

Other News

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR has issued information regarding gatherings in places of worship now that restrictions have eased in regional Victoria. All updates are on the diocesan website "news" section www.ballarat.catholic.org.au.



Finances Details for Stawell Parish

Parish Account

BSB 013 815 Acc: 286326347

Presbytery Account

BSB 013 815 Acc: 286326355

ST PATRICK'S PARISH, STAWELL

Parish Priest: Fr Andrew Hayes

E-mail: andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au Address: 27 Patrick St., PO Box 87, Stawell, 3380

Phone: 03 5352 5460 Fax 03 5358 3000

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

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

From "Ten Steps Towards Genuine Human Relationships in Our Digital World"

We are called not just to be inhabitants of this new digital world, but active citizens shaping it. We all have a role to play in rejecting hatred, divisions and falsehoods. More than this, we have a duty to foster a neighbourhood that promotes all of the human attributes and social values that lend themselves to genuine human encounter – love, understanding, beauty, goodness, truth and trustworthiness, joy and hope.48

Plenary Council Update

The journey to the Plenary Council 2020 continues. While it is in a context more different than we could have ever expected, the need to pray, discern and listen to the Holy Spirit and each other is more important than ever.

Discernment Papers: The six discernment papers have been released and are available to read at <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/continuing-the-journey-of-discernment/ead>. The National Plenary Facilitation Team have released a resource to assist parishes and communities to explore each of the papers (attached). Here in the diocese, we will endeavour to look at one paper for a month. **For the month of November we will look at HOW IS GOD CALLING US TO BE A CHRIST-CENTRED CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA THAT IS A joyful, hope-filled and servant community?** *This National Theme for Discernment is inspired by the voices of the People of God who expressed a yearning for the Church to be a sign of God's kingdom for all people in Australia – to be able to see the Catholic Church in action and to recognise Jesus. There was an expression of faith-filled hope in the capacity of the Catholic community to celebrate together, to show what it is to be a follower of Christ and to be loved unconditionally by God. There was a call to contemplate the Gospel call to be a servant Church for the good of all people in Australia – particularly for refugees and asylum seekers and other people who are vulnerable or at risk. Many responses called for greater sharing of the story of the good works done by so many people and organisations of the Church. Some responses expressed a hunger for strong witness of faith, especially by priests, young people and female leaders in parish and school ministries. Have a read of the discernment paper, think about your parish and the diocese in general. We welcome any comments. Please send through to jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au*

Read the discernment paper: <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/PC2020-thematic-papers-5.pdf> **Visit the thematic page:** <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/themes/servant/>

Plenary Council Discernment papers now available in audio format: The Diocese of Bathurst has taken the discernment papers to another format, recording audio versions to help with the reception of the documents. All six discernment papers have now been recorded and can be accessed on the Plenary Council website <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/continuing-the-journey-of-discernment/>

Reflections on the papers from the Ballarat Diocese: Can be read at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/listen-to-what-the-spirit-is-saying/>

Next step on Plenary Council journey: As part of the ongoing journey for the Plenary Council, work has commenced on the preparation of the *instrumentum laboris*, or working document, for the Council. Fr Kevin Lenehan is part of the *instrumentum laboris* writing team <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/next-step-on-plenary-council-journey/>



St Patrick's,
Stawell

St Patrick's Parish Newsletter Stawell and Landsborough All Saints Sunday 1st Nov '20 Ordinary Time—Year A

St Francis of Assisi,
Landsborough



Fr. Andrew Hayes

Open the Doors!

Wonderful news this week that we are able to have Mass in the churches again – with clear restrictions.

Sunday Masses

Arrangements are as follows: Ararat and Stawell's Sunday Masses will be by booking only. (Maximum 20) In Ararat please add your name to the booking sheet on the office door. In Stawell Gloria will organise the bookings. In Landsborough and Lake Bolac there will be no need to book as long as we continue to be under 20. We are required to have very strict Covid plans in place. Look for those on arrival.

Weekday Masses

Class Masses at school can now resume (with children only, no visitors.) Fr Andrew will be attending to those

Stawell: Tues to Fri 10am with Fr John (all welcome – no bookings needed as long as we stay under 20)

Ararat: This week – Wed 4th 11am followed by lunch (book on office door) Coming up: Thurs 12th and Thurs 19th 11am followed by lunch.

Covid-Safe Parish Offices in Ararat and Stawell

Our Covid-safe plan for the parish offices require that there be no more than one visitor at a time, and for the interactions to be kept to a minimum, outside where possible. Making appointments where possible and convenient will help.

The Trees

Much has been said about the Djab Wurrung trees this week in the news and on social media. My only comment for the moment is that we do well when we eliminate racism and racist comments, when we show kindness and when we look for ways to respect the millennia old sacredness of our first nations. We need good and safe roads, but that doesn't give us reason to be unkind on social media or in other ways.

World Teachers' Day

World Teachers' Day is celebrated on a number of days around the world. I understand that today, Friday, is our day. This year has been a HUGE year for teachers. Thank you and congratulations on an extraordinary job this year to all of our teachers.

Mass Online

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au has a number of helpful resources Some of the links are listed here:

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat: Mass livestreamed daily from the Cathedral at 10.00am can be viewed there or on Facebook

St Mary Mackillop Parish, Western Border: Mass celebrated on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays can be viewed there. Follow their Facebook page

St Joseph's Parish, Warrnambool: Sunday Masses at 8.30am can be viewed there or follow the link on Facebook.

