

St Patrick's Stawell, Immaculate Conception Ararat, St Francis of Assisi Landsborough and St Bernard's Lake Bolac form Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd.

We acknowledge recognise and respect the elders and families of the Barengi Gadjin and Eastern Maar people, the traditional owners of the land on which our parish gathers. We commit ourselves to walking in unity with our First Nations people.

First Reading **Is 8:23 - 9:3**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone.

You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase, they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian.

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 26:1. 4. 13-14. R. v.1**

(R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; Before whom shall I shrink? (R.)

2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long, to live in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life, to savour the sweetness of the Lord, to behold his temple. (R.)

3. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.

Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.

Hope in the Lord! (R.)

Second Reading **1 Cor 1:10-13, 17**

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

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

Gospel Acclamation **Mt 4:23**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel **Mt 4:12-23**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!
Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan,
Galilee of the nations!
The people that lived in darkness
has seen a great light;
on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death
a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

Parish Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

Parish Priest	Fr. Andrew Hayes andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Parish Bulletin Online	www.ballarat.catholic.org.au – follow link to parish
Secretary / Child Safe	Jill Croxford ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Parish Email	ararat@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 12.30pm
Glenthompson	(Hamilton Parish) 2 nd 4 th Sundays 8.30am

Readings for next Sunday

January 29th
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
Zep 2:3,3:12-13// 1Cor 1:26-31// Mt5:1-12

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 ARVillage

Anniversaries

Mons. John Hoyne, Fr John Coughlan, Fr William Cain, Elizabeth Nicolaci, Maria Nicolaci, Pasquale Nicolaci, Maria Francesca Y Nicolaci, Concetta Nicolaci Y Tolomeo, Maria Franco, Pedro Franco, Romeo Raffaele, Riso Maria Jioseffa Y Romeo, Marcelo Franco, Gerard Brown, Margaret Winnell, John Fontana 1992, Bridget Cashin, John Downes, Lois Gordon Rex Billingsley, Rosina Coleman 1972, Lorna McPherson, Margaret Start, Nell Laffy, Sr Agnes Lyng, Mario Diana, Liam Fitzpatrick, William Facey 1978, Harry Joyce, Peter McLean, Peter Gorst, Elizabeth Murtagh 1969, Gwyn McSparron 1970, Marie Bell 1970, Peter McLean 2001, Grace Nellthorp 2004, Michele DiDomenico, Mick Davey, Fr Charlie Fiscalini, Michael Hennessy, Patrick Kelly, Doris & Ian McCullough, Thelma Murphy, Rose Dohnt, Judith Flynn 1978, Ruth Healy 2009, Harold (John) Tavener 2010

Recent Deaths

Jan Peterson, Dick Banks, Catherine (Rene) Reynolds, Jeanette (Jan) Rees & Mark O'Toole

Golden Gate Roster

Sun 22nd Jan Margaret Olle/ Sun 29th Jan Harry & Anna/ Sun Feb 5th Libby
Sun 12th Feb Teresa/ Sun 19th Feb Jim & Jan / Sun 26th Feb Harry & Anna

Lake Bolac Roster

Sat Jan 28th Reader Damian Phillips// Prayers of Faithful Helen Smith
Sat Feb 4th Reader Leanne Breen// Prayers of Faithful Jan Higgins //Cleaning Tricia Higgins
Sat Feb 18th Reader Rosemary Liston//Prayers of Faithful Phillip Meek
Sat Mar 4th Reader Helen Smith// Prayers of Faithful Judy Aldous //Cleaning Jane Higgins

Ararat Roster

Sun 22nd Jan Facil H Collins// Reader K Leggett//Euch Min A Collins
Sun 29th Jan Facilitator Pat McA// Reader Jenny M// Euch Min M Olle

Stawell Roster

Sun 22nd Jan S/Minister Marg Rowe// Reader L Morgan// Offertory P Gooden
Sun 29th Jan S/Minister Kath Ashton// Reader M Howard// Offertory J Croton
Sun 5th Feb S/Minister Marg Rowe//Reader C Barker//Offertory M McGaffin
Sun 12th Feb S/Minister Helen Potter// ReaderJ Van Diesen// Offertory Habben Family
Sun 19th Feb S/Minister J Van Diesen//Reader Michelle Howard//Offertory Pascual Family
Sun 26th Feb S/Minister Mary Rita Thomas// Reader Di O'Donnell// Offertory Heenan Family

Advance Notice

Rite of Election 2023: Saturday, February 25, 2023 at 12.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. Lunch will follow in the Hall.

