



St Patrick's,
Stawell

St Patrick's Parish Newsletter Stawell and Landsborough

6th Sunday of Ordinary Time —Year A
February 16, 2020



St Francis of Assisi,
Landsborough

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM 2020

THIS WEEK:

St Pauls Sunday Missal Page 383

WEEKDAY MASSES: TUES; WED; THURS; FRI
10.00AM

CONFESSIONS —Before or after 10.00am week-
day 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.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Doug Driscoll, Jack Dalziel

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM:

**Thank you to the parishioners from
Landsborough, Great Western and Sta-
well who attended the meeting on Tues-
day Evening. By now, all should have
received the Parish Directory and the
sheet entitled “Discover Church Steward-
ship Program”**

Parishioners are urged to get behind the
program, as our ability to function as a via-
ble parish into the future depends on our
response. There will also be an opportunity
for all to come together for input and to
share a supper as part of the campaign.
This will be on next Friday, February 21,
commencing in the Church and then for a
hot finger food supper in the Hall. All pa-
rishioners and partners are welcome to at-
tend as are children..

**We encourage all parishioners to make
an effort to come along.**

**We again welcome the Campaign Direc-
tor Mr Ron Cameron and his wife Marie
to Stawell. A great amount of prepara-
tion has already taken place, but now we
need numbers of parishioners to take re-**

sponsibility of what is to follow.

**A DIRECT DEBIT FACILITY WILL BE AVAILABLE WITH
THIS PROGRAM AS SOME HAVE REQUESTED**

**A SINCERE THANK YOU TO
THOSE WHO HAVE ATTENDED
MEETINGS AND HAVE TAKEN
ON TASKS TO ASSIST IN THE
RUNNING OF THE CAMPAIGN.**



ASH WEDNESDAY:

Ash Wednesday is on the 26th February, Wednesday
after next.

It is NOT a day of obligation.

Mass will be celebrated at 10.00am in Stawell to en-
able the school to attend.

A Mass will also be celebrated at Landsborough on Ash
Wednesday evening at 6.00pm.

CUP OF TEA/COFFEE after 8.30AM Mass at Lands-
borough this weekend. All welcome.

FINANCES LAST WEEKEND:

Presbytery Collection \$ 565.30

Parish Collection: \$ 1041.00

Loose Collection: \$ 94.55

*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.*

SICK LIST

Noah Amarant; Kathryn Young; Glenis Leddin; Lourdes
de la Cerna; Kath Hayes (Ballarat); John Delaney;
Lynn Wright; Simon Monas; Angela Moore; Kate Sar-
gent; 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; Bailey Young, Graeme Blake,
Pat Rathgeber; Carla Bowles (Bullumwaal); Kate
Wheelan

**NB: A Family member of the sick person must con-
tact 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: (Some Planned Giving Humor)

Two men were marooned on an Island. One man paced back and forth worried and scared while the other man sat back and was sunning himself. The first man said to the second man, "aren't you afraid we are about to die." "No," said the second man, "I make \$100,000 a week and tithe faithfully to my church every week. My Pastor will find me."

Another one

Was the church service worth a dollar?

As a man and his family drove home after church, he was complaining about everything. He said, "The music was too loud. The sermon was too long. The announcements were unclear. The building was hot. The people were unfriendly." He went on and on, complaining about virtually everything. Finally, his very observant son said, "Dad, you've got to admit it wasn't a bad show for just a dollar for the six of us."

**NEWS:
POPE PLAYS DOWN EXPECTATIONS ON MARRIED PRIESTS**

Published: 12 February 2020

Archbishop John Wester of Santa Fe, New Mexico, told CNS the Pope told the bishops: "I want to hear what you have to say. Criticisms, complaints and questions are welcome. That's how the Holy Spirit works. The Holy Spirit can't work if we're all walking on eggshells and afraid to say anything."

The clerical sexual abuse crisis, immigration, polarisation in society and in the Church, training seminarians, the ministry of bishops and the role of women in the Church were among the topics discussed, several bishops said.

Bishop Oscar Solis of Salt Lake City said Pope Francis did not go into detail about Querida Amazonia but he did give the bishops the impression that the issues of ordaining married men and women deacons for ministry in far-flung communities would still be a matter for future discussion and discernment.



Pope Francis with US bishops at the Vatican on Monday (Vatican Media)

Pope Francis has told a group of US bishops that people focused on the possibility of ordaining married men and female deacons for service in the Amazon will be disappointed in his apostolic exhortation. Source: The Tablet.

By Junno Arocho Esteves, Cindy Wooden and Carol Glatz, CNS via The Tablet

The Vatican will today release Querida Amazonia, Beloved Amazonia, the Pope's post-synodal document.

The document came up in the two-and-a-half-hour ad limina discussion Pope Francis had with bishops from New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, Utah and Wyoming on Monday, two of the bishops said.

