



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



We acknowledge the Djap Wurrong 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 November 28, 2021 First Sunday of Advent, Year C

First Reading [Jer 33:14-16](#)

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah
See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah: ‘In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.’

Responsorial Psalm [Ps 24:4-5. 8-9. 10. 14. R. v.1](#)

(R.) To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:

for you are God my saviour. (R.)

2. The Lord is good and upright.

He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;

he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

3. His ways are faithfulness and love

for those who keep his covenant and will.

The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;

to them he reveals his covenant. (R.)

Second Reading [1 Thes 3:12 – 4:2](#)

A reading from 1st letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians
May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints. Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.



Gospel Acclamation [Ps 84:8](#)

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel [Lk 21:25-28. 34-36](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand. ‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The readings of the First Sunday of Advent set the stages for our reflections on the entire season. They contain a number of promises, all pointing to peace and fulfilment. Each reading depicts a dimension of suffering that was often brought on by the people themselves. The promises are assurances that the end of their suffering was in sight. The promises reveal a loving and provident, a merciful and forgiving God. These are promises full of hope. The coming of the Lord is clearly a time of expectation, not of fear and trembling. Although the earlier tradition about the Day of the Lord included punishment of the wicked, the focus here is on redemption. The time of expectation may be preceded by apocalyptic signs in the heavens and dismay on earth, but this cosmic shift will bring fulfilment, not destruction. The love and providence, the mercy and forgiveness of God will be made manifest. What is expected of those who receive the promise? An Advent way of life exhorts us to ‘wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ’. This way of life is both simple and profound. It does not necessarily require unusual behaviour on our part, but it calls us to live the usual unusually well. It affects the everyday events of life; it directs the way we interact with people; it informs the attitudes that colour our judgments and motivations. It is as ordinary as the birth of a child; it is as extraordinary as the revelation of God.

Parish Information – Parishes of Stawell and Ararat

Parish Priest	Fr. Andrew Hayes andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Parish Bulletin Online	www.ballarat.catholic.org.au – follow link to parish
Secretary	Jill Croxford ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Parish Emails	ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au or stawell@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Parish Office	304a Barkly St Ararat. Open Thursdays and Fridays 9am – 3pm
Phone	03 5352 5460
Post Box	PO BOX 92, Ararat, VIC 3377

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 to Fri 10am // Wed 1st Eventide 11.15am // Wed 1st 5.30pm 1st Communion / Confirmation
Ararat: Tues 30th 9.30am // Thurs 2nd 11am Mass with morning tea

Readings for Next Sunday Nov 28 (Advent 1, Yr C)

[Bar 5:1-9](#)// [Phil 1:3-6. 8-11](#) // [Lk 3:1-6](#)

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve: Stawell 6pm, Ararat 7.30pm, Lake Bolac 9.15pm Christmas Morning: Landsborough 9am

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries Stawell

Maureen Pyke 2001, Lucas O'Callaghan 2009, Michael Healy 1953, Michael Gavin 2004, Evelyn Sladdin 2019, Thomas Pollock 1969, Lawrence Rutter 1970, William Kinsella 2011, George Seear 1987

Anniversaries Ararat

Kathleen Smith, George Cunningham, Donald Dalglish, Les Hunt, Sr. Genevieve Fitzpatrick, James Sertori, Terry Phillips, Ireneo Torrecampo, William Davies, Eddie Walls, John Presser, Sr Elizabeth McGovern CSB, Mary Rix, Mons. Bill McCunnie, Matt Brennan, Monica Fitzpatrick, Phyllis Brown, Ellen Mullins, Patrick Mullins, Maura Brown, Nel Wagener, Bernard Joyce, Penny Lang, Agnes Joyce, Fr. John Martin

Golden Gate Roster

November 28 Harry Anna
December 5 Jim Jan // 12 Libby // Teresa // Harry Anna

Lake Bolac Roster

Sat Dec 4 Reader Michael Phillips // Prayers of Faithful Tricia Higgins // Cleaning Judy Upton
Sat Dec 18 Reader Val Albert // Prayers of Faithful Irene Meek // Cleaning Helen Smith

Advent Discussion in Stawell

We're offering a weekly Advent Discussion after our Tuesday Masses during Advent, (10.30am approx.) beginning on Tuesday November 30. This will include a hearing and reflection on the coming Sunday's readings. Everyone is welcome.

Christmas Lunch – Both Parishes

Stawell and Ararat parishioners are invited to a parish Christmas lunch at the Great Western Hotel on Thursday 2nd Dec at Noon. We will be ordering off the menu and gluten free and vegetarian meals are available. Numbers are needed by Sunday 28th Nov. To register in Stawell put your name on the clipboard in the church. To register in Ararat call Margaret Rowe -53582421.

St Anne's Grandmothers' Group

St Anne's are having their Christmas lunch at Chalambar, at 12 noon on Wednesday December 1. Remember your KK.

Parish Council thanks

The Stawell Parish Council would like to thank the Ararat Parish Council members who provided the wonderful meal we had at our meeting on Wednesday evening. It was much appreciated and enjoyed by all.

Christmas Cards Stawell for 50c or \$1 and Columban Calendars for \$9 - available in St Pat's Church hall after Sunday Mass.

Ordination to the Diaconate

Seminarians Matthew Restall and William Lowry will be ordained Deacons for the Diocese of Ballarat on Friday, December 10, 2021 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 7.00pm. All are welcome to attend. Attendance requirements for the Cathedral is QR code or registration upon entry and full vaccination status needs to be provided to the COVID check-in Marshalls.

Our Diocesan Community (ODC) Latest edition now available in the churches

CatholicCare Victoria Giving Tree Appeal

This pandemic has been hard on us all. But as with every disaster, COVID-19 is making the already vulnerable more vulnerable still. Your generous donation to this year's Giving Tree Appeal will provide practical and financial support for struggling Victorian families - from three square meals a day to help with utility bills... every gift you choose helps. To donate go to <https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/campaign/donate/14/giving-tree-appeal>

Vinnies Christmas Kindness Appeal

This Christmas donate to Vinnies. Your gift can change a life. There are families who are experiencing poverty and homelessness this Christmas and your help can provide them with much needed essentials like food, clothing and a place to call home. To donate go to <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/christmas-kindness>

Stawell Inter Church Council

Last Christmas Stawell Inter Church Council welfare and Stawell St Vincent de Paul helped 71 households, made up of 116 adults and 141 children, 13 years old and younger. They distributed Christmas grocery shopping vouchers totalling \$6,705. This year they expect the demand to be even greater. Owing to Covid 19 there will be no distribution of toys and children's books but if you would like to donate money towards helping those in need in our community this Christmas could you please give it to Mary Rita Thomas – 0438 836 180

School Chaplain Vacancy – Mortlake

Your Dream School Programs are a School Chaplaincy Provider who works with schools and churches to find candidates for chaplaincy positions in local schools. The Department of Education school in Mortlake are looking for a School Chaplain for 2 days per week and this is a paid position. Applicants require an endorsement letter from a local church they attend, Certificate IV in chaplaincy, youth work, community services, or ministry or equivalent. (Equivalent study contain these two units: CHCCS016 Respond to client needs & CHCMHS001 Work with people with mental health issues). Please also note that degrees such as teaching, social working, nursing, counselling, and psychology cover those particular units. Applicants are able to work and study at the same time. Application must have or be able to obtain a current working with children check. For a copy of the position description or for more information call 1300 792 856.

Synod of Bishops

Catholics across Australia are invited to participate in a period of local consultation for the next international Synod of Bishops, which has the theme, "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission". The People of God are invited to use a guided, prayerful reflection method to consider a series of questions and make submissions via an online portal. Those submissions will help the Bishops develop a national report to support the global process leading to an international gathering in 2023. Find out more at <http://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

Vaccination Certificates

If you have your proof of vaccination certificate (12 years+) you can come to any Mass - We have no limits on numbers.

If you do NOT have a proof of vaccination certificate

you will be welcome to attend smaller Masses eg. Lake Bolac and Landsborough and on weekdays

Christmas in Lake Bolac - Lake Bolac will exceed your non-vaxxed number (50) at Christmas.

You will need your vaccination certificates to attend Christmas Mass

Two Steps for Entry to Mass

Scan your QR Code

(or have someone help you)



**2 Show your Vaccination Certificate
to the Covid Marshal**



Name for the New Parish

Thanks everyone. New ideas are welcome. These are the suggestions so far. Three from this week are included in full.

- Our Lady of the Grampians
We really like this name because Our Lady is such an important member of the Holy Family and the Catholic tradition. It's also a nod to all the mothers and women who historically have been the nurturers of the faith within the home and at a local level and sometimes beyond. Often it was the women of the church who worked at the coal face of the development of faith by teaching children their daily prayers, getting families to Mass, organising & teaching catechism lessons, working in the catholic schools - reading programs, canteens etc. It also honours the nuns in this region who started and ran the catholic schools and taught thousands and thousands of students. Nuns were also often responsible for the sacramental programs for children attending non catholic primary schools and much welfare work within the parishes. It's also a nod to the lay women who cleaned the churches, did the floral arrangements, played the music, visited the sick and poor, catered for funerals, organised social events, assisted with fund raising for parish works etc, etc. The Grampians mountain range is a majestic geographical landmark that can be seen by the peoples of both parishes and as such is a great common element and connection. The mountains are a powerful physical presence on the landscape and in our daily lives, we, like so many, often look to the Grampians and comment on their colour, clarity, beauty and majesty. They are a great reminder of how amazing God is.
- Holy Spirit of the Grampians, Gariwerd-Mitchell
No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit. There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose. Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.
[1Cor 12:3-7, 12-13]
- Noah / Mount Ararat
Personally, the greatest battle facing The Catholic church of late, has nothing to do with climate change. It is the. Battle of victims of clerical abuse to find justice and be whole heartedly supported by their religion. Abuse has soiled every parish, devastated so many and truly darkened the world. I like the idea of new life and hope emerging from our parish, as it did on the slopes of Mt Ararat in Noah's time. We are not Rome, or even a well-known city of the world. But from little things, big things grow. All manner of new life can emerge from our parish.
- Grampians / Grampians Gariwerd / Grampians Pyrenees / South East Grampians / Gariwerd-Mitchell
- Djap Wurrong Country / Lakes District Parish / Hopkins Parish
- Scullin Parish (Born in Trawalla, James Scullin was Australia's ninth prime minister and first Catholic prime minister)
- St Joseph the Worker Parish / All Saints Parish / Holy Communion Parish / Lumen Christi (Light of Christ),
- Exodus Parish, Gariwerd "Moses brought the people out to the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain." [Exodus 19:17]
- The Parish of the Prophet Isaiah, Gariwerd
"How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news [Isaiah 52:7]
- The Parish of Isaiah 61, Gariwerd
"The Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."



Name for the New Merged Parish

The parish will comprise St Patrick's Stawell, St Francis of Assisi Landsborough, St Mary's Ararat and St Bernard's Lake Bolac
It is likely that St John the Baptist Beaufort will be included by 2025

My suggested religious or patronal name for the new parish is: _____

My suggested name for our geographical area is _____

Explanation for my suggestions: