



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



We acknowledge the Djap Wurrung 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 March 20, 2022 3rd Sunday of Lent, Year C

First Reading

[Ex 3:1-8. 13-15](#)

A reading from the book of Exodus
Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am' he answered. 'Come no nearer' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God. And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.' Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

Responsorial Psalm [Ps 102:1-4. 6-8. 11. R. v.8](#)

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)
3. The Lord does deeds of justice, gives judgement for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses and his deeds to Israel's sons. (R.)
4. The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. (R.)

Second Reading

[1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert. These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer. All this happened to them as a warning and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

Gospel Acclamation

[Mt 4:17](#)

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

[Lk 13:1-9](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.' He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.'"

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 1st 3rd 5th Sundays 6.30pm Vigil Sat
Landsborough 2nd 4th Sundays 6pm Vigil Sat
Glenthompson (Hamilton Parish) 2nd 4th Sundays 8.30am

Readings for next Sunday

March 27
4th Sunday of Lent Year C
[Jos 5:9-12](#)// [2 Cor 5:17-21](#)//[Lk 15:1-3. 11-32](#)

Weekday Masses (usual schedule)

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:

Anniversaries Stawell

Ann Mary Healy 1944, Amy Wadsworth 1977, James Brown 1957, John Jones 1997, Lawrence Grace 2006, Betty Monaghan 2008, Thomas Kerrin 1985, Thomas Molan 1981, James Monaghan 1989, Rebecca Saudys 1953, Kathleen Jose 2015

Anniversaries Ararat

Dorothy O'Brien, John Leggett, John Thomas, Tom Carter, Sr. Joyce White RSJ, Lily Rose McConnell, Dave Dampsey, Fr John Henehan, Fr Bill O'Driscoll, Bea Kelly, Elizabeth Hustler, Benita Una Pieters, John Colwell, Barry Smith, Phillip Brown, Cliff Murray, John Kelly, Helen Kneebone, Betty Beer, Paz Navarro, Elizabeth Overington, Gwen Murray

Golden Gate Roster

March 20 Harry Anna // Jim Jan
April 3 Teresa // 10 Libby // 17 Harry Anna // 24 Jim Jan

Lake Bolac Roster

Sat Mar 19 Reader Denise Haslett // Prayers of Faithful Irene Meek // Cleaning Jane Higgins
Sat April 2 Reader Leanne Breen // Prayers of Faithful Val Albert // Cleaning Leanne Breen

Lent in Stawell

Mass Every Tuesday 10am

Lenten discussion group In the St Pat's Church hall each Tuesday at 10.30 after Mass.
Everyone welcome for all, or just some, of these discussions.

Stations of the Cross In St Pat's Church each Friday at 10am.

Lent in Ararat

Lenten Discussion Thursdays 10am

Mass Every Friday 11am

Holy Week and Easter Roster

Reconciliation 2nd Rite Reconciliation Wed April 6, 5.30pm Stawell // 7pm Ararat

Mass of the Oils 6.30pm Monday April 11, St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat

Holy Thursday 7pm Mass Ararat

Good Friday 3pm Passion Stawell

Holy Saturday 6.30pm Easter Vigil Lake Bolac

Easter Sunday 8.30am Ararat // 10.30am Stawell

St Pat's CWL Easter raffle - tickets on sale after Mass

2 Prizes – Wine and chocolates/a beautiful hand-made doll with carrier and a spare set of clothes.

Tickets - \$2 for 1 or 3 for \$5. Raffle drawn after Easter Sunday Mass

Classroom helpers:

We are thrilled to be able to welcome back our classroom helpers. We value and appreciate everyone who supports our classroom learning. If you would like to help in our classrooms, please contact Maryanne or the school office (5358 2493). You will need a current Working with Children's Check, be triple vaxxed and adhere to current COVID regulations to participate as a Classroom Helper.

Caritas Australia Ukraine Crisis Appeal

In a matter of weeks, millions of people have fled the conflict in Ukraine. Our long-standing partner, Caritas Ukraine, is on the ground, supporting people in need during this unfolding humanitarian crisis. Help provide urgent humanitarian assistance including shelter, food, clean water, medicine and psychological support to people affected by this crisis. Donate today at www.caritas.org.au/ukraine or call 1800 024 413 toll free. Keep up to date on the latest activities by Caritas agencies on the ground www.caritas.org.au/ukraine-news

Pope Francis' Prayer for Peace in Ukraine

I ask you to pray the Our Father for peace in Ukraine, now and throughout this Day. Let us ask the Lord to grant that the country may grow in the spirit of brotherhood, and that all hurts, fears and divisions will be overcome. We have spoken about the Holocaust. But let us think too that [in Ukraine] millions of people were killed [1932-1933]. They are a people who have suffered; they have suffered from hunger, suffered from much brutality and they deserve peace. May the prayers and supplications that today rise up to heaven touch the minds and hearts of world leaders, so that dialogue may prevail and the common good be placed ahead of partisan interests. Please, no more war.

Project Compassion – Third Sunday of Lent

Janice 44, is a proud Wagilak woman, a traditional dancer, who tells stories through movements handed down over generations. With your support, Janice and the Djilpin Arts Aboriginal Corporation support the community to generate income and employment, while keeping culture alive. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow "For All Future Generations". You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish or by visiting www.lent.caritas.org.au or by calling 1800 024 413.

St Joseph's Church Derrinallum Final Mass

An invitation is extended to parishioners and former parishioners, their families and friends and any interested community members, to attend the Final Mass following the closing of St Joseph's Church in Derrinallum. This Mass will be held on Sunday, April 24, 2022 at 11.00am. Light refreshments will be served at the Church following Mass. To assist with catering, please reply to Gerard Fitzgerald, ph. 0409 863079 or Kathy Bell, ph. 0499 555607.

Mass of the Oils 2022

All are welcome to attend the Mass of the Oils to be held on Monday, April 11, 2022 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 6.30pm. Supper will follow in the Hall. Any COVID restrictions applicable at this time will apply to the Mass of the Oils.

Choir for Mass of the Oils 2022

Singers and musicians in the diocese are invited to join the music group which is being formed for the Mass of the Oils on Monday, April 11, 2022. Practice times are Sunday, March 27, Sunday, April 3 and Sunday, April 10 from 6.00pm – 7.00pm (following 5.00pm Mass). Please contact Julie Boyd in the Pastoral Ministry Office to register your interest julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7159.

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Online Study now open

Our partner, Dayton University, offers low-cost (\$50usd) online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parishes. Study cycles are over 3 or 5 weeks. The next Cycle of 2022 begins April 25. There are 29 subjects to choose from – find one that interests you! Registrations are open now. More information is available on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/pastoral-ministry/lay-pastoral-ministry-program/> or email djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7121.

Interfaith Walk for Peace

As part of the Ballarat Harmony Fest 2022, Ballarat Interfaith Network Event, together with BRMC, invite all to the Interfaith Walk for Peace on Sunday, March 20, 2022 from 2.00pm - 4.30pm. The walk will begin at the BADAC Cultural Education Centre, 403 Main Road, walking to WRISC Family Violence Support at 205 Dana Street and ending at Anglican Cathedral Church of Christ the King, 49 Lydiard Street South. Insight into community services offered to mitigate against violence. Interfaith focus on Indigenous, Christian and Islamic wisdom for peace. COVID precautions. Refreshments offered.

New Testament Commentary by Mary Coloe PBVM Time's running out 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12; Luke 13:1-9

The Lenten theme of repentance (*metanoia*) is the central teaching of today's Gospel. As Jesus moves towards Jerusalem, he speaks with a sense of great urgency to the crowds who come to him. Time is short. Jesus gives the crowd two very graphic images of disasters: the first is of Pilate slaughtering some Galileans while they were offering their sacrifices, and the second is a tower near the pool of Siloam that suddenly collapsed. Jesus' message to the crowd is, 'Don't think this couldn't happen to you.' There was a tendency to see the hand of God behind such sudden, apparently haphazard disasters, and so to think that those caught up in these events were being punished for sin. In this way some could be thinking, 'This couldn't happen to me. They deserved it.' Jesus warns against such complacency. The parable of the fig tree reiterates this teaching. Time is running out. Today is the moment of choice.

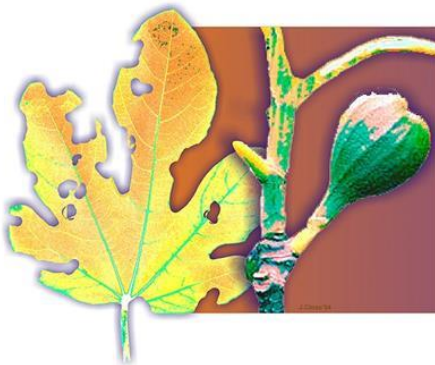
The 'time is short' message is not meant to frighten us with thoughts of death, but to urge us to live authentically. Live fully. Live each moment purposefully. Are we people who choose life, or does life just happen to us?

Jesus often taught using parables, such as the one in today's Gospel. The point of a parable is that some comparison is being made between the image in the story and the life of Jesus' listeners. Paul also uses comparisons as a teaching technique. Today, speaking to the community at Corinth he reminds them of the experience of the Israelites in the Exodus. They passed through the waters of the Sea, they were guided by the pillar of cloud; they were fed by the manna – and yet, in spite of all these signs of God's lavish care, they all died; so be warned.

In this section of Paul's letter, he is dealing with a number of issues that the community had asked his advice about: to marry or remain single and eating food that had previously been offered to the Greco-Roman gods. In chapter 10, he is challenging his community not to return to former practices of worship at Temples. Now that these Corinthians have turned to Christ and been baptised into him, then they should remain firm in their commitment. Remember that this is probably a small group of believers who are now breaking ties with family and friends in becoming a follower of Jesus. No longer can they join in the normal civic and religious celebrations of the city since this would mean going into a Greek Temple and participating in a meal of communion with the Greek deity. This was the pattern of life they had been used to. It was religious, cultural and civic. Now, being a disciple of Jesus means a total change that means they will stand out from their neighbours. This will be difficult, hence Paul's effort to challenge and warn them.

Like the people in Jesus' time, and the Corinthians, living Christian faith does make demands that go beyond an hour on Sunday. In all the choices we make, about what we buy, how we live and how we vote, we are to be guided by Gospel principles of 'love of God and neighbour.' Are we living a rigorous Christianity that stands for principles of social justice, respect for all, tolerance towards others with a special regard for those most vulnerable in our society? What are our values really? How much do Gospel values impinge on the choices we make. These questions may help depth our Lenten time of *metanoia*.

Lent is a *metanoia* time giving us a chance to have a change of heart and to live from the choices of our hearts. We are at the half-way point of the Lenten journey. This week take some time to reflect on your choices and the direction in which you want your life to go. Choose while the choice is still possible. Time's running out.



Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close

Reflection by Artist

There is a tough but fair Lenten message in the parable of the fig tree: before it is chopped down and reduced to dead wood, the tree is given one more chance to be fruitful. There is a 'be warned' side to this story and a 'take heart' aspect as well. Yes, be warned because every one of us has to be fruitful in our own way, and yes, take heart because God is on our side. What is the dead wood in your life and what needs nourishment?

JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

God will help us bear fruit

GA 1368

F O U N D J A X G V V R W E
J S T G Y F M B L B A O S U
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Try to find these words:

cut
dig
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figs
found
gardener
growing
leave
manure
master
vineyard
year