

ST. MARY'S PARISH CAFÉ FEED BACK FORM

The St. Mary's Parish Café was created by the church office in response to the pandemic. With the aid of Job Keeper we have been able to employ 4 people whose jobs were greatly effected. We'd like to be able to continue with the running of the café but need your feedback to know what your opinions are of what did and didn't work.

If you could spend some time to respond to the following we would be much appreciative.

What types of food would you like served?

Would you like an option to purchase evening meals?

Would you like to be able to purchase drinks?

ST. MARY'S PARISH CAFÉ BIG SALE!!

The St. Mary's Parish Café are having a big sale of Gift Baskets (\$25 each), Drinks (from 50c), individual jams/pickles on Wed and Thurs July 22nd and 23rd at 3-4pm in the Parish centre! All monies raised will go back into the parish centre to enable us to meet the requirements of our café, "Pay it Forward" program and of prospective hirers of the hall.

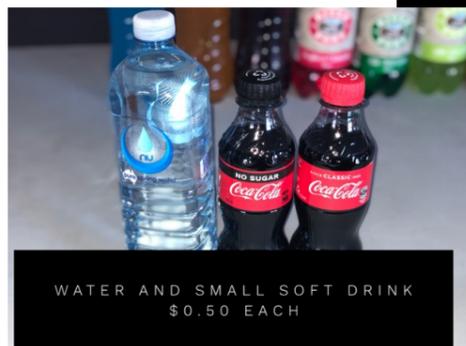


All drinks are within date and have been donated. A very big thank you to the Stapleton Family. Thank you to all the people who donated jars and ingredients to the café.



FLAVOURED DRINKS - \$1.50 EACH

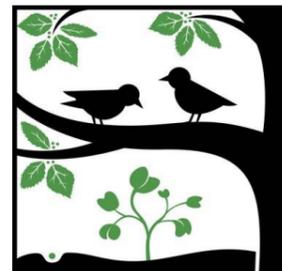
All jams and pickles have been hand-made. You can pick and choose your jam/pickle to go in your basket. It makes a great gift!



WATER AND SMALL SOFT DRINK
\$0.50 EACH



600ML SOFT DRINK AND WATER
\$1.00 EACH



Sunday 19 Jul 2020

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time A

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

Mass this Week

Ararat: Friday 24th 11am followed by lunch in the Parish Centre

Stawell: 10am Tuesday to Friday

Covid 19

With the upturn in people testing positive in Melbourne this is a good time for a reminder and encouragement to follow the advice of the health authorities and the premier with regard to hygiene and distancing. From the beginning my message has been that we ought to comply as fully as we are able, not asking "what's the minimum?" but asking "what will keep us all well and healthy?"

In parish facilities we are being attentive to cleaning and distancing, the recording of names and contact details. We have measured the floor spaces so we know how many people we can have in the buildings. While Ararat's church can host 50 people for funerals the churches in Stawell, Landsborough and Lake Bolac can host a maximum of 35. At present we have a maximum of 20 for other Masses. Stay safe everyone!

20 for Mass

Ararat: A reminder to parishioners to write your names on the sheet in the foyer for Mass on Sundays or phone Joyce on 03 5352 5460 during office hours to let her know if you would like to attend Mass. Please phone by Thursday for the following Sunday.

Stawell: Parishioners will be called when your names comes to the top of the ballot system.

Covid 19 Arrangements

For all public liturgy we will require names and numbers and sanitising of hands, seats and door knobs.

Weekday Mass in Stawell – Everyone welcome

Usually Tues-Fri 10am but do consult the website and bulletin.

Funerals – We are able to have fifty people. We will not yet be catering for cuppas after funerals.

Prayer on Friday 24th July in Ararat

Parish Centre, 11am followed by chicken schnitzel rolls

Mass Times

Ararat 8.30am—sheet on notice board in foyer

Stawell 10.30am— by ballot system

Landsborough 6pm Sat Vigil 2nd 4th Sundays

Lake Bolac 6.30pm Sat Vigil 1st 3rd 5th Sundays

(Glenthompson have Mass on the 2nd and 4th Sundays)

Parish Priest: Fr. Andrew Hayes

andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Download Church Bulletin—

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Secretary: Joyce Clery

ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Office: 03 53525460

PO BOX 92, Ararat, VIC 3377

Office Hours: Wed/Thurs/Fri 10am-3pm

First Reading

Wis 12:13.16-19

A reading from the book of Wisdom

In the place of sin, you give repentance.

