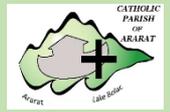




St Patrick's Parish Stawell and Landsborough St Mary's Parish Ararat and Lake Bolac



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 February 6, 2022 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

First Reading

[Is 6:1-8](#)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord seated on a high throne; his train filled the sanctuary; above him stood seraphs, each one with six wings. And they cried out to one another in this way, 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. His glory fills the whole earth.' The foundations of the threshold shook with the voice of the one who cried out, and the Temple was filled with smoke. I said: 'What a wretched state I am in! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have looked at the King, the Lord of hosts.' Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding in his hand a live coal which he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. With this he touched my mouth and said: 'See now, this has touched your lips, your sin is taken away, your iniquity is purged.' Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying: 'Whom shall I send? Who will be our messenger?' I answered, 'Here I am, send me.'

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 137:1-5. 7-8. R. v.1](#)

R. In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.

Before the angels I will bless you.

I will adore before your holy temple. (R.)

2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.

On the day I called, you answered;

you increased the strength of my soul. (R.)

3. All earth's kings shall thank you
when they hear the words of your mouth.

They shall sing of the Lord's ways;

'How great is the glory of the Lord!' (R.)

4. You stretch out your hand and save me,
your hand will do all things for me.

Your love, O Lord, is eternal,

discard not the work of your hands. (R.)

Second Reading (Shorter form) [1 Cor 15:3-8, 11](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

In the first place, I taught you what I had been taught myself, namely that Christ died for our sins, in accordance with the scriptures; that he was buried; and that he was raised to life on the third day, in

accordance with the scriptures; that he appeared first to Cephas and secondly to the Twelve. Next he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died; then he appeared to James, and then to all the apostles; and last of all he appeared to me too; it was as though I was born when no one expected it. But what matters is that I preach what they preach, and this is what you all believed.



Gospel Acclamation

[Mt 4:19](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come follow me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of my people. Alleluia!

Gospel

[Lk 5:1-11](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke Jesus was standing one day by the lake of Gennesaret, with the crowd pressing round him listening to the word of God, when he caught sight of two boats close to the bank. The fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats – it was Simon's – and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water and pay out your nets for a catch.' 'Master,' Simon replied 'we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so, I will pay out the nets.' And when they had done this they netted such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear, so they signalled to their companions in the other boat to come and help them; when these came, they filled the two boats to sinking point. When Simon Peter saw this he fell at the knees of Jesus saying, 'Leave me Lord; I am a sinful man.' For he and all his companions were completely overcome by the catch they had made; so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners. But Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch.' Then, bringing their boats back to land, they left everything and followed him.

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 13
6th Sunday Ordinary Time Year C
[Jer 17:5-8](#) // [1 Cor 15:12, 16-20](#) // [Lk 6:17. 20-26](#)

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

Extra Mass this Week in Stawell: Beginning of year school Mass in the church at 9.30am on Friday 11th. All welcome
Stations of the Cross (scheduled for 10am) will be after Mass

Recent Deaths: Harry Joyce

Anniversaries Stawell

Peter Monaghan 1962, William McGarry 1974, Michael Mornane 1983, Charles Forster 1950, John Trotter 1971, Rachel Dunn 1972, Kavon Sanford 1988, James Devery 1983, Albert Archibald 1992, Patricia Cook 2010, Robert Archibald 1992, Laurence Healy 2017, Thelma (Jane) Renouf 1999

Anniversaries Ararat

Fr John Kelly Ann Pola, Sr Dorothy Molley, Stanley Hucker, Noel Peck, Glenda Sertori, Cec McOwan, John Kelly, Robin Wright, Petronella Van Keulin, Merna Dorothy McMaster, Margaret Tyndall, Thomas Creenaune, Anthony Gordon, Imelda Gordan, Betty Parker, Margaret Traynor, David McColl, Joyce Speechley, Eunice Downes, Ron Manneke-Jones, Teresa Glass, Peg Dacey, Mary Shea, Alice Bulger, William Smith, Fr Timothy Lynch, Jane Renouf, Elsie Fradd

Golden Gate Roster

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

Lake Bolac Roster

Sat Feb 5 Reader Damian Phillips // Prayers of Faithful Jane Higgins // Cleaning Rosemary Liston
Sat Feb 19 Reader Irene Meek // Prayers of Faithful Michael Phillips // Cleaning Tricia Higgins

Can you spare one hour a month to prepare St Pat's church for our Sunday Masses?