"He said he didn't actually believe in the ordination of married men, but what are you going to do with all those people who are deprived of the Eucharist," the bishop said. There are communities where a priest arrives only once a year for Mass.

Pope Francis did warn the bishops that many in the media and the general public will be focusing on those two issues – married priests and women deacons – while he wanted to focus on the social, pastoral, ecological and cultural challenges facing the Amazon region.

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NEXT WEEKENDS READINGS:

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

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
Mass of Day with Lectionary and Missal texts of Sunday Ord
Time 7 Yr A

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Lv 19:1-2. 17-18

A reading from the book of Leviticus

You must love your neighbour, as yourself.

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. (R.)

2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)

3. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. (R.)

4. As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 3:16-23

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

All things are yours, but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation 1 Jn 2:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Whoever keeps the word of Christ,

grows perfect in the love of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 5:38-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Love your enemies.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel Reflection (Next Week's Gospel)



The first part of today's gospel passage is perhaps one of the most misunderstood of Jesus' teachings. The notion of turning the other cheek usually brings up notions of non-violence, submission, or even sometimes a victim mentality. It seems an odd teaching to tell someone who is being hit to simply stand there and present the other cheek to also be hit. It's odd because we generally fail to understand the cultural context that is the setting for this teaching.

In the first century, a master would discipline a slave or servant by striking them with the back of his hand. Assuming the master is right handed, a back-handed strike would be delivered to the right cheek of the person he faced. If the servant were to then present his left cheek to the master, it becomes impossible for the master to strike with the back of his hand and forces him into using an open-hand slap or a closed-fist punch to the left cheek. Not much of an improvement, you might think. However, servants were disciplined with the back of the hand and only equals fought in such a way that would deliver blows to the left side.

What Jesus is saying to those who are oppressed is to offer no resistance but at the same time stand up for yourself and make your oppressor recognise you and treat you as an equal, not an inferior. It is extremely dangerous advice! Its aim is to shame the oppressor.

The other two examples, surrendering your cloak when sued for your tunic and walking two miles when required to walk one are also examples of seeking to shame the one who would use their power and strength against you. That's not being a submissive wimp; that's staring the bully in the eye!



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

Advice on coronavirus and liturgical practice

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has not called for the suspension of any practices at Mass in response to novel coronavirus that appeared in China and has been detected in several countries, including Australia. The Conference is closely monitoring the situation.

As always, common sense dictates that people who suspect they may be suffering from or carrying an infectious condition should stay home until they are well.

At this point, health authorities have said that the risk of exposure to the public is very low, especially if they have not travelled to one of the affected areas or have had contact with someone who has.

If health authorities provide further advice on public gatherings or regarding the reception of Holy Communion, the Conference will issue further instructions. Dioceses, in liaison with parishes and other ministries, are encouraged to monitor local and national health advice.

January 31, 2020



POPE SHARES HIS 'DREAMS' FOR AMAZON REGION

Published: 13 February 2020

Pope Francis said he dreams of an Amazon region where the rights of the poor and indigenous are respected, local cultures are preserved, nature is protected and the Church is present and active with "Amazonian features". Source: CNS.

By Cindy Wooden, CNS

In his apostolic exhortation *Querida Amazonia* (Beloved Amazonia), Pope Francis made no mention of the idea of ordaining married men to the priesthood so that far-flung Catholic communities would have regular access to the Eucharist.

Instead, he said "every effort should be made to ensure that the Amazonian people do not lack this food of new life and the sacrament of forgiveness."

"A specific and courageous response is required of the Church" to meet the needs of Catholics, he said, without dictating what that response would be.

However, Pope Francis opened the document saying he wanted "to officially present the final document" of October's Synod of Bishops for the Amazon. The final document asked for criteria to be drawn up "to ordain as priests suitable and respected men of the community with a legitimately constituted and stable family, who have had a fruitful permanent diaconate and receive an adequate formation for the priesthood, in order to sustain the life of the Christian community through the preaching of the word and the celebration of the sacraments in the most remote areas of the Amazon region."

Having a Church with "Amazonian features," he said, also will require greater efforts to evangelise, official recognition of the role women have and continue to play in the region's Catholic communities, a respect for popular forms of piety and greater efforts to inculcate the Catholic faith in Amazonian cultures.

In the document, Pope Francis did not mention the theft during the Synod of wooden statues of a pregnant woman, usually referred to by the media as "pachamama" or described as a symbol of life and fertility by Synod participants.

But he insisted, "Let us not be quick to describe as superstition or paganism certain religious practices that arise spontaneously from the life of peoples."

While the idea of ordaining women deacons was mentioned at the Synod, it was not included in the bishops' final document.