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly.

Your justice has its source in strength,

your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all.

You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned

and you expose the insolence of those who know it;

but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement,

you govern us with great lenience,

for you have only to will, and your power is there.

By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people

how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men,

and you have given your sons the good hope

that after sin you will grant repentance.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16. R. v.5

(R.) Lord, you are good and forgiving.

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call.

Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer

and attend to the sound of my voice. **(R.)**

2. All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name, O Lord:

for you are great and do marvellous deeds,

you who alone are God. **(R.)**

3. But you, God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord,

abounding in love and truth,

turn and take pity on me. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Rom 8:26-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

Gospel Acclamation

See Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 13:24-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Let them grow together until the harvest.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter

Today's reading features three parables about the kingdom: the weeds in the field; the mustard seed; and yeast in the flour. They are three fascinating parables about something undesirable or unwanted being mixed in with something that is apparently good – and Jesus presents them as descriptions of what the kingdom of heaven is like.

Let's look at the imagery of these parables. Darnel is a weed that looks exactly like wheat while it is growing. Only once the ears have formed can it be distinguished from the wheat. It is a malicious prank to sow darnel among wheat.

The mustard seed grows into such a large tree that birds come and nest in it. Why would any farmer want to deliberately plant a tree in the middle of his fields that attracts birds that will destroy his crops?

Three measures of flour is an enormous amount of flour; enough to make 50 or 60 loaves of bread! Yeast begins to ferment the dough mixture and if not baked the dough goes mouldy and goes bad. To leaven that much dough at one time is somewhat foolish. The Hebrew word used for leavening in scripture is *Chametz*, it literally means 'sour'. It is that essence by which things decay. Leavening is a fermentation process – a process of breaking down or corruption.

To describe the kingdom of God in these ways may seem a bit odd. Can the kingdom of God be a 'corrupting' or 'souring' or 'irritating' influence? The kingdom message of Jesus can be seen as a corrupting force in that it set about corrupting and destroying what was a flawed system. The parables also demonstrate that it only takes a tiny amount of this 'corrupting' influence to have a dramatic effect.

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ANNIVERSARIES: July 20th to 26th

Laurence Cashin, Stan Parker, Carmel Kelly,

Patrick Reed, Monica Cronin, Leo Heenan, Noel Coughlin, Peter McLoughlin, Mary Bryant,

Kevin Harrison, Leo Heenan, Lorna Norbury,

Patrick O'Neill

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Please contact the office if you would like your name to be on the sick list. Names are kept on this list for one month—and be put on again.

Anyone in hospital wishing to have communion, please contact the office on 53525460

Margaret Hassel, Sally Rook, Geraldine Mckendrick

Ministry to the Sick:

Please email Fr. Andrew during these difficult times to discuss Ministry to the sick on

Andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Or phone the office on 5352 5460

Readings **July 26th 2020**

First Reading [1 Kgs 3:5.7-12](#)

Second Reading [Rom 8:28-30](#)

A VOCATION VIEW:

There are many weeds growing with the wheat in our lives. Sometimes the weeds strangle our growth, or prevent us from hearing clearly God's voice. We need time to reflect on the garden of our life.

Pope Francis—Twitter

On the Day of Judgment we will not be judged for our ideas, but for the compassion we have shown to others.

@Pontifex July 14th 2020

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest: God is our help and our strength. Let us bring our prayer before the God who knows everything in our hearts.

Reader: That the Spirit of God will lead and guide an imperfect Church. In the Spirit we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That nations will show mutual tolerance and respect for those with whom they disagree. In the Spirit we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who sow goodness by their work for those in need will be rewarded a hundredfold. In the Spirit we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That governments will support their citizens who are affected physically, mentally or economically by the pandemic. In the Spirit we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That leaders will make prudent decisions in easing lockdown restrictions and that all will continue to take healthy precautions. In the Spirit we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who make small beginnings in responding to the Gospel will have faith that grows like a mustard seed. In the Spirit we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the prayer of this community will be strengthened by the Spirit who can express more than words. In the Spirit we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who have died and those that anniversaries occur at this time. In the Spirit we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: God most powerful and ever patient, you sustain us by the word your Son Jesus has planted. Hear our pleas and send your Spirit to become the leaven in our lives. We ask this in Jesus' name.