We desperately need volunteers to help prepare for our Sunday liturgies by
Changing altar clothes and colours when necessary // Arranging flowers // Dusting // Cleaning the brass
No vacuuming or mopping involved. Ring Mary Rita Thomas -0438 836 180 or catch me after Mass. Thanks, Mary Rita

CWL Ararat: Meets this Tuesday February 8, 1.30pm, Parish Centre. All welcome

Lent in Stawell

Mass Tuesdays 10am // Lenten Discussion Tuesdays 10.30am // Stations of the Cross Fridays 10am

Lent in Ararat

Mass Fridays 11am // Lenten Discussion Thursdays 10am

National Press Club

This coming Wednesday at 12.30 (ABC TV) Grace Tame and Brittany Higgins will be the speakers at the National Press Club. They are both advocates for survivors of sexual assault and abuse. I will be watching. I think it'll offer some valuable insights into the perspectives of these remarkable women. Fr Andrew

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.

Help for Those in Need

The following are details of help available in Stawell and region for those in need. Back to school can be a very financially difficult time for families so I thought that it would be a good time to renew these details with your school office and with parents via your school newsletter. Families having trouble with back to school expenses should contact Stawell St Vincent de Paul while families might seek food help from the Stawell Inter Church Council Welfare Cottage to free up some money for those school expenses. I'm also attaching details of how to access the Red Cross Home Isolation Food Hampers.

"You, or someone you know, might need help in Stawell and region –

For food aid go to Stawell Inter Church Council Welfare Cottage at 20 Sloane St. Stawell Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays between 10.30am and 12.30pm. For out of hours emergencies ring – 0408 038 949

For help other than food contact Stawell St Vincent de Paul by ringing -0437 344 323 and leaving a message. You will be called back within 24 hours.

If you have to isolate at home because of covid and are in need of food aid for help accessing Red Cross home isolation food hampers ring Norther Grampians Shire – 53588700 or Grampians Community Health home isolation unit – 53587400."

Thanks and best wishes for what I'm sure will be another challenging school year.

Regards, Mary Rita Thomas, Secretary Stawell Inter Church Council, Member of Stawell St Vincent de Paul

Afghanistan Appeal – Rural Australians for Refugees

The money raised from this appeal is being used by National RAR to help fund visas for refugees trying to get to Australia and to support those refugees who actually manage to escape the turmoil in their homeland. Please give generously if you are able. Thanks for your on-going support of people from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds

Please mark your donation as **Afghanistan Appeal** .

The account details are: **RAR-Grampians/Gariwerd**

BSB 633 108

A/C no. 154 337 265

New Testament Commentary by Mary Coloe PBVM

Both readings address the issue of being a genuine disciple. Neither Paul nor Peter could claim to be worthy of discipleship but both men trust that they have been called and therefore have some mission, that God has some purpose in calling them. The documents of Vatican II spoke with great force on the vocation of the lay people in the Church. These statements are just a sampling of the emphasis put on the role of the lay people in the Church.

- The faithful are by baptism made one body with Christ and are constituted among the People of God; they are in their own way made sharers in the priestly, prophetic, and kingly functions of Christ; and they carry out the mission of the whole Christian people in the Church and in the world. (*The Constitution on the Church* LG 31)
- The laity, by their very vocation, seek the kingdom of God by engaging in temporal affairs and by ordering them according to the plan of God. (LG 31)
- They live in the world, that is, in each and in all of the secular professions and occupations. They live in the ordinary circumstances of family and social life, from which the very web of their existence is woven. (LG 31)
- They are called there by God that by exercising their proper function and led by the spirit of the Gospel they may work for the sanctification of the world from within as a leaven. (LG 31)
- All are called to sanctity and have received an equal privilege of faith through the justice of God. (LG 32)
- Now, the laity are called in a special way to make the Church present and operative in those places and circumstances where only through them can she become the salt of the earth. (LG 32)
- For all their works, prayers and apostolic endeavours, their ordinary married and family life, their daily occupations, their physical and mental relaxation, if carried out in the Spirit, and even the hardships of life, if patiently borne – all these become 'spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.' (LG 34)
- Together with the offering of the Lord's body, they are most fittingly offered in the celebration of the Eucharist. (LG 34)
- Thus, the laity consecrate the world itself to God. (LG 34)