St Patrick's Parish
27 Patrick Street
PO Box 87
Stawell Victoria 3380

AN INVITATION

12 February 2020

Dear Friend/s

I am writing to invite you to become involved in our Discover Church Stewardship Program and in particular to attend the Thanksgiving Gathering to be held on Friday the 21st February at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall. The Thanksgiving Masses to be held over that weekend on Saturday the 22nd and Sunday the 23rd February. All Masses will be held at their regular times.

A feature of this program will be to provide the opportunity for parishioners to make their thanksgiving commitment through direct debit, credit or weekly envelopes.

It's been said that: "The parish is where the church lives. Parishes are communities of faith, of action and hope. They are where the gospel is proclaimed and celebrated, where believers are formed and sent to renew the earth. Parishes are the home of the Christian community; they are the heart of the church".

Each of these sentences apply to us and take on special meaning as we renew and review our Thanksgiving Pledge to God's work.

God Bless

Father Eric

**John Launder
Campaign Chair**

POPE PLAYS DOWN EXPECTATIONS ON MARRIED PRIESTS

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11th February, 2020

Project Compassion 2020 – Go Further Together

Dear friends and supporters of Caritas Australia,

At this time when many parts of our nation has been devastated by fire and many of our fellow Australians have had to flee their homes, we've all been reminded of the principle of solidarity. Many are also facing drought, lower water availability and flood. We are one human family and we have a God-given responsibility to look out for each other, particularly in hardship and when disaster strikes.

Solidarity comes to mind when the Catholic Bishops of Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands had organised a fundraiser to assist those affected by the bushfires here in Australia. At Caritas Australia, we have also received messages of support from Caritas Bangladesh – a country that knows natural disasters very well. Caritas Australia continues to support development projects in PNG, the Solomon Islands and Bangladesh among many other countries, all of us the one human family. Another example of solidarity is that the town of Villers-Bretonneux in France, liberated at great cost of life by ANZAC soldiers in World War One, has also raised thousands of Euros for our bushfire appeals.

Of course, many of you and your communities will have given generously to the Vinnies and other bushfire appeals, and indeed some in our communities may well have been personally affected. Understanding this, I still hope that you will feel able to support the Project Compassion 2020 appeal (PC20). The theme of PC 20 is Go Further Together. This theme speaks of solidarity, our calling to support each other in difficult times, to create opportunities for people in need so that they can work to support themselves in peace and security.

The stories this year are from the Philippines, Cambodia, Australia, India, Malawi and Papua New Guinea; and the issues highlighted include disability, agriculture, indigenous health and domestic violence. All of these issues are important to us here in Australia, and the work of our partners in these projects will lead us all to a better world.

You will have received your parish resources including a USB in the parish kit which contains administration information and excellent resources on the stories of PC20. All resources can also be downloaded from the Caritas website at <http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion> Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to make contact with me.

Thank you again for your ongoing support of Caritas Australia

Sue Searls

Diocesan Director, Diocese of Ballarat

The Catholic agency for international aid and development

Address P.O. Box 178, Wendouree 3355

Phone 03 5339 4440 M. 0403 902 921

Email sue.searls@ballarat.catholic.org.au /

**ASH WEDNESDAY (The Beginning of Lent) IS WEDNESDAY WEEK.
PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES AND ENVELOPES WILL BE AVAILABLE
NEXT WEEKEND.**



ROSTERS:

LANDSBOROUGH (8.30AM):

This Week (February 16)

Readers: M Browne/C Browne

Procession of Gifts: D Browne/M Browne

Ext Minister: C Browne

Next Week (February 23)

Readers: J Murphy/K Vance

Processions of Gifts: J Murphy/Betty Amarant

Ext. Minister: J Murphy

Church Care: February 22—K Vance

Church Grounds— February— Volunteer

STAWELL:

This Week (February 15) 6.00PM

Welcomer: M Cray

Readers: L Morgan/T Brady

Ext. Ministers: B Walsh/J Raeburn

Procession of Gifts: M Smith

(February 16) 10.30AM

Welcomer: S Enriquez

Readers: M R Thomas/K Dallinger

Ext. Ministers: V Enriquez/G Comitti/G Little

Procession of Gifts: Cain/Rutter Family

Next Week (February 22)

Welcomer: D McIntosh

Readers: J Raeburn/A Ellis

Ext. Ministers: C Barker/D Jones

Procession of Gifts: I Robinson

February 23) 10.30AM

Welcomer: M Rowe

Readers: M Maestros/D O'Donnell

Ext. Ministers: H Potter/S Enriquez/J Van Diesen

Procession of Gifts: L & M Habben

Counters: Today: J Raeburn

Next Week: M & L Habbin

ALTAR SOCIETY : Next week:

MARY'S STATUE: Feb 16-22 M R Thomas, 23-29 N & E

Musumeci

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.

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 10.00AM 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. Michelle Hogan

PO Box 856

Stawell. 3380.

Phone 03 5358 2493

Email: principal@spstawell.catholic.edu.au