; Val Seear; Lourdes de la Cerna; Kath Hayes (Ballarat); John Delaney; Lynn Wright; John Jess; Simon Monas; Angela Moore; Jeff O'Donnell; Peter Duffy (Canada); Kate Sargent; Yvonne Evans; Margaret Boag; Nigel James (Canberra); Ian Kindred; Sharron Pickering; Andrew Van Diesen; Benjamin Wolfson; Bernie O'Callaghan; Patty Fenwick; Robbie Loxton; Nicole Lee (Horsham); Dominic Browne; Brian O'Loughlin; Beryl Walsh; Shirley Gerritsen; Margaret Walker; Jordan Young; Steven Oates; Marg Rowe, Doreen Duffy

**NB: A Family member of the sick person must contact the Parish Office to have names added.**

## GIFTS FOR NEEDY CHILDREN

“Christmas is not a happy time for those in need in our community. Last year St Vincent de Paul and Stawell Inter Church Council Welfare distributed Christmas grocery shopping vouchers to 95 households made up of 256 individuals. New toys and books were given to 110 children 13 years and under. You can help locals in need by leaving a donation of a new unwrapped toy or children’s book under the Christmas giving tree at the back of the Church. Donations will be collected on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Dec and will be distributed on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December.”

It is interesting that a person who was working with me, and whose family donated a considerable number of items last Christmas found their gifts in the pink shed near the church after Christmas. That family recovered their donations and gave them away themselves.

**I WOULD HOPE THAT WE CAN BE ASSURED THAT ANY AND ALL DONATIONS BE HANDED OUT THE YEAR THEY ARE DONATED, EVEN IF THIS MEANS DOUBLING UP TO SOME CHILDREN.**

## Ask and You Shall Receive

Pastor Larson and his council president, Sven Johnson ended up in a heated argument over a seemingly minor worship detail.

“I suggest we go home and pray to God to grant us peaceful hearts,” said Pastor Larson as Sven stormed past him into the churchyard.

After worship the next Sunday morning, Sven greeted Pastor Larson warmly. “I took your advice,” he said. “I went home and said a prayer.”

“Great!” said Pastor Larson. “So did I! I prayed that God would grant us both peaceful hearts and a fresh start.”

“That’s not what I prayed,” said Sven. “I asked God to help me put up with you.”



December 5 2018

Dear Father,

### Christmas Appeal 2018

Our Christmas Appeal is one way by which the diocese can respond to the many communities from near and far who turn to us for assistance. Often these requests come through people who have bonds with the diocese of Ballarat.

I commend the Christmas Appeal to you and to your Parishioners. I am aware that there are many times throughout the year when you are invited to respond to appeals for very worthy causes, but I hope the Ballarat diocese can continue to support this particular appeal.

I thank the people of the diocese for their support of last year’s appeal. The money was distributed as follows:

Catholic Education in Myanmar	5,000
St Columban’s Mission Society	5,000
Caritas Australia	5,000
Catholic Mission	5,000
Coast FM Mackillop Family Services Christmas Appeal	3,000
3BA Christmas Appeal	3,000
Nazareth House Ballarat	3,000
The Soup Bus (Ontrack Foundation)	3,000
Opening the Doors Foundation	5,000
Exodus Community, Wendouree West	2,000
Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH)	2,000
Food Bank Victoria	5,000
Buy a Bale - Victoria	5,000
Total donations made in 2018	\$51,000

In anticipation I thank you for your co-operation in recommending the 2018 Christmas Appeal to the generosity of your parishioners and giving them the opportunity to make their contribution on or about Christmas Day.

With every good wish, I am

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+ Paul Bird CSsR  
Bishop of Ballarat

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## POPE PRAYS FOR PEOPLE WHO TRANSMIT THE FAITH

Pope Francis has released a video message accompanying his prayer intention for December, which focuses on people who pass on the faith. Source: Vatican News.

In this month’s prayer intention, Pope Francis calls for prayers for people who “who are involved in the service and transmission of faith” that they may find ways to speak with others using “a language suited to the conditions of the present time” and by listening.

It has become the custom of Pope Francis to release a video message detailing his prayer intention for each month.

The full text of his intention is below:

If you want to share your faith through the word, you have to listen much and carefully.

Let us imitate the style of Jesus, who adapted himself to the people He had in front of Him so as to bring God’s love to them.

Let us pray that people who are involved in the service and transmission of faith may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time, in their dialogue with people’s hearts, and above all, by listening much.

The Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network of the Apostleship of Prayer developed “The Pope Video” initiative to assist in the worldwide dissemination of monthly intentions of the Holy Father in relation to the challenges facing humanity.

## NEXT WEEKS READINGS:

### (A chance to prepare ahead)

Sunday, 16 Dec 2018: Third Sunday of Advent - Year C

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Zephaniah 3:14-18

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

**With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.**

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud!

Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem!

The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away.

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear,

do not let your hands fall limp.

The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior.

He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love;

he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Isaiah 12:2-6 R. v.6

(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

1. Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear.

For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour.

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. (R.)

2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!

Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!

Declare the greatness of his name. (R.)

3. Sing a psalm to the Lord

for he has done glorious deeds,

make them known to all the earth!

People of Zion, sing and shout for joy

for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (R.)

Second Reading Philippians 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

**The Lord is near.**

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation Isaiah 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 3:10-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

**What, then, must we do?**

When all the people asked John, ‘What must we do?’ he answered, ‘If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.’ There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, ‘Master, what must we do?’ He said to them, ‘Exact no more than your rate.’ Some soldiers asked him in their turn, ‘What about us? What must we do?’ He said to them, ‘No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!’

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, ‘I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.’ As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

The Gospel of The Lord.

### 1. Questions for Adults

Q. How do you think the crowd, tax collectors and soldiers reacted to John’s words to them?

Q. Have you ever experienced a real ‘change of heart’?

Q. Apart from charitable giving, how can generosity be expressed?

Q. In what aspect/s of your life do you need to adopt a more generous spirit?

Q. What does it mean to you to be ‘baptised in the Holy Spirit’?

### 2. Have you thought? – A change of heart

The baptism that John preached and practised was a baptism of repentance. What he called on people to do was to recognise the areas of their lives that were unbalancing their relationship with God. There was a strong recognition that unless they were in right relationship with one another they could not be in right relationship with God. In recognising the need for change in their lives, John challenged them to also make a change of heart: to approach their lives differently. This is why they were questioning him about practical ways of living out their new commitment.

### 3. Gospel Focus – Baptised with the Holy Spirit

John makes clear to his audience the difference between himself and the Messiah who is still to come. His ritual of baptism will pale in comparison with the baptism with the Holy Spirit that the Christ will offer. Compared to a symbolic action of baptism, Jesus will offer the people a tangible experience of life in the Holy Spirit. He will give them not only a glimpse of the reign of God, but an invitation to enter fully into it. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is a lived experience, not just a ritual action.

*Taken from Scripture Reflection by Greg Sunter  
in LiturgyHelp.com.au  
for 3rd Sunday of Advent 2018*