St Patrick's Parish, Camperdown: Sunday Mass at 10.30am livestreamed there.

Phone Lines

Victorian Coronavirus Hotline — 1800 675 398

If you suspect you may have the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) call the dedicated hotline – open 24 hours, seven days.

Older persons COVID-19 Support line — 1800 171 866

Translations for Victorian Government coronavirus website - www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/translations

1800RESPECT

Confidential information, counselling and support service for people affected by or experiencing sexual assault, domestic or family violence and abuse.

Relationships Australia — 1300 364 277

Support services for individuals, families and communities.

Australian Red Cross — 1800 RED CROSS

Vinnies Ararat Phone: (03) 5352 5560

Salvation Army Australia — 13 SALVOS

Covid Safe Plan & Buildings Inspection

Joyce and Emma are currently undertaking a Buildings Inspection Audit for all 4 Churches. Joyce is also in the middle of a Covid Safe Plan for the 4 Churches.

It will be advisable to call ahead to book a time in the office, as recommended in a Covid Safe Plan. So just to alert you of some more formal arrangements that will need to be made.

All volunteers will also be required to sign a Covid Safe Plan. Joyce will be in touch. Stay Safe and Well.

First Reading Rv 7:2-4. 9-14

I saw an immense crowd, beyond hope of counting, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language.

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel. After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.'

One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my Lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 23:1-6. R. see v.6

(R.) Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples. It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm. **(R.)**
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place? The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things. **(R.)**
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob. **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 Jn 3:1-3

We shall see God as he really is.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. Surely everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 11:28

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 5:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:

they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:

they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

Gospel Reflection

Saints are sometimes regarded as 'Catholic superheroes'. Stories of miraculous and remarkable deeds abound, though more in the vein of conversions and cures than speeding bullets and tall buildings. But to get caught up on the Saints of the stained glass windows is to overlook the vast majority of saints. You see, a saint is anybody whose soul is in heaven. The Church celebrates a certain number of Saints whose lives provide a glimpse of God for the rest of the Church. But there are many, many more saints whose glimpse of God was only ever experienced by their family, friends and those with whom they worked. The feast of ALL Saints is an opportunity to remember and reflect on the lives of those saints who've been known and loved by just a few and whose sphere of influence was such that they will never be recognised as Saints by the universal Church.

Today's gospel, the Beatitudes, from the Sermon on the Mount describes perfectly those 'lower case' saints we celebrate in this feast day. The Beatitudes are sometimes referred to in parallel with the Ten Commandments. However, the Beatitudes are not 'rules' or 'instructions' for life as the Commandments are. They are more in line with a strategy that today we would call 'positive reinforcement'. They celebrate those who respond to God's call through particular attitudes towards life and towards others. Jesus presents them to the disciples and the crowd as images to inspire imitation. They're not hard and fast rules for life, but attitudes for life; the Be-Attitudes, so to speak. Those who live with these attitudes in this life are to be celebrated – 'Happy are you' – for they will be saints. They will be welcomed into communion with God in heaven.

ANNIVERSARIES: Nov 2nd—Nov 8th

Vincent Flynn 1969, Ethel Phillips 1980 Val Gaylor 1986
Charles Turner 1999 Benedicta Bartels 2002
Bernard Browne 2007, Anna Molan 1947
Catherine Mills 1947 Alice (Dolly) Kelly 1953
Robert Presser 1998 Charles Squire 1991
Veronica Dickenson 2013, James Morrissey 1982
William Elliot 2008, Agnes Andrew 1998
Denis McKey 1982 Audrey Nicholson 1997
Arthur (Stan) Anyon 2009

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.

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 5358 1119 Stawell (Thursdays)
Or Ararat on 5352 5460

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.

Pope Francis—Twitter

I would like to encourage everyone to engage in constructive forms of communication that reject prejudice towards others and foster a culture of encounter, helping all of us to view the world around us with realism and trust.⁴⁷ *Pope Francis*

Prayer for the Moment

We Bring Your Love. *Loving God, Help us to focus on what we have not on what is removed or changed. Strengthen us when we feel discouraged or overwhelmed. Embrace us so that we know your loving presence within us and among us. Walk with us as we bring your love, and carry your light, into our world. Amen.* Sandra Lucas, MDiv., BCC

Sunday 01 Nov 2020

Priest: Brothers and sisters, gathered as God's Church in this generation let us bring our prayer to God for our needs and the needs of the world.

Reader: For a humble and merciful Church.

With the saints we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For nations facing second and third waves of coronavirus: that they will remain steadfast in working to protect their people.

With the saints we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For all of us: that we will continue to adhere to health precautions, being ever mindful of those who are especially vulnerable to the coronavirus.

With the saints we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For businesses struggling because of the pandemic: that they will be supported by their governments and local communities.

With the saints we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For scientists: that they will be guided in their work to develop vaccines for Covid-19 and other diseases.

With the saints we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For students preparing for exams: that they will remain calm and focused and not be overwhelmed by fear or anxiety.

With the saints we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For differing groups: that they will work towards resolving their discord with respectful dialogue rather than violence.

With the saints we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For those who have died and those whose anniversaries occur at this time,

With the saints we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: God of all time, you have given us the saints, modelled on Christ, as examples of the Christian life. Hear these prayers and help us to bear witness to your gospel with courage and conviction. We make our prayer in Jesus' name.

All: Amen. © Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd