



St Patrick's,
Stawell

St Patrick's Parish Newsletter

Stawell and Landsborough

3rd Sunday of Easter —Year A

April 26th 2020



St Francis of Assisi,
Landsborough

As we celebrate, we acknowledge the Indigenous owners of the land on which our Churches are built, the Tjapwurong people, and we respect the presence of the spirits of their ancestors among us.

Fr. Andrew Hayes They Recognised Jesus

They recognised Jesus in the breaking of the bread. That's the gospel for today. Wow! After last week when the early Church met in their homes for the breaking of the bread. I've been enjoying Mass each Sunday at my dinner table, so how it must hurt for many who cannot! They recognised the Risen Jesus walking amongst them. Still on that thought, I was taken by the prime minister this week asking us not to be racist. Good call by the prime minister. People are being beaten for looking Chinese. Oh for God's sake! BUT - governments of both teams have traded gloats over the years over who has stopped the most poor people from Arab or Asian countries arriving on boats. There's not the same uproar about people from wealthy Western countries arriving by plane and staying. That's racism. The problem isn't boat or plane. The difference is country of origin. Racism! Politicians have spent a decade teaching us to be racist, and this week complained when some imitated them. Three cheers to the RAR, ASRC and BASP. Let us recognise Jesus in the people who walk alongside us.

RAR - Rural Australians for Refugees

ASRC - Asylum Seeker Resource Centre

BASP - Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project.

A Blessed Ramadan

Ramadan started this week. It's a very holy time, like Lent for Muslims. Other years I attend a number of events, often in Melbourne, to mark Ramadan. This year, with Corona, will be more a time of stillness, which is actually the point I suppose. Let's pray for the holy Muslim people. For those in Ararat, have you driven past the mosque and cultural centre? It's coming out of the ground. Won't be long!

ANZAC Day

Let us remember the fallen and in a special way might we remember those who lie in foreign soil far from home and those who lie in unmarked graves, loved by their families, revered by our nation, and known unto God. As we

celebrate our Risen Lord, let us pray that each of the fallen who has died out of love for us might in their turn rise again and be known unto God and live forever. May God bless them and love them.

Locked In

How are people faring? Go gently. Be kind. Go for a walk. Pat a dog. In Ararat we're sending out lovely meals to people, just as a gift, just for the love of it. Thanks Mike. Good job! Kids at home? Dance with them. Sing with them. Let them be. Don't stress over the home learning. Do what you can. The world will spin. Teach them to cook, then recognise Jesus in the breaking of the bread.

Mass Times

Both parishes can expect a decision on Mass times in the next couple of weeks.

Collections

Thank you to all those who have been able to contribute to the Presbytery and Church Collections at this unprecedented time. Every little helps. We need to keep our churches standing and the parish priest ready and able to organise the most wonderful celebratory Mass, once we can gather again!



Fr. Andrew Hayes

Parish Priest

Parish Collection \$765

Presbytery Collection \$25

Caritas (Project Compassion) \$335

First Reading Acts 2:14, 22-33

It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.

On the day of Pentecost, Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him: I saw the Lord before me always, for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me. So my heart was glad and my tongue cried out with joy: my body, too, will rest in the hope that you will not abandon my soul to Hades nor allow your holy one to experience corruption. You have made known the way of life to me, you will fill me with gladness through your presence.

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 15:1-2. 5. 7-11. R. v.11

(R.) Lord, you will show us the path of life.

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.
I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize.' (R.)
2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,
who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. (R.)
3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay. (R.)
4. You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness for ever. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Pt 1:17-21

The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ.

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold,

but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

Gospel Acclamation See Lk 24:32

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:
make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 24:13-35 They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread. *copyright One License Used with permission*

SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY by Dianne Bergant CSA

The Easter mystagogical instruction continues. Today we reflect on life as a journey. This theme expresses well the fact that life is not static, but is a movement from one point to another. Actually, we do not so much make the journey as we join one that is already in progress. Nor are we alone on it. We have companions who share their encouragement and support, their talents and insight. Like the two disciples travelling to Emmaus, we have certain expectations which Jesus does not seem to fulfil. They did not realise that through his death he had accomplished everything. They did not realise that the Risen Lord himself was their travelling companion. As with them, so with us. We may not see the extraordinary in the ordinary. We may not see the hand of God in our lives. Perhaps we need someone to interpret for us both the tradition and the events of life. Despite appearances, something is happening beneath what we are able to observe. God is at work beneath and within our lives. Once we realise who this unique travelling companion really is, our hearts too will burn within us, our eyes too will be opened, and we too will look at life with the assurance of faith. Easter faith will transform our disillusionment into missionary zeal. Some of us may be called upon to give public witness, as did Peter. Most will preach with the example of our lives. All can enter this mystery as we recognise him in the breaking of the bread.

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Next Week's Readings 3rd May 2020

First Reading Acts 2:14, 36-41

Second Reading 1 Pt 2:20-25

OFFICE INFORMATION

Parish Priest: Fr. Andrew Hayes Ararat & Stawell

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Download Church Bulletin—www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Finance Manager: Gloria Pickering

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Parish Office: 03 5358 1119

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Office Hours: Thurs 11am-5pm

ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL

Principal: Mrs. Michelle Hogan

PO Box 856 Stawell. 3380.

Phone 03 5358 2493

Email: principal@spstawell.catholic.edu.au

Prayers of the Faithful

3rd Sunday of Easter

Priest: Let us turn to God with our hearts open in faith and pray for those in need.

Reader: That those who must journey through foreign lands will be given safe passage and hospitality.

In faith we pray

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For this community, that we always place our trust in the risen Lord and bear witness to our faith.

In Faith we pray

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That exhausted healthcare workers will be given patience and determination to mirror Christ's compassion in their ministry of healing. We pray especially for those at the forefront of the coronavirus outbreak.

In faith we pray

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For people who are isolated, that they will be filled with the comfort of Christ the risen saviour. We pray especially for those experiencing isolation during the coronavirus restrictions.

In faith we pray

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those living with the fear of disease will find a sense of calm and shelter in Christ. We especially pray for people who are sick from the coronavirus.

In faith we pray

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For countries where health infrastructure is limited, that they will be granted equipment and resources. We pray especially for generous sharing between nations during the coronavirus pandemic.

In faith we pray

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who have died, and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time, will live forever with the risen Christ.

In faith we pray

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: God of the pilgrim Church, you pour out your Spirit on those who walk the road of faith. Hear our prayers and help us to recognise the presence of the risen Christ in our midst. We ask this through Jesus the Lord.

All: Amen.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

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NOTICES

Stawell Inter Church Council Welfare

- provide direct food aid as well as supermarket, chemist, fuel, VLine and limited accommodation vouchers for the needy. We are based at "The Cottage" 20 Sloane St Stawell. Ring – 0408 038 949 We now only conduct interviews over the phone and we will home deliver aid to those in need. If a household is in isolation/quarantine or any member of that household has any symptoms of C19, we will deliver the required aid to an agreed designated family member, friend, neighbour or case worker who will then deliver that aid to the needy household.

Stawell St Vincent de Paul Society

- is still providing aid to those in need in our community. We help with limited accommodation, rent assistance, utility bills, school expenses, etc. Ring 0437 344 323 After conducting a phone interview we will deliver aid to anyone in need. If a household is in isolation/quarantine or if any member has any symptoms of C19 we will deliver that aid to a designated family member, friend, neighbour or case worker.

Other Notices

ANZAC Day 2020

The Catholic Military Ordinariate of Australia is charged with the pastoral care of uniformed members of Australia's Navy, Army and Air Force, their families and civilians employed by the Department of Defence. Unfortunately ANZAC Day Mass for 2020 has been cancelled. Read more at their website <http://military.catholic.org.au/>

With Jesus in the Desert: A retreat for a time of isolation

The staff of Jesuit Communications have prepared a 14-day retreat for the use of people who have to isolate themselves for 14 days during the Coronavirus crisis. Of course, other people who may find it helpful are also welcome to use it. The retreat has suggestions for each of the 14 days, though participants are free to follow it through or to pick out particular days. A shorter retreat that keeps the basic pattern could involve days 1, 2, 5, 10, 11, 12, 14. More information at <https://www.pray.com.au/with-jesus-in-the-desert-a-retreat-for-a-time-of-isolation/>

Mother Earth Day – April 22

Mother Earth is clearly urging a call to action. Nature is suffering. For more information go to [https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/uploads/ppage/files/Catholic%20Earthcare%20Ballarat/Mother%20Earth%20Day\(2\).pdf](https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/uploads/ppage/files/Catholic%20Earthcare%20Ballarat/Mother%20Earth%20Day(2).pdf)



Stawell Parish Raised \$335—Thank You to all for your generosity.

[www.caritas.org.au/
projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion)

1800 024 413

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; Steven Oates; Maree Parkin; Rosemary Chisholm (Bendigo); Harry Comitti, John Dalziel; Mollie Barton; Patty Fenwick; Bailey Young, Graeme Blake, Pat Rathgeber; Kate Whelan; Sam Sharrock.

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.

WHO CAN I CALL FOR HELP?

LIFELINE

13 11 14

24 HOURS/7 DAYS
CRISIS SUPPORT
SUICIDE PREVENTION

BEYOND BLUE

1300 22 4636

24 HOURS/7 DAYS
ONLINE FORUMS & CHAT
FUNCTION

HEADSPACE

1800 650 890

AGES 12-25
PHONE & ONLINE
SUPPORT (eheadspace)

KIDS HELPLINE

1800 551 800

AGES 5-25
24 HOURS/7 DAYS
COUNSELLING

HEADSPACE BALLARAT

5304 4777

AGES 12-25
REFERRALS
DROP IN SERVICE:
MON-FRI 9AM-4PM
VIA TELEHEALTH

NATIONAL CORONAVIRUS HELPLINE

1800 020 080

24 HOURS/7 DAYS
INFO ON COVID-19

Humour

- At a couple's conference, the speaker mentioned that couples are so disconnected—
- 85% of husbands don't know their wives favourite flower.
- Paddy turned to his wife and whispered:
- "It's self-raising, isn't it?"