

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 **Sir 15:15-20**

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

If you wish, you can keep the commandments,
to behave faithfully is within your power.
He has set fire and water before you;
put out your hand to whichever you prefer.
Man has life and death before him;
whichever a man likes better will be given him.
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is almighty and all-seeing.
His eyes are on those who fear him,
he notes every action of man.
He never commanded anyone to be godless,
he has given no one permission to sin.

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 118:1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34. R. v.1**

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!
1. They are happy whose life is blameless,
who follow God's law!
They are happy those who do his will,
seeking him with all their hearts. (R.)
2. You have laid down your precepts
to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm
to obey your statutes. (R.)
3. Bless your servant and I shall live
and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your
law. (R.)
4. Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will
keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my
heart. (R.)

Second Reading **1 Cor 2:6-10**

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

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached
maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still
less of the masters of our age, which are coming to
their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach
in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to
be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom
that none of the masters of this age have ever known,
or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we
teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has

seen, and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of
man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.
These are the very things that God has revealed to us
through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of
everything, even the depths of God.

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

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any
show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you
what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you,
the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus,
and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from
relying on any power of my own, I came among you in
great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the
sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments
that belong to philosophy, only a demonstration of the
power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith
should not depend on human philosophy but on the
power of God.

Gospel Acclamation **See Mt 11:25**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the
kingdom.

Alleluia!

Gospel **Mt 5:20-22. 27-28. 33-34. 37**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: I tell you, if your virtue goes
no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you
will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You
must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer
for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone
who is angry with his brother will answer for it before
the court.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit
adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a
woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery
with her in his heart.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our
ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must
fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do
not swear at all. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean
yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this
comes from the evil one.'

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

February 19th, 2023
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
Lv19:1-2.17-18//1Cor 3:16-23//Mt 5:38-48

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

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

Changes to Masses this Week

Tues 14 th Feb	12.15pm Opening Mass St Mary's School
Thurs 16 th Feb	11.30am Opening Mass Marian College
Fri 17 th Feb	Time change: Ararat morning Mass will be at 11.15am for this week only

Anniversarie

Fr John Kelly, Ann Pola, Sr Dorothy Molley, Stanley Hucker, Noel Peck, Peter Monaghan 1962, William McGarry 1974, Michael Mornane 1983, 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, Charles Forster 1950, John Trotter 1971, David McColl, Joyce Speechley, Eunice Downes, Ron Manneke-Jones, Rachel Dunn 1972, Kavon Sanford 1988.,eresa Glass, Peg Dacey, Mary Shea, James Devery 1983, Albert Archibald 1992, Patricia Cook 2010.,Alice Bulger, Daniel Barry, Robert Archibald 1992, Laurence Healy 2017, Daniel Barry, William Smith, Fr Timothy Lynch, Jane Renouf, Elsie Fradd, Jean Vernon, Thelma (Jane) Renouf 1999

Recent Deaths

Mr Alwyn Jude Hayes

Golden Gate Roster

Sun 12th Feb Teresa/ Sun 19th Feb Jim & Jan / Sun 26th Feb Harry & Anna

Lake Bolac Roster

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
Sat Mar 18th Reader Tricia Higgins// Prayers of Faithful Val Albert

Ararat Roster

Sun Feb 12th Welcomer Blessie S //Facilitator Pat L //Reader Peter B // Euch Min Margaret O
Sun Feb 19th Welcomer Genaro //Facilitator Cathy McA// Reader Jan c // Euch Min Jim C
Sun Feb 26th Welcomer Rosalie N // Facilitator Harry // Reader Charlie R // Euch Min Anna C

Stawell Roster

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

Lenten Discussion Groups

Stawell - Tuesdays after 10am Mass in the hall - begins Feb 21

Ararat - Thursdays 10am in the Office Meeting Room - begins Feb 23

Nominations for Parish Pastoral Council

We're calling for parishioners to contribute to our Parish Pastoral Council. Since the beginning of our new parish the council members have always been interim. Now it's time to form our new Council. Please consider and nominate yourself or others (only with their permission.) Nominations will be open for a couple of weeks and can be by email or phone or a note with the collection or ... just let us know.

Uniting Church Ararat - Pancake Day

The Rev Nathaniel Atem would like to invite you to enjoy Pancake Day at Ararat Uniting Church Barkly Street, on Tuesday 21 February from 10 to 12noon. Enjoy as many pancakes and cups of tea and coffee as you like. Entry \$10. All money raised will be donated to Uniting which provides for people in need.

Pray for Peace in Ukraine on February 24, 2023: *A message from +Bishop Mykola Bychok CSsR, Eparch for Ukrainian Catholics in Australia, New Zealand and Oceania:*

The 24th of February 2023 will be the first anniversary of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russia which has killed tens of thousands of soldiers and civilian population, as well as major infrastructure damage in many cities around Ukraine. The Ukrainian Catholic Church around the world will organise many actions to support our nation in its efforts to defend the freedom of its people and the sovereignty of its borders. I warmly invite you to organise a special day of prayer for peace in Ukraine. Let us unite together in prayer for peace in Ukraine!

Caritas agencies respond to catastrophic earthquake in Turkey and war-torn Syria

Caritas Turkey and other Caritas agencies are responding to a series of powerful earthquakes in southeast Turkey (officially known as Türkiye) and Syria, where thousands of lives have been lost already and the death toll increases by the hour. Our partner Caritas Turkey and other Caritas agencies on the ground are coordinating with local authorities and other organisations to see how they can best assist. Your generous support can help provide emergency relief to help families recover and rebuild from disaster. Visit www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/turkey-and-syria-earthquake/ or call 1800 024 413 toll free to provide much needed support to the Middle East by donating to our Middle East Emergency Appeal.

World Day of the Sick: Saturday, February 11, 2023

To acknowledge World Day of the Sick on February 11, parishes could arrange to have a special Mass or other prayers for the sick around this time. There is a media statement from Australian Catholic Bishops Conference & Catholic Health Australia available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/world-day-of-the-sick-february-11-2023/>

Project Compassion Sunday: February 19, 2023

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR will launch Project Compassion on Sunday, February 19, 2023 during 5.00pm Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat. Parishes of the dioceses are invited to do the same and may wish to commission their Caritas Ambassadors / Representatives who manage Project Compassion for their parish or school communities. If you would like to receive a commissioning prayer to use, please contact Jillian Hogbin, Caritas Diocesan Director at caritas@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Patchewollock Final Mass

An invitation to people of the diocese to attend the Final Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Patchewollock on Saturday, March 18, 2023. Bishop Paul Bird CSsR and Fr Anthony Nagothu, Parish Priest, will celebrate Mass at 3.00pm. Following Mass there will be a gathering at the Patchewollock Community Centre. Please bring food to share and drinks of your choice.

World Youth Day

World Youth Day will be held from 1-6 August, 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal. Anyone interested in attending can register with the Archdiocese of Melbourne to join with them in pilgrimages they have on offer. More information at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/youth-and-young-adult-ministry/world-youth-day/>

Historical Context – But I now say to you...

There is a distinct pattern to the teaching examples Jesus provides: 'You have heard it said ...'; 'but I now say to you...'. This was a common method of teaching in Jesus' day and is often used as an example to suggest that Jesus was regarded as a Rabbi in his day. It is a typical rabbinical method of interpreting scripture. The rabbi quotes the teaching (you have heard it said...) and then offers an interpretation or reinterpretation of that teaching (but I now say to you). While it is an unfamiliar teaching style for us today, it would have been common in Jesus' time.

Have you thought? – Teaching examples

Jesus cites several examples of the Law to demonstrate the way in which he has come to fulfil those teachings, rather than to abolish them. He reinterprets the teachings on killing, adultery, divorce and oath-breaking. When there is an attitude of observing the very literal meaning of law, there is a tendency to look for loopholes wherever possible. This attitude had become the norm in Jesus' day. His reinterpretations are designed to challenge people to think about the law in a broader context and to take the law into their heart rather than looking for ways to get around it.

Living the Gospel – Interpretation

Jesus demonstrates the crucial nature of interpretation. It is easy for us today to look at something like the Ten Commandments or the Beatitudes and dismiss them as irrelevant. Taken literally, they may seem to have fairly limited application to our modern lives. However, interpreted in a broader context and within the context of our own lives, such ancient codes of behaviour can take on new significance. Jesus points us towards the importance of looking beyond the surface and searching out the truth of such statements. Interpretation of scripture for our modern lives and modern world is vital to living life to the fullest.

Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close

Jesus advises his disciples to be authentic: let what you are on the inside dictate how you act on the outside. If we take this to heart, our celebrations of eucharist will be true expressions of the peaceful relationships within our community.



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know: RING: 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567. WEB: www.palms.org.au



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