Mass of the Oils 2023: Monday, April 3, 2023 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 6.30pm. Supper will follow in the Hall.

World Interfaith Harmony Week 2023 - Flag Raising Event

Ballarat Interfaith Network invites you to join their Flag Raising Event in celebration of United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week on Wednesday, February 1, 2023 from 11.00am to 12.00noon at St Peter's Anglican Church, 1307 Sturt Street, Ballarat. After the raising of our own unique Ballarat Interfaith Network flag, we will adjourn into the church for a keynote address from a member of the local Muslim community, prayers for peace offered by representatives of other faiths, and one or two musical performances. Welcome - Mayor of Ballarat, Cr Hudson. Muslim Keynote Speaker - Obaid Noor. Refreshments provided. Contact 0400 650234.

Assembly of the Federation of Catholic Bishops Conferences of Oceania 2023

The Assembly of the Federation of Catholic Bishops Conferences of Oceania will be held in Fiji from February 5-10, 2023. People of the diocese are invited to pray for blessings on this assembly

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/federation-of-catholic-bishops-conferences-of-oceania/>

Mission: One Heart Many Voices Conference 2023

The Mission: One Heart Many Voices conference, "Lead, Act, Now" will be held from May 3-5, 2023 in Sydney – face-to-face and online. Registration and more information available at <https://2023.mohmv.com.au/>. Early bird full registration before February 28 is \$550.00. Full registration from March 1 is \$649.00. Concession rate \$539.00. Single day rate \$209.00.

2023 NLC and APMN Conference "The Art of Liturgical Celebration"

The Australian Pastoral Musicians Network and the National Liturgical Council are pleased to announce a combined liturgy and music conference to be held at the Brisbane Hilton from September 28-30, 2023, called "Mystery and Mission: The Art of Liturgical Celebration." The international keynote speakers are well-known British liturgical composer Bernadette Farrell and US liturgist and author Timothy O'Malley (Notre Dame). In addition, there will be many expert local workshop presenters and facilitators with 42 workshops on offer across the three days. In addition to the high quality keynotes and workshops, there will also be opportunities to engage in facilitated discussions and to build networks with liturgists, musicians and educators from around the country. The registration page will be opened in January 2023, but to assist with your budgeting and planning for next year, the fees for the conference are: Full Registration \$480.00.

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.

Historical Context – Repent

Throughout the Old Testament, the people of Israel repeated a cycle of behaviour. When their relationship with God was strong, they upheld the covenant and they prospered. They would forget that their prosperity lay in being in right relationship with one another and with God and so they would neglect those relationships. They would turn so far away that some tragedy or oppression would befall them. Out of their despair they would recognise their need for God and they would 'repent' and re-establish their relationship with God. Jesus' call to repent is a call to looking at the relationship with God in a whole new way.

Have you thought? People in darkness

The passage from Isaiah that is quoted in the gospel, speaks of the people who dwell in darkness. The passage is addressed to the Jewish tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali – two of the twelve tribes. These two tribes lived in the northernmost part of Palestine and their lands were surrounded by Gentiles. Any non-Jew was regarded as living in darkness because they did not have the light of 'truth', but these two tribes also dwelt in darkness because they were surrounded by it. Regardless, the passage asserts that all who dwell in darkness (Gentile and Jew alike) will receive a great light.

From the perspective of ... The first called

What must it have been like for those first four disciples Jesus called? The fact that they were fishing means that they had not been chosen to continue studying the Torah beyond childhood and had not been chosen by a rabbi to be his followers. Even as young men, these four were has-beens and had no hope of a rabbi asking them to be his disciples. Suddenly, Jesus appears and calls them to follow him. A life that had passed them by suddenly opened up before them! Of course they dropped everything and followed.

Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close

The prophecy of Isaiah speaks of a momentous light overcoming the darkness. The lakeside setting is evocative and fishing takes on a new meaning here

