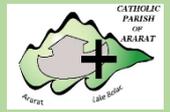




St Patrick's Parish Stawell and Landsborough St Mary's Parish Ararat and Lake Bolac



We acknowledge the Tjapwurrong people, the traditional custodians of our parish land.

We pay our respects to their elders past and present. We respect the presence of the spirits of their ancestors among us.

Sunday August 22, 2021 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B

First Reading [Jos 24:1-2, 15-18](#)

A reading from the book of Joshua
Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

Responsorial Psalm [Ps 33:2-3, 16-23. R. v.9](#)

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. (R.)
2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The Lord turns his eyes to the just
and his ears to their appeal. (R.)
3. They call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress.
The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save. (R.)
4. Many are the trials of the just man
but from them all the Lord will rescue him.
He will keep guard over all his bones,
not one of his bones shall be broken. (R.)
5. Evil brings death to the wicked;
those who hate the good are doomed.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. (R.)

Second Reading [Eph 5:21-32](#)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

Gospel Acclamation [Jn 6:63, 68](#)

Alleluia, alleluia! Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!

Gospel [Jn 6:60-69](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before? 'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. 'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him. Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

Mass Times

Ararat	Sunday 8.30am
Stawell	Sunday 10.30am
Lake Bolac	1 st 3 rd 5 th Sundays 6.30pm Vigil Sat
Landsborough	2 nd 4 th Sundays 6pm Vigil Sat
Glenthompson	(Hamilton Parish) 2 nd 4 th Sundays 8.30am

Aged Care Schedule

Eventide	1 st Wednesdays 11.15am
Lowe St	2 nd Wednesdays 11am
Garden View	3 rd Wednesdays 10.30am
ARV	4 th Wednesday 10am

Masses this Week

Stawell: Tues - Fri 10am

Ararat: Tues 24th 9.30am // Thurs 26th 11am Mass and morning tea / 3pm Hopkins

Readings for Next Sunday 29th August (22nd Sunday Yr B)

[Dt 4:1-2. 6-8](#) // [Jas 1:17-18, 21-22, 27](#) // [Mk 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23](#)

Recent Death Paul Di Domenico

Anniversaries Stawell

Maude Forster 1957, Edward Evans 1960, Charles Lightfoot 1987, John Scarsi 1971, Joseph Earle 1987, Margaret Nunweek 1999, Lorna Sargent 2000, Dorothy Woolley 2016, May Pryderrach 1959, James Phillips 1969, Cicily Wortley 1973, James Seary 1973, John Egan 1989, Jonathan O'Connor 1959, Margaret Hayes 1967, Frances Fleetwood Smith 1948, Sydney Dowling 1974, Charles Rowe 1984, Monica Krohn 1998

Anniversaries Ararat

Mary Hickey, Diana Cashin, Frank McAloon, Leila Petersen, Ethel Lannen, Kevin Brady, Peter Coughlin, Maria Sobczak, Michael Bond, Ray DeGroot, Stan Gleeson, Brendan Laidlaw, Les Kelly, Gavin Thomas Quilty, Peter Shea, John Thomas, Sarah McKibbin, Ruby Davey, John Leo Thomas (Jack)

Please pray for Terry Weeks, Kate Wilson, Sally Rook, Julie Neale and Margaret Hassall, Jenny Sharman, Anne-Marie Joyce

Golden Gate Roster

August 22 Libby // 29 Harry & Anna

September 5 Jim & Jan // 12 Libby // 19 Harry & Anna // 26 Jim & Jan

Lake Bolac Roster

Sat 28/8 Reader Denise Haslett // Prayers of Faithful Helen Smith // Cleaning Judy Upton

Sat 4/9 Reader Damian Phillips // Prayers of Faithful Leanne Breen // Cleaning Helen Smith

Covid Restrictions

Ararat and Stawell 50 people // Landsborough and Lake Bolac 35 people

Covid Marshall to ensure registration // Masks / Hands / Distancing // Catering (seated only) Ararat 45 people // Stawell 25

Stawell Interim Parish Council meets Tuesday August 24 in St Pat's Church Hall

Stawell CWL meets Thursday August 26, 1.30pm in St Pat's Church Hall

Stawell Ecumenical Prayer August 29 at St Patrick's

On Sunday August 29 at 5pm we will host the people of Stawell for prayer followed by a cuppa. All welcome.

Miriam Rose

2pm Wed 25th Ararat Parish Centre

Lesley Morgan will share her insights into the spirituality of Dr Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr Baumann AM. Miriam Rose is an Aboriginal activist, educator and artist and the 2021 Senior Australian of the Year. Of particular interest is Mariam Rose' telling of Dadirri, (Inner Deep Listening and Quiet Still Awareness)

Special Days in the Coming Weeks

29 August Social Justice Sunday // 12 September Safeguarding Sunday // 26 September Migrant Refugee Sunday // 24 October World Mission Day

Marriage Encounter Weekend

Please check our website for more details. Information/Bookings: Phone Mercy & James 0409 183 676 or wwme.org.au

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The decisions called for in today's readings are life decisions. The people at the time of Joshua had to decide which god they would worship. The disciples of Jesus had to decide if he was the one who would fulfill their messianic expectations.

We have life decisions to make as well. How will we choose? The choices we make determine the character of our union with God. God called us out of the slavery of sin and protected us throughout the journey of our lives. Jesus walked with us through the challenges of life and performed wonders for us. Why should we look elsewhere? Because we face new challenges. The new demands placed on us may be so great, or the commitment required of us may be so demanding that we feel that we can no longer walk with him. The church may be changing in ways we do not appreciate, or it may not be changing in the ways we believe it should, and so we may feel that we can walk with him no longer. If we decide to commit ourselves, we will enter into a union with God that is deeper than anything we have previously known. However, this union will be based on faith. We may understand no more than we did in the past, things may be no more to our liking. But, 'to whom shall we go?' Jesus is God's holy one; he has the words of eternal life.



Westvic Staffing Solutions, a Jobs Victoria Partner, connects long-term job seekers with local businesses that are looking for the right people to work for them. We then help these long-term job seekers get job ready



through mentoring, training and development. Westvic Staffing Solutions is delivering the Jobs Victoria Employment Service in the Central Highlands.

(This program is supported by the Victorian Government's \$619.4 million Jobs Victoria initiative. Jobs Victoria helps people looking for work to access the support, information and advice they need to find a job that's right for them.)

If you require assistance in find a job or are looking to hire employees ring Joyce Clery on 0437975212.

Major earthquake hits Haiti

Caritas Australia's thoughts and prayers are with the people of the Haiti who have been devastated by a 7.2 magnitude earthquake. Over 1,400 people have died and thousands more left injured. Homes, churches and schools have been damaged in the quake, and reports indicate that more than 30,000 families have been left homeless. The country also continues to grapple with COVID-19, poverty, and ongoing political instability and violence. There is immediate and urgent need for food, water, shelter, hygiene kits and first aid on the ground. To provide support, you can donate to Caritas Australia's Emergency Response Appeal. Donate today at www.caritas.org.au or by calling 1800 024 413 toll free.

Natural Fertility Awareness Week August 23-29 An information session about the Billings Ovulation Method® will be held on Monday 23rd August @ 7.30pm - 8.30pm Further information: <https://billings.life/en/>

Our Diocesan Community The latest edition of ODC is now available in the churches

Letter from Ararat Eisteddfod Committee

The Ararat Eisteddfod committee is proceeding with plans to hold their annual Ararat Eisteddfod, which is to commence on Saturday 18 September. After holding a mini Competition in April of this year the committee is confident of holding a Covid safe event under present restrictions, and is dedicated to keeping the Ararat community safe.

Entries have been restricted so as we can manage numbers under Covid regulations governing events and the Ararat Town Hall. Competitors will be regulars who attend each year from regional areas.

The committee has decided not to ask Ararat businesses for their regular donations this year. This is our acknowledgment of how tough it has been for small business throughout 2020 and 2021 and our way of showing our appreciation to the many businesses that support us year after year. Of course if there are any businesses who would like to donate, we would of course be appreciative; and graciously receive their donation. We can be contacted via email

ararateisteddfod@live.com.au) or via our Ararat Eisteddfod Facebook page. We know our visiting competitors and their families will support local business during the week of competition and know local business will welcome them and gratefully receive their patronage.

The Ararat Eisteddfod Committee would like to thank the Ararat community for their wonderful support of the Ararat Eisteddfod over many years. However, as numbers within the Ararat Town Hall will be heavily restricted and monitored very closely, we cannot welcome members of the Ararat community to view the wonderful performances this year. Everyone in the building will be counted for every session. We acknowledge the support of Dr. Tim Harrison and the Ararat City Council and Tim Lewis Ararat Town Hall Venue Coordinator and his staff, and the many regular volunteers who make this event possible. If you would like to volunteer please contact us.

Dance Schools are one of the many small businesses which have had particularly tough times over the last 18 months; being forced to close their doors completely for many many months and to operate on very reduced numbers at other times. Students and teachers have endured many months of reduced learning opportunities and even less opportunities to perform, with many eisteddfods cancelling their events again in 2021.

The Arts industry, of which dance is only one genre, has been decimated from the restrictions imposed on them by Covid 19. In dance the effects have extended from the grass roots of the small dance schools to the professional companies who have either cancelled or postponed performances. The Ararat Eisteddfod committee is dedicated to doing what they can to assist in the revival of the Arts; and by staging this Eisteddfod we are achieving our main operational aim, which is to provide a performance platform for the many dance students and their teachers, and for everyone to have fun and enjoy themselves. Fingers crossed for a successful event beginning on Saturday 18th September.

Parish Directories

Parish Priest Fr. Andrew Hayes andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Office Hours Office hours are changing. More information to come
Parish Bulletin www.ballarat.catholic.org.au
To submit bulletin notices for both parishes please email ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

	Ararat	Stawell
Parish Secretary	Jill Croxford	Gloria Pickering
Parish Email	ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au	stawell@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Parish Office	03 5352 5460 PO BOX 92, Ararat, VIC 3377	03 5352 5460 PO BOX 87, Stawell, VIC 3380
Office Hours	Thursday Friday 9am – 3pm	Closed for Now - contact Ararat
Churches	St Mary's Church 304 Barkly St Ararat	St Patrick's Church 27 Patrick St Stawell
	St Bernard's Church 76 Montgomery St Lake Bolac	St Francis of Assisi Church 76 McKinlay St Landsborough
Safe Guarding Officer	Emma Coburn	Helen Potter
Funeral Ministry	Joan Fitzpatrick, Sr. Maree Harry Collins & Sioux Reid	Kevin Dallinger, Mary-Rita Thomas
CWL`	Jan Crowe (President) Anna Collins (Secretary)	Margaret Rowe (President)
St. Vincent de Paul Society:	03 5352 5560 Peter Brady (President) Kathleen Leggett (Manager)	0437 344 323 Kay Dalton (President) Di O'Donnell (Secretary)
Parish Pastoral Councils	Parish Pastoral Council Charlie Reid (chair) Peter Brady Leanne Breen Harry Collins Teresa Gemmola Sr Maree Holt	Interim Parish Pastoral Council Kevin Dallinger Michael Habbin John Launder Gloria Pickering Helen Potter June Raeburn Mary Rita Thomas

Schools

St Mary's School Ararat

Principal Roxanne Leed
Ph: 03 5352 1796
www.smararat.catholic.edu.au

St Patrick's School Stawell

Principal Chris McAloon
Ph: 03 5358 2493
www.spstawell@catholic.edu.au

Marian College Ararat

Principal Carmel Barker
Ph: 03 5352 3861
www.mcararat.catholic.edu.au

Parish Finances

If you would like to donate to a parish, or use for your planned giving please see the details below. Many thanks

Details for Ararat Parish:

Parish Account "Main Church Account" Westpac Bank **BSB** 033 201 // Acc 810035
Presbytery Account "Presbytery Account" Westpac Bank **BSB** 033 201 //Acc 810043

Details for Stawell Parish

Parish Account **BSB** 013 815 **Acc:** 286326347
Presbytery Account **BSB** 013 815 **Acc:** 286326355