



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 January 30, 2022 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

First Reading [Jer 1:4-5. 17-19](#)

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah
In the days of Josiah, the word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying, 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you came to birth I consecrated you; I have appointed you as prophet to the nations. So now brace yourself for action. Stand up and tell them all I command you. Do not be dismayed at their presence, or in their presence I will make you dismayed. I, for my part, today will make you into a fortified city, a pillar of iron, and a wall of bronze to confront all this land: the kings of Judah, its princes, its priests and the country people. They will fight against you but shall not overcome you, for I am with you to deliver you – it is the Lord who speaks.'

Responsorial Psalm [Ps 70:1-6. 15. 17. R. v.15](#)

(R.) I will sing of your salvation.
1. In you, O Lord, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.
In your justice rescue me, free me:
pay heed to me and save me. (R.)
2. Be a rock where I can take refuge,
a mighty stronghold to save me;
for you are my rock, my stronghold.
Free me from the hand of the wicked. (R.)
3. It is you, O Lord, who are my hope,
my trust, O Lord, since my youth.
On you I have leaned from my birth,
from my mother's womb you have been my help. (R.)
4. My lips will tell of your justice
and day by day of your help.
O God, you have taught me from my youth
and I proclaim your wonders still. (R.)

Second Reading (Shorter form) [1 Cor 13:4-13](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes. Love does not come to an end. But if there are gifts of prophecy, the time will come when they must fail; or the gift of languages, it will not continue for ever; and knowledge – for this, too, the time will come when it must fail. For our knowledge is imperfect and our

prophesying is imperfect; but once perfection comes, all imperfect things will disappear. When I was a child, I used to talk like a child, and think like a child, and argue like a child, but now I am a man, all childish ways are put behind me. Now we are seeing a dim reflection in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as fully as I am known. In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.



Gospel Acclamation

[Lk 4:18](#)
Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners. Alleluia!

Gospel [Lk 4:21-30](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Jesus began to speak in the synagogue, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.' And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips. They said, 'This is Joseph's son, surely?' But he replied, 'No doubt you will quote me the saying, "Physician, heal yourself" and tell me, "We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own countryside."' And he went on, 'I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country. 'There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah's day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha's time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.' When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away.

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

Readings for next Sunday

February 6
5th Sunday Ordinary Time Year C
[Is 6:1-8](#) // [1 Cor 15:1-11](#) // [Lk 5:1-11](#)

Weekday Masses

Tuesday:	10am Stawell (Check bulletin for occasional changes)
Wednesday:	Aged Care
Thursday:	3.30pm Hopkins
Friday:	11am Ararat (Check bulletin for occasional changes)

Aged Care Roster

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

Recent Deaths: Rose Dohnt

Anniversaries Stawell

Charles Evans 1951, Christopher Brown 1971, Catherine Monaghan 1973, James Aubrey 1993, Mary-Ann Molan 1969, Lance Forster 1982, Leonie Wright 1985, Roy McInerney 1984, Margaret Devery 2003, Lillian Scott 2002, Alan Giles 2020, Sarah Smith 1961, Jessie Toogood 1967, Tom D'Arcy 2001, Jean Pickering 1996, Russell Watts 2000, Margaret Walker 2019

Anniversaries Ararat

Dell Delaney, Ken Walker, Lindsay Lee, Fr Frank Harney, Beverly Woods, Joan Abbott, Mark Hunt, Robert Thistlethwaite, Frank Thomas, Carmela Zammit, Joseph Zammit, Colleen Peacock

Golden Gate Roster

January 30 Jim Jan
February 6 Libby // 13 Teresa // 20 Harry Anna // 27 Jim Jan

Lake Bolac Roster

Sat Jan 29 Reader Tricia Higgins // Prayers of Faithful Helen Smith // Cleaning Irene Meek
Sat Feb 5 Reader Damian Phillips // Prayers of Faithful Jane Higgins // Cleaning Rosemary Liston

CWL Ararat: Next meeting: Tuesday February 8, 1.30pm, Parish Centre. All welcome

Stawell Stations of the Cross - There will be Stations of the Cross each Friday at 10am, finishing on April 8

Lenten Discussion Groups

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on March 2. Books have been ordered for our discussion groups. Expected to be after Tuesday Mass in Stawell and on Thursday mornings in Ararat. More information to come.

Caritas Appeal for Tonga

Tonga is reeling after the violent underwater volcano eruption triggered tsunamis, destroyed telecommunications and blanketed the country in ash and rock. Roads, bridges and homes are damaged. Water supplies have been contaminated by volcanic ash and saltwater. Tonga needs your support urgently. Give now to help with emergency response. Donate at <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/pacific/>

Caritas Prayer for Tonga and the Pacific

Loving God, we hold before you in our hearts the people of Tonga in this time of need. We know that the communities of the Pacific often experience fragility. Now, with a volcanic explosion leading to both a Tsunami and degradation of land and water through ash, we ask that your people find strength and feel closer to you than ever. They are communities of great faith. May they turn to you for peace and reassurance. May they turn to each other for comfort and community. And may they turn to us for support and solidarity. We all share this mysterious world which you have entrusted to our care, as one family. May your Holy Spirit give us wisdom and courage and fill us with the gift of Hope. Amen.

Caritas Diocesan Director

We welcome Jillian Hogbin to the position of Ballarat Diocesan Caritas Director, following the retirement of Sue Searls from this role. Jillian is available to contact via email at caritas@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7171.

EthicsFinder.com

Explore www.ethicsfinder.com. Wish you could easily find Church teaching and the best articles, books and videos on bioethics, business ethics, cancel culture, human rights, marriage, subsidiarity, and 100+ other topics? Try ACU's free, digital tool www.ethicsfinder.com.

"Jesus The Social Entrepreneur" book launch invitation

A fascinating exploration of Jesus the greatest social entrepreneur integrating intellectual, emotional and spiritual awareness to "change society values and behaviours through a new relationship with God". The book launch and illustrated presentation by Em Prof L Murray Gillin AM will be held on Monday, January 31, 2022 at Federation University (SMB Campus) Seminar Theatre Technology Centre, 106-110 Lydiard Street South from 4.00pm – 5.30pm. Meet with author, identify power of human intention, obtain your signed discount copy and enjoy refreshments. RSVP for free ticket on www.makeithappenmindset.com

Pathways Response Victoria

The Victorian Catholic Bishops launched Pathways Response Victoria last year, which will provide a further way of responding to those who have suffered abuse in the Catholic community. Pathways Response Victoria will be the successor to Towards Healing and The Melbourne Response from the start of 2022. More information is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/pathways-response-victoria/>

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>

World Interfaith Harmony Week Flag Raising Event

All are invited to the Ballarat Interfaith Network's celebration of World Interfaith Harmony Week on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at St Peter's Anglican Church, Sturt Street, Ballarat from 11.00am - 12.30pm. The program includes: Acknowledgement of Country; welcome on behalf of Ballarat Interfaith Network; welcome on behalf of City of Ballarat; raising of the Interfaith Flag; address by Sikh Keynote Speaker (Rajinder Singh Gill); prayers from various faith representatives; virtual choir presentations; and refreshments.

Ballarat Interfaith Network Forum – Sunday, February 6, 2022

The Ballarat Interfaith Network are hosting a forum, "Death, Sanctity of the Human Body, and Organ Donation" to be held on Sunday, February 6, 2022 from 2.00pm - 4.00pm at St Patrick Cathedral Hall, Ballarat. Speaker topics are organ donation, blood donation and interfaith perspectives - Aboriginal, Baha'i, Christian, Hindu, Muslim, Sikh. Registration is essential, ph. 0400 650 234. This is a COVID compliant event – masks, QR check in, social distancing. Organ donor registration is available - bring Medicare card to facilitate.

Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close

Reflection by Artist

This week's gospel is a continuation from last week. Jesus is in his home town and proclaims his mission through Scripture. This is deemed presumptuous by the townsfolk who try to run him out of town. There is rage and violence in this scene – why did they react so violently? Jesus is appropriating scripture and giving it new meaning – a postmodern approach. New meanings are always resisted because they disturb the status quo, but Jesus' message, about the advent of the kingdom, also demands a change of heart.



Commentary by Mary Coloe PBVM

1 Corinthians 12:31 – 13:13 or 13:4-13; Luke 4:21-30

This is Joseph's son.

Last Sunday's Gospel saw Jesus announce his goal in the Synagogue of Nazareth; today we see the reactions to his words. Jesus' message was, 'God keeps Jubilee. You are all welcomed home by a God who loves you.' Some are touched by this proclamation of a most gracious God but others, not surprisingly, are enraged. Judaism had a long tradition of law which spelled out quite clearly who was a righteous person, and who was a sinner, who was a person loved by God and who would God turn away from. The categories were clear. Good people tried to live out the Law and so feel themselves worthy to be loved by God. Sinners knew themselves as worthless and outcasts. Jesus' proclamation cut through these presumptions. He announced a God who broke the rules set by Judaism. 'All are welcome; righteous and sinner alike. You are welcome not because you've made yourself worthy, not because you're better than others; you are welcome because God loves you – all of you.'

Jesus' words shocked and scandalised the good, religious people of his time. The God he was describing simply did not fit within their religious categories and so they mocked him, 'This is Joseph's son, what right does he have to speak like this?' Jesus' only defence is to point to the history of how his people treated other prophets. The prophet's hardest audience is his own people. Elijah and Elisha's greatest miracles were for foreigners, the outsiders.

In 1 Kings 17, Elijah heals the son of a Canaanite woman, living in Sidon, and in 2 Kings 5, Elisha is able to heal Naaman, the commander of the army of Syria. Here again we see Luke's interest in showing Jesus as one for those outside Israel – remember Luke's community is probably made up of non-Jews.

If Jesus preached this message in our churches today what response would he receive? Who would listen and welcome his startling words? Who would be scandalised?

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council - Media Release

The peak body representing First Nations Catholics has invited fellow Catholics to make 2022 a year of action to "strengthen Australia's foundations by supporting Australia's First Peoples".

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council has issued a statement for Australia Day, reflecting on this year's theme: Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

The statement unpacks those three verbs and encourages people to consider a response as individuals and as Catholics. "By reflecting upon the theme on a personal level, we are assuming the responsibility for action and not leaving it to others to create change," it reads.

"Combined with our innate desire, as Catholics, to become more like Christ, we are individually called to action to make Australia a country that more closely reflects our Christian beliefs of equality, respect and care for our poor and vulnerable. "A nation built upon these beliefs is a strong and inclusive nation – something we all desire. However, a strong nation is built upon a strong foundation, and currently Australia's foundations are undermined by its relationship with its First Peoples."

To strengthen those foundations, NATSICC recommends the addition of a fourth verb to the Australia Day theme: Do. "Words are easy and limitless, but actions require time, effort and commitment," the statement says.

"We ask that you make 2022 the year of 'Do'."

NATSICC offers some practical suggestions for how parishes, schools, organisations and individuals can take up that challenge.

They include attending Mass at an Aboriginal and Islander Catholic Ministry, displaying acknowledgement plaques prominently in public places and supporting the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

Bishop Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE, chair of the Bishops Commission for Relations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, welcomed NATSICC's Australia Day statement and its call to action.

"The Church is always seeking concrete ways to walk with our First Nations sisters and brothers, and we see in this document advice on how we can do that in tangible ways, recognising their unique place in our country's history," he said. Bishop Macbeth-Green, whose Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes is home to a significant Indigenous population, singled out a new cross-cultural competency training program NATSICC has developed as a key tool in helping increase awareness about Australia's First Peoples.