We worked hard all night long and caught nothing

Reflection by Fr Andrew

Fair enough. The fisher people will have been exhausted and centuries of wisdom will have told them that, if they had caught nothing all night, they weren't going to catch anything now. Time to go home and rest weary bones. What Jesus asked of them was ridiculous according to accepted wisdom. Somebody needed to tell him... But Jesus saw things differently. If the conventional wisdom wasn't working (they'd caught nothing), then why dig in and keep following the same patterns? Maybe they did need new eyes and ears. Maybe they needed to do it Jesus' way for a bit. Simon's first reaction was "but ... no." His second thought was to follow the lead of Jesus into a whole new way of being in God's world. They nearly sank the boats there were so many fish. Should have taken Jesus' advice at the start of the night.

I'm well aware that for seven years I've been asking parishioners to put your nets out in ways that have seemed ridiculous to some of you. You told me that I was clueless and stupid. That's the printable ones. It took a while for some to see that Muslim people are holy people. That was a "put out into deep water" moment. It was for me too. I didn't know much about Muslims but it seemed wrong that we thought we could have a church but they couldn't.

Lately I've been asking parishioners to "put out into deep water" again, this time with regards to first nations people, those who have had their land stolen and been otherwise disrespected. I'm going to ask again for parishioners to be Simon for a moment. What Jesus asked seemed ridiculous, but that's when they nearly sank the boats with their record ever catch.

I also receive as many emails imploring me to continue to ask you all to cast your nets into deeper water. Two parishioners emailed me this week:

1. ... and with the 26th January celebrations, it remains a travesty of human decency and of justice that first nations people are not afforded at least recognition, let alone respect and understanding for what we have and continue to subject them to in so many diverse situations here in Australia. We are not young and free. we are hide-bound and lack empathy and understanding, we inflict appalling indignities and suffering on those who have lived here for hundreds of generations, and we incarcerate and torture refugees now, who like us in those 1800's, found ourselves here often from desperate circumstances, seeking new life and new possibilities in this country. I am so grateful you would not celebrate that invasion date.
2. I would like to throw another suggestion into the mix...the "Catholic Parish of Mary and Martha, Gariwerd". I think these two women symbolise and bring together beautifully, both the contemplative and the active aspects of living the Gospel in a vibrant Catholic Parish community. I also think it is important to return to Gospel figures who are at the heart of our Christian faith and to be inclusive of women in particular in the new name.

Last Sunday we used this Eucharistic Prayer (Various Needs IV) at all parish Masses. We'll use it again this week.

Open our eyes to the needs of our brothers and sisters;
inspire in us words and actions to comfort those who labour and are burdened.
Make us serve them truly, after the example of Christ and at his command.
And may your Church stand as a living witness
to truth and freedom,
to peace and justice,
that all people may be raised up to a new hope.

The last line interests me. It's our task to enable all people "to be raised up to a new hope." It's not enough to say that the dispossession and massacres were a hundred years ago, or that there are not aborigines in our area, or that there are not many Catholics among the first nations people (not true.) Recently I heard "it's always been called the Grampians." That's not true either.

I want to take a different tack now in asking that we cast out nets into deeper water. This line: "May your Church stand as a living witness to truth and freedom, to peace and justice, that all people may be raised up to a new hope." Regardless of history or blame or tyranny of time or any of that, our task in God is to enable people to be raised up to a new hope. That's our job. If giving our new parish a name that brings hope to people who have felt disrespected for two hundred years, then this is our moment, our time to listen to Jesus and to cast our nets into deeper water. This is our time to put out a statement that will stand for a hundred years, to be a parish that renames ourselves as a Church that stands as a living witness to truth and freedom, to peace and justice, that all people may be raised up to a new hope.

What do you think?

Geographical Land on which we live:

Djap Wurrong Country or Gariwerd

Religious Patron:

Isaiah or Holy Spirit or Martha and Mary

For information on the massacres <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/series/the-killing-times>