



St Patrick's, Stawell

St Patrick's Parish Newsletter Stawell and Landsborough

The Baptism of the Lord Year A

January 12, 2019



St Francis of Assisi,
Landsborough

THIS WEEK:

St Pauls Sunday Missal Page 151



WEEKDAY MASSES THIS WEEK:

Tues, Wed, Fri 10.00am.
NO MASS ON THURSDAY.

CONFESSIONS —Before or after 10.00am weekday

Masses by request (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.

It is very important that these forms are filled in and returned as soon as possible.

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



CUP OF TEA: after 10.30am Mass today.
All welcome.

HELP REQUIRED:

We require people to operate the data projector from time to time in the church. Any volunteers please see Fr Eric. We may then be able to include the operation on a roster basis. Thank you.

FINANCES LAST WEEKEND:

Presbytery Collection \$ 466.05
Parish Collection: \$ 923.00
Loose Collection: \$ 77.80
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.

PRAYER IN TIME OF DROUGHT AND BUSHFIRE:

Some printed copies are available in the church for anyone who may want to share them with family or friends.

The original prayer used in November for the drought was written by Rev Dr Kevin Lenahan, Master of Catholic Theological College and onetime Assistant Priest in the Ararat Parish. I adapted the prayer to include the bushfire and sent copies to the parishes of the diocese. Since then, the Catholic Bishops' Conference liturgy people have asked if they can include the prayer in a national package. What was meant to be of assistance in the Ballarat Diocese has now gone National. Wonders never cease. I thought I was going to get into trouble for breaking copyright. ☺ ☺

COLLECTION FOR BUSHFIRE VICTIMS:

We were hoping to have some collection tins in the church for those who wish to donate to the cause. However, it may be easier to donate through the many vehicles in town.

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; Carla Bowles (Bullumwaal); John Launder; Kate Wheelan

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:

Little Angel!

Little Johnny's new baby brother was screaming up a storm. Johnny asked his mom, "Where'd he come from?" "He came from heaven, Johnny." Johnny responded: "Wow! I can see why they threw him out!"

PRAYER FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY BUSHFIRE AND DROUGHT:

(An adaption of the prayer for rain during the month of November)

Eternal God,
In wisdom and love
you created our earth
to sustain us and give us life.

We turn to you now
in faith, hope and love,
asking you to look with favour
on our on our fire ravaged and drought-stricken land,
on our starving and displaced
animals,
on our failing crops and burning
farms, towns and forests.

Strengthen, sustain and give new heart
to our farmers
and to all who are affected by drought;
be with those who support them.
Strengthen and comfort the victims of the fires; those who
have lost family, friends, property and stock.
Protect our volunteer firefighters and members of
emergency services.

In your loving providence,
send abundant rain to quench the fires
and to restore our parched earth.

Father of all compassion,
hear our prayer
through Jesus Christ your Son,
in whom the promise of new life
has dawned, and
through the power
of the Holy Spirit,
the Lord the giver of life:
Renew your faithful people;
Renew the face of the earth.

Our Lady of the Southern Cross,
Mary, help of Christians –
Pray for us.
St Mary of the Cross MacKillop –
Pray for us.

CHINA ANNOUNCES NEW CRACKDOWN ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM



Beijing, China, Jan 6, 2020 / 05:00 pm (CNA).- China will enforce new restrictions on religious groups, organizations, meetings, and other related events starting on Feb 1.

The country's state-controlled media announced the new policy on Dec. 30, after Chinese authorities moved to further suppress Catholics in the Archdiocese of Fuzhou who are refusing to join the state-run Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association.

According to UCA News, the new "Administrative Measures for Religious Groups," which consists of six sections and 41 articles, will control every aspect of religious activity within China, and will mandate that all religions and believers in China comply with regulations issued by the Chinese Communist Party, which must be acknowledged as the higher authority.

"Religious organizations must adhere to the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, observe the constitution, laws, regulations, ordinances and policies, adhere to the principle of independence and self-government, adhere to the directives on religions in China, implementing the values of socialism," says Article 5 of the new policies.

In Article 17 states that "religious organizations must spread the principles and policies of the Chinese Communist Party," as well as requiring "religious personnel and religious citizens to support the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, supporting the socialist system, adhering to and following the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics."

Other articles

in the new measures state that religious organizations "must establish a learning system" to train employees in aligning with the Chinese Communist Party's policies, and also requires that the government authorities be involved in the selection of religious officers and involved in disputes.

Article 34 states "Without the approval of the religious affairs department of the people's government, or registration with the civil affairs department of the people's government, no activities can be carried out in the name of religious groups." This means that "home churches" or any form of underground churches are illegal.



NEXT WEEKENDS READINGS:

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

Sunday 19 Jan 2020

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time A

First Reading **Is 49:3. 5-6**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I shall be glorified';

I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord, my God was my strength.

And now the Lord has spoken, he who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, to gather Israel to him:

'It is not enough for you to be my servant, to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel;

I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 39:2. 4. 7-10. R. vv.8. 9.**

(R.) Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry.

He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God. **(R.)**

2. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,

but an open ear.

You do not ask for holocaust and victim.

Instead, here am I. **(R.)**

3. In the scroll of the book it stands written that I should do your will.

My God, I delight in your law in the depth of my heart. **(R.)**

4. Your justice I have proclaimed in the great assembly.

My lips I have not sealed; you know it, O Lord.

Second Reading **1 Cor 1:1-3**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May

God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation **Jn 1:14. 12**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel **Jn 1:29-34**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Strangely, despite being in Ordinary Time again, the lectionary temporarily departs from the gospel of Matthew and today's reading is from the gospel of John. Given that last week's reading was the Matthean account of the baptism of Christ we must assume that there is a deliberate purpose in the choice of reading for today. Indeed, the three readings for today give a very specific slant to the baptism and mission of Jesus. The readings from Isaiah and Paul's letter to the Corinthians emphasise that God's salvation is for all the world, not just the people of Israel. We find this also in the gospel when John the Baptist declares, 'there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world'. It is the sin 'of the world' that Jesus takes away; that is, all human-kind. This was a tough concept for the Jews whose relationship with God was grounded in the concept of being the 'chosen people'; a people set apart. It continues to be a difficult concept for many Christian people today who struggle with the notion that God's love and mercy are so extravagant that they are poured out for absolutely anyone and everyone. Some Christians like to maintain an 'us and them' approach to their faith and think that if you're not one of 'us' then salvation will be denied by God.

The role of John the Baptist in this passage is to be a witness; to point to Jesus and say 'He is the one!' Lots of us need the affirmation and direction provided by another person before we are ready to commit to a new direction in our lives. John gives the crowd confidence and effectively hands over to Jesus the authority that the crowd had perceived in him.

ROSTERS:

LANDSBOROUGH (8.30AM):

This Week (January 12)

Readers: K Vance/M Browne

Processions of Gifts: B & C Brown

Ext. Minister: K Vance

Next Week (January 17)

Readers: J Browne/M Browne

Procession of Gifts: J & C Browne

Ext Minister: M Traynor

Church Care: January 18—M Browne

Church Grounds— January—J Browne

STAWELL:

This Week (January 11) 6.00PM

Welcomer: N Rathgeber

Readers: L McIntyre/L Morgan

Ext. Ministers: J Obi/A Ellis

Procession of Gifts: J Croton

(January 12) 10.30AM

Welcomer: M Rowe

Readers: S Little/H potter

Ext. Ministers: S Enriquez/M Rowe/K Dalton

Procession of Gifts: I Sturt/P Gooden

Next Week (January 18) 6.00PM

Welcomer: M Cray

Readers: D Jones/N Rathgeber

Ext. Ministers: P Price/A De Leon

Procession of Gifts: M Smith

(January 19) 10.30AM

Welcomer: E Driscoll

Readers: M R Thomas/J Van Diesen

Ext. Ministers: G Little/I Sturt/F Harney

Procession of Gifts: Cain/Rutter Family

Counters: Today: T & A Ellis

Next Week: J Raeburn

ALTAR SOCIETY : Next week: Liz & Kay

MARY'S STATUE:

January 12-18 G & G Pickering; 19-25 M Rowe; 26– Feb 1 J Launder



ANY PERSON/FAMILY WISHING TO HAVE MARY'S STATUE IN THE HOME FOR A WEEK (SUNDAY—SATURDAY) 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.



This is my Son, the Beloved, my favour rests on him



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

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 /MOB 0419 597 063

Fax 03 5358 3000

E-mail: stawell@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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

PO Box 856

Stawell. 3380.

Phone 03 5358 2493

Email: principal@spstawell.catholic.edu.au