

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.

On-line Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Registrations now open

The Ballarat Diocese in partnership with Dayton University offer low-cost online study and formation. Subjects include Sacraments, Scripture, Youth Ministry, Liturgy, Leadership and more. There are a small number of subjects on offer in Cycle 8 which begins November 29. The first study cycle for 2021 begins January 3. Registration for both cycles is now open. More information at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or email djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7121

Want to stop modern slavery and human trafficking?

ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans) works tirelessly to inform and empower us to take action against the modern slavery and human trafficking that is occurring right here on home soil. ACRATH supplies free resources to help us make informed decisions about the products we buy, fair trade and ethically sourced materials in our schools. Every year ACRATH works to raise awareness of forced marriage and human trafficking and this year, like many others, ACRATH has had a tough time! ACRATH's 2021 calendar is now available. This calendar is not only handy to have because it outlines all of the important dates for the year, but it also lists practical ways we can get involved and be a part of the solution. To date ACRATH have sold the calendar for \$10.00. However this year they acknowledge that many are directly affected by COVID-19 and are giving the calendars to us for free. If you wish you can show your support by going to their website (www.acrath.org.au) and making a donation. To order a calendar simply email your name and home or work/school address to Dr Rachel Smith at social.justice@ballarat.catholic.org.au and you will be mailed a free calendar. You may wish to order a dozen copies for your workplace – just ask! Please support this important work.

Finances Details for Stawell Parish

Parish Account

BSB 013 815 Acc: 286326347

Presbytery Account

BSB 013 815 Acc: 286326355

Some-one asked one of his friends who has crossed 70 and is heading to 80 what sort of changes he is feeling in himself?

#1 After loving my parents, my siblings, my spouse, my children, my friends, now I have started loving myself.

#2 I just realized that I am not "Atlas". The world does not rest on my shoulders.

#3 I now stopped bargaining with vegetables & fruits vendors. A few pennies more is not going to burn a hole in my pocket but it might help the poor fellow save for his daughter's school fees.

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)



St Patrick's,
Stawell

St Patrick's Parish Newsletter Stawell and Landsborough

Sunday 25th Oct 2020

30th Sunday in Ordinary
Time—Year A

St Francis of Assisi,
Landsborough



Fr. Andrew Hayes

It's Thursday morning as I write this, so good morning to all parishioners. Do I say go Cats or go Tigers? I'm on my way from Maryborough to Ballarat between commitments. I'm in a café in Clunes getting this to Joyce before she hassles me for keeping her waiting. I'm busier than I look this week and will enjoy the public holiday tomorrow.

Fortunately, the scripture is straight forward this week. Love of God and love of neighbour. We're still watching the weather and looking forward to the time when we can have Mass without being wet or frozen. In the meantime parishioners tell me that you're all enjoying Mass in your pyjamas and finding Mass online from places that you need a map of the world to locate. That's the love of God sorted. Then there's the love of neighbour.

As a parish (Ararat, and on Stawell's behalf) The St Mary's Pie Company is going gangbusters. Thanks to the staff and to the volunteers. In many ways St Mary's is doing better than before Covid.

On Wednesday we signed the transfer contacts for both St Patrick's and St Mary's Schools. We are now well set for both schools to be governed by DOBCEL, a company set up by Bishop Paul to look after the schools from

January 1.

This will mean the schools of the diocese will be overseen by a board of directors on behalf of the bishop, rather than by the parish priests. The priests will continue to be the shepherds in the schools, giving all the support we can to the principals and staff and children and families, but the high tech legal things will be done by people better equipped than this parish priest. Good news and many years in the making.

Be nice everybody. Covid is a long time leaving us.

Chins up! Keep loving our neighbours while we run out of chances to have Mass in our pyjamas.

Thank you to Peter and Kevin for their work in the garden today—Thursday 22nd October.

Back to deliveries Friday October 30th!

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

October 18th was Mission Sunday - The joy of the Lord is our Strength! Nehemiah 8:10

World Mission Sunday can be celebrated anytime in October and early November - a special day, called by Pope Francis, when we are called to pray and offer material support to the work of mission around the world. This year we are invited to partner with the Church in Cambodia, which is reaching out to those who have been affected by disability and giving them hope and practical support to live a fulfilling life. You can support online at www.catholicmission.org.au/Cambodia or by texting GIVE to 0488 854 436. Thank you for your prayerful support and generosity.

Some envelopes are on the table in the foyer.

First Reading Ex 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus

If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R. v.2

(R.) I love you, Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise:
when I call I am saved from my foes. **(R.)**
2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be the God who saves me.
He has given great victories to his king
and shown his love for his anointed. **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 Thes 1:5-10

You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the

Gospel Acclamation Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 22:34-40

You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

Gospel Reflection

Like last week's gospel, we again have an example of the Pharisees seeking to 'catch Jesus out' in his interpretation of scripture. The Pharisees were regarded as the great interpreters of the Torah – the Law. To them, ALL the commandments were vitally important, not just the Ten Commandments given to Moses with which we are perhaps most familiar, but the 613 *mitzvot* (commandments) contained within the Torah – the first five books of the Bible. These 613 *mitzvot* governed all aspects of Jewish life. For the Pharisees to ask Jesus about the 'greatest' commandment was a blatant challenge to him. Perhaps they expected Jesus to name one commandment and then they could challenge him with a whole series of 'What about ...?' questions.

Jesus' answer to the Pharisees highlights their preoccupation with the particulars of the Law contained within scripture. In their over-emphasis on the details of religious observance, they have forgotten about the most basic element of faith: to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind. Jesus reminds them that being faithful to God isn't about following precise rules but rather it is simply about loving God. With this one sentence, Jesus undermines the power position of the Pharisees. If the Law is as simple as 'Love God', what need is there of Pharisees to interpret the details of the Law? Having pulled the rug out from under them, Jesus follows up with his reminder that the second most important commandment is to love your neighbour as yourself. This is a call to compassion and justice that Jesus practised freely but was sadly lacking in the religious authorities of his time.

Readings	Nov 1st 2020
First Reading	Rv 7:2-4, 9-14
Second Reading	1 Jn 3:1-3

ANNIVERSARIES: Oct 25th—Nov 1st

Elizabeth McSparran 1963, Robert Boag 1980
Peter Mornane 1999, Monica Morrissey 2005
Catherine Vendy 1972, Brian Monaghan 2006
Matt Pope 1944, William Byrne 1970, Mary Healy 1973,
Elsa White 1991, Patricia O'Loughlin 2017, William Alfred
Evans 2018, Anna Phelan 1985, Jack Naylor 2001
Nora Todd-Culph 2006, Leo Crawford 2017, May Uniacke
1964, Daohne Pollock 1970, John Mullen 1989
Laurence Rutter 2011, Vincent Flynn 1969
Ethel Phillips 1980, Val Gaylor 1986, Charles Turner 1999
Benedicta Bartels 2002 Bernard Browne 2007

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

To all believers, and to men and women of good will, we say: let us become creative artisans of peace, let us build social friendship, let us make our own the culture of dialogue.

[#Peaceandfraternity](https://twitter.com/Peaceandfraternity)

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

TRUTH AND TRUSTWORTHINESS MUST BE

GUARANTEED— from Ten Steps Towards Genuine Human Relationships in our Digital World

Honesty and trust are fundamental to the operation of our social, economic and political institutions. Half-truths, lies and slander gone viral can harm the solidarity of a people, particularly during important periods like election campaigns. Our right to truthful information and trustworthy broadcasting requires greater regulation of digital platforms, with sanctions for the spread of fake, divisive and offensive content. • Call on leaders in the news industry and our governments to support robust and independent journalism. • Write to your local member about the responsibility of the Federal Government to support and promote the role of the public broadcaster. • Counter half-truths and misinformation by providing accurate information from reputable sources.

Sunday 25 Oct 2020

Priest: Brothers and sisters, the Lord is our fortress and our strength. Let us bring our needs before the God who saves us.

Reader: That our Church's life and mission will be built on God's law of love. *In your mercy:*

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That nations will show compassion for strangers and refugees. *In your mercy:*

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who counsel and care for others will be richly blessed for their work. *In your mercy:*

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That our community will be attentive to the needs of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged. *In your mercy:*

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That we will show our love of God in the way we deal with others. *In your mercy:*

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the sick, will hold fast to the Lord who is their strength. *In your mercy:*

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who have died and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time will be raised to eternal life, *In your mercy:*

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: Compassionate God, you are a refuge for the poor and helpless. Hear our prayers and place in our hearts the desire to live your commandment of love. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen. © Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd