



St Patrick's, Stawell

# St Patrick's Parish Newsletter Stawell and Landsborough



St Francis of Assisi,  
Landsborough

First Sunday of Advent Year A

December 1, 2019

## **THIS WEEK:**

**St Pauls Sunday Missal Page 102**



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

Tues; Wed, Thurs, Fri 10.00am.

Wed—CWL: meeting 10.30am

**CONFESSIONS —Before or after  
10.00am weekday Masses by re-  
quest (i.e. – just ask Fr Eric.);**

**10.00am Saturdays; Landsborough—before Sunday  
Mass. Any other time contact Fr Eric 0419 597 063.**

**CENSUS FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE  
CHURCH THIS WEEKEND AND YOU ARE ASKED  
TO TAKE THESE HOME, FILL THEM IN AND  
BRING THEM BACK ASAP. THESE FORMS ARE  
NOT JUST FOR PLANNED GIVING PURPOSES,  
BUT WILL BE USED TO UPDATE OUR PARISH  
RECORDS.**

**CWL:** At the recent Annual Meeting, Margaret Rowe became President, Kay Dalton continues as Treasurer and for the time being, Acting Secretary. We thank Liz Driscoll and June Raeburn for all the work they have done for the League over the years. We particularly appreciate the years they have spent in office positions.

There will be a meeting of the CWL on Wednesday, December 4, in the Hall following 190.00am Mass. Women interested are very welcome to attend.

## **ST VINCENT DE PAUL AND STAWELL INTER CHURCH COUNCIL WELFARE**

work together to help those in need in our town and region.

If you know anyone who might need assistance this Christmas, could you please direct them to the Cottage at 20 Sloane St. Stawell? We are open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10.30am – 12.30. Requests for help this Christmas with grocery shopping vouchers and new toys and books for children need to be made at the Cottage during this month of November.

## **GIVING TO THE NEEDY AT CHRISTMAS:**

Christmas is not a happy time for those in need in our community. Last year our local St Vincent de Paul and Stawell Inter Church Council Welfare distributed Christmas grocery shopping vouchers to 113 households in Stawell and region, made up of 357 individuals. New toys and books were given to 133 children aged 13 years and under. You can help locals in need by leav-

ing 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 15<sup>th</sup> December and will be distributed on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

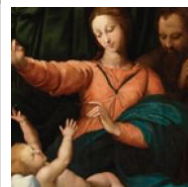
## **FINANCES LAST WEEKEND:**

Presbytery Collection \$ 472.05

Parish Collection: \$ 745.00

Loose Collection: \$ 137.25

*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.*



**COLUMBAN CALENDARS** are on sale from this weekend for \$9.00 each.. A great catholic calendar to have in the home with feast days, catholic art, etc..

**CHRISTMAS CARDS:** Hopefully some Christmas Cards will be available for sale next weekend.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS:** will be performed on December 17<sup>th</sup> outside shop 108 in Main Street. Practices will be held at the Uniting Church on Thursdays 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> December . Any singers most welcome to take part.



**CHRISTMAS TREE EXHIBITION AT THE  
TOWN HALL THIS WEEKEND. OPEN  
UNTIL MID AFTERNOON TODAY  
(SUNDAY). ALL WELCOME TO COME  
ALONG AND HAVE A LOOK.**

## **SICK LIST**

Noah Amarant; Kathryn Young; Glenis Leddin; Lourdes de la Cerna; Kath Hayes (Ballarat); John Delaney; Lynn Wright; Simon Monas; Angela Moore; Kate Sargent; Yvonne Evans; Margaret Boag; Nigel James (Canberra); Ian Kindred; Sharron Pickering; Andrew Van Diesen; Benjamin Wolfson; Robbie Loxton; Nicole Lee (Horsham); Brian O'Loughlin; Beryl Walsh; Shirley Gerritsen; Steven Oates; Maree Parkin; Rosemary Chisholm (Bendigo); Harry Comitti, John Dalziel; Mollie Barton; Patty Fenwick; John Farrell (Swan Hill); Bailey Young, Graeme Blake, Pat Rathgeber

**NB: A Family member of the sick person must contact the Parish Office to have names added. They must also have the permission of the sick person if they are able to give it.**

**HUMOUR:**

Lost on a rainy Friday night, a priest stumbles into a monastery and requests shelter there. Fortunately, he's just in time for dinner and was treated to the best fish and chips he's ever had.

After dinner, he goes into the kitchen to thank the chefs. He is met by two brothers, "Hello, I'm Brother Michael, and this is Brother Francis."

"I'm very pleased to meet you. I just wanted to thank you for a wonderful dinner. The fish and chips were the best I've ever tasted. Out of curiosity, who cooked what?"

Brother Charles replied, "Well, I'm the fish friar."

Father turns to the other brother and says, "Then you must be...."

"Yes, I'm afraid I'm the chip monk..."

**NEWS:**

**CATHOLIC NETWORK READY TO HELP DROUGHT-HIT COMMUNITIES**

*Published: 26 November 2019*



The social and economic impact of drought and bushfires across parts of the country will flow through the affected communities for years, writes Catholic Social Services Australia's Joe Zabar. Source: The Catholic Leader.

Drought is often described as insidious. It creeps up on you, slowly draining you of energy and hope.

Few will understand the anguish faced by farmers forced to deal with the reality of this current drought, except those living in regional Australia who see their local towns suffer through lack of community activity, the loss of income and prosperity, and increasing suicide rates.

The long-term forecast for rain is not promising. We need rain, but it is continuing uncertainty that heightens personal anguish and despair.

Faith will carry many people through the heartache and pain of the drought. Some will find great comfort in the Church's call to dedicate the month of November as a time to pray for those affected by crippling drought conditions and to pray for the gift of rain.

For others, it is the knowledge that the drought will eventually break that brings comfort.

Regardless of what brings people strength, natural disasters – whether droughts, fires or floods – take their toll on the mental health of those directly affected and those who support them.

Accessing appropriate mental health supports and services in rural communities, in particular, can be difficult. This is not just because there are fewer mental health services in these areas, but because country people consider themselves to be resilient.

They are often reluctant to seek help through identified counselling and health services.

There are unique challenges in providing mental health, counselling and support services to the communities that most need them.

Catholic social services providers operate across more than 650 sites nationally. Add to this the Vinnies network and parish-based ministries, and the Church has a unique and formidable presence across metropolitan, regional and rural Australia.

There is a richness of community that exists within many of our drought and bushfire-affected communities.

Imagine how much good could be done if we empowered these communities with the tools and knowledge to help their family, friends and community members inside and outside the Church to better deal with the stresses of drought, bushfires and floods.

*Joe Zabar is deputy chief executive officer of Catholic Social Services Australia.*

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**HELP WANTED:**

*Any volunteers to help put census data on parish computer.*

*Also, any one prepared to help with data input/output during the Planned Giving Program in February.*

*Please contact Fr Eric if you are willing to help.*



## **NEXT WEEKENDS READINGS:**

*(A chance to prepare ahead for next week's readings, especially for our Lectors)*

**Sunday 08 Dec 2019**

**Second Sunday of Advent A**

**First Reading** **Is 11:1-10**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*He judges the poor with justice.*

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse,  
a scion thrusts from his roots:  
on him the spirit of the Lord rests,  
a spirit of wisdom and insight,  
a spirit of counsel and power,  
a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.  
(The fear of the Lord is his breath.)  
He does not judge by appearances,  
he gives no verdict on hearsay,  
but judges the wretched with integrity,  
and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.  
His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless,  
his sentences bring death to the wicked.  
Integrity is the loincloth round his waist,  
faithfulness the belt about his hips.  
The wolf lives with the lamb,  
the panther lies down with the kid,  
calf and lion cub feed together  
with a little boy to lead them.  
The cow and the bear make friends,  
their young lie down together.  
The lion eats straw like the ox.  
The infant plays over the cobra's hole;  
into the viper's lair  
the young child puts his hand.  
They do no hurt, no harm,  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters swell the sea.  
That day, the root of Jesse  
shall stand as a signal to the peoples.  
It will be sought out by the nations  
and its home will be glorious.

**Responsorial Psalm** **Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R. cf. v.7**

*(R.)* Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,  
to a king's son your justice,  
that he may judge your people in justice  
and your poor in right judgement. *(R.)*

2. In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon fails.

He shall rule from sea to sea,  
from the Great River to the earth's bounds. *(R.)*

3. For he shall save the poor when they cry  
and the needy who are helpless.

He will have pity on the weak  
and save the lives of the poor. *(R.)*

4. May his name be blessed for ever  
and endure like the sun.

Every tribe shall be blessed in him,  
all nations bless his name. *(R.)*

**Second Reading**

**Rom 15:4-9**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*Christ, the hope of all people.*

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were

helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Lk 3:4. 6**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:

all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

**Gospel**

**Mt 3:1-12**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.*

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,

make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.

Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

**LIVING THE GOSPEL – PREPARE YE!**



John the Baptist's call to 'Prepare the way of the Lord' is a summary of the purpose of the season of Advent. Every year, as we celebrate the Nativity, we celebrate once again

the presence of God in our world. God became incarnate in the world through Jesus but also always was and continues to be incarnate in the world through each person. If we are to accept this reality and live it out, we need to remind ourselves this Advent to prepare the way for the Lord to be present in and through us every day of our lives.



**ROSTERS:**

**LANDSBOROUGH (8.30AM):**

**This Week** (December 1)

Readers: B G Browne/C Browne  
Processions of Gifts: M Traynor/E Amarant  
Ext. Minister: M Traynor

**Next Week** (December 8)

Readers: J Murphy/C Browne  
**Procession of Gifts:** J Murphy/E Amarant  
**Ext Minister:** J Murphy

**Church Care:** December 7—C Browne  
**Church Grounds—** December—B & P Browne

**STAWELL:**

**This Week** (November 30) 6.00PM

**Welcomer:**

**Readers:** E McIntyre/A Ellis  
**Ext. Ministers:** C Barker/J Obi  
**Procession of Gifts:** J Allan

(December 1) 10.30AM

**Welcomer:** E Driscoll  
**Readers:** K Dalton/H Potter  
**Ext. Ministers:** I Sturt/M Maestros/M R Thomas  
**Procession of Gifts:** G & G Pickering

**Next Week** (December 7) 6.00PM

**Welcomer:** N Rathgeber  
**Readers:** M Howard/J Raeburn  
**Ext. Ministers:** M Howard/S Parry  
**Procession of Gifts:** J Croton

(December 8) 10.30AM

**Welcomer:** P Gooden  
**Readers:** M R Thomas/I Sturt  
**Ext. Ministers:** K Dalton/G Comitti/F Harney  
**Procession of Gifts:** Cain/Rutter Family

**Counters: Today:** M & L Habben

**Next Week:** G Pickering/E Driscoll

**ALTAR SOCIETY :** Next week: Gloria & Marie

**MARY'S STATUE:**

December 1-7 P & H Rathgeber; 8-14 J Raeburn;  
15-21 D McIntosh; 22-28 H Prowd; 29—January 4 J Laun-  
der.

**ANY PERSON/FAMILY WISHING TO HAVE MARY'S STATUE IN THE HOME FOR A WEEK CONTACT MARGARET ROWE OR FR ERIC.**

**NOTES FOR MINISTERS AT MASS:**

*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. Sacred Vessels are to be left prepared on the bench after Saturday Evening Mass, ready for the Sunday morning Mass. Put filled cruets in the fridge.*

*Scripture Reader and Extraordinary Ministers are meant to process with the priest at the start and end of Mass. Reader carries the Lectionary to the Sanctuary at the start of Mass, but does not carry it out at the end.*

**ALL MINISTERS SHOULD TRY TO BE AT THE CHURCH AT LEAST TEN MINUTES BEFORE MASS AND ADVISE THE PRIEST THAT YOU ARE THERE. THIS GIVES HIM TIME TO ARRANGE A SUBSTITUTE IF THAT HAS NOT ALREADY BEEN DONE. ALL MINISTERS ARE TO PROCESS IN AND OUT WITH THE PRIEST AND SERVERS.**



Prepare a way for the Lord



**WEEKEND MASSES YEAR A**

**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: 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: 3rd Monday 2.00pm 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**

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[eric.bryant@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:eric.bryant@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

Finance Manager: Gloria Pickering (Thursdays  
11.00-12; 1.00pm -5.00pm)



Welfare /General Safety Officer;  
and Child Safety Officer : Helen  
Potter



**ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL**

Principal: Mrs. Elizabeth (Liz)  
McIntyre

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