



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

Act 2:14. 36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 22:1-6. R.v.1

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)
2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would, I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. (R.)
3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. (R.)
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. (R.)

Second Reading

1Pt 2:20-25

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty. This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an

example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured, he made no threats, but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Jn 10:1-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.' Jesus told them this parable, but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again: 'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'



Parish Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

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| 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 gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au |
| Parish Email | gariwerd@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

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| 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

May 7th, 2023
Fifth Sunday of Easter Year A
Acts 6:1-7/1Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12

Weekday Masses (usual schedule)

Tuesday: 10am Stawell (Check bulletin for occasional changes)
Wednesday: Aged Care
Thursday: 2.30pm 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

Stawell's Mass this week will be Wednesday 3rd at 10am

Recent Deaths Gregory Phillips, Kathleen Purbrick

Anniversaries

Sr Catherine O'Halloran, Alex Murray, May Richards, Cosmos Fernando, Thomas Prydderch 1964, Baby Nicholson 1971, Ewan Cameron 1976, Catherine Kerr 1987, Tom McGrath, Len Davies, Martin Keogh, Clare Heard, Peter Sheehan, Kevin Shea, Eileen Looby 1993, Margaret Jess 1994, James Lannen, Nora Hogan, Mary Lugg, John McGuan 1945, Walter Hooper 1965, Elizabeth (Bessie) Phelan 2000, Agnes Joyce, Richard Williams, Shirley Baker, Kevin Monaghan 2014, John McRae, Peter White, Baden Edwards, Margaret Clark, Brian Broderick, Annie Huddle 1969, Michael Hogan, Stan Kelly, Milton Neilson, Shayne

Byron, Johanna Napier 1949.

Sacrament Meetings

For parents of children Yr 3 and above who have not yet received their sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist

Stawell: Wednesday May 3, 3.30 and 5pm at St Patrick's School

Ararat: Wednesday May 10, 3.30 and 5pm Parish Office

Parish Council members from Stawell

Stawell parishioners please consider contributing to the parish through the Parish Pastoral Council. The council meets monthly.

Ecumenical Service

There will be a short ecumenical service in St Pat's Church at 5pm on Sunday 30th April followed by a cuppa in the hall. Everyone is welcome.

Golden Gate Roster

Sun 30th Apr Harry & Anna/Sun May 7th Jim & Jan/14th May Elizabeth

Lake Bolac Roster

Sat Apr 29th Reader Denise Haslett// Prayers of Faithful Mick Brennan
Sat May 6th Reader Jane Higgins// Prayers of Faithful Deb Glasson

Ararat Roster

Sun Apr 30th Welcomer Lorna R//Facilitator Harry C//Reader Peter Bren//Euch Min Charlie R
Sun May 7th Welcomer Gwen M//Facilitator Charlie//Reader Pat Lardner//Euch Min Mary C
Sun May 14th Welcomer Rosalie N//Facilitator M Olle//Reader Kath Leggett//Euch Min Marg M

Stawell Roster

Sun April 30th S/Minister Joan Van Diesen// Reader Michelle Howard // Offertory J Croton
Sun May 7th S/Minister M Howard// Reader Carmel Barker// Offertory L Habben

World Day of Prayer for Vocations: Sunday, April 30, 2023

World Day of Prayer will be observed on Sunday, April 30, 2023 and is also known as "Good Shepherd Sunday." The purpose of this day is to publicly fulfil the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). We remember young women and men throughout our country and diocese and pray they may be open to hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to marriage, the single life, the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes.

Vocations Prayer

Holy Spirit, stir within us the passion to promote vocations to the single and married life, consecrated life, societies of apostolic life, diocesan priesthood and permanent diaconate.

Inspire us daily to respond to Your call with boundless compassion, abundant generosity, and radical availability. Help us to remember our own baptismal call to rouse us to invite the next generation to hear and respond to Your call.

Inspire parents, families and lay ecclesial ministers to begin a conversation with young Catholics to consider how they will live lives of holiness and sacred service.

Nudge inquirers and motivate discerners to learn more about vowed and associate commitment in apostolic life, cloistered life, evangelical life, lay ecclesial ministers, missionary life, monastic life and societies of apostolic life.

Ignite our Church with the confident humility that there is an urgent need for all the baptised to live their vocation in solidarity with those who are poor, neglected, and marginalized. Amen.

Engaging Your Faith online series

"Engaging Your Faith" is a series of short, online presentations that invite participants to reflect on what it means to be people of faith in the contemporary world. Experienced lecturers from Catholic Theological College present on a variety of topics including Philosophy, Lumen Gentium, Spirituality, Biblical Studies, Christian Meditation, Theology, Interfaith Relations, Future Technology, and Science and Religion. These sessions are eligible for maintaining accreditation for teaching in Catholic schools in all Victorian dioceses. Cost is \$25.00 per session or \$40.00 per session for teachers seeking accreditation. More information available at

<https://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith/>

Feast of St Joseph the Worker – May 1

God our Father, in every age you call us to use and develop our gifts for the good of others. With St Joseph as our guide, help us to do the work you have asked and come to the rewards you have promised. Please grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

New report reveals makeup of Australian Catholic population

A new National Centre for Pastoral Research report provides a comprehensive snapshot of the millions of people who identified as Catholic in the 2021 Australia Census. Read more at the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Media Blog <https://mediablog.catholic.org.au/new-report-reveals-makeup-of-australian-catholic-population/#more-9486>

Olive Tree Media: Faith Runs Deep event

The Unearthed event is organised by the team from Olive Tree Media who are collaborating with numerous churches from the region of Ballarat to host a free event which will help uncover stories of faith in the Australian context. Media presenter Karl Faase and country music star Colin Buchanan will appear at this event and there will be an interview with artist Bindi Cole Chocka who is featured in the series, sharing part of her journey of life and faith. The Unearthed event will be on Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 7.00pm at the Ballarat Civic Hall. For more information and to book your free ticket go to Olive the Tree Media website

www.olivetreemedia.com.au/unearthedballarat/ or email churches@olivetreemedia.com.au

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Prayer for Peace and Justice in Ukraine

God of peace and justice, who change the hardened heart and break the power of violence, we entrust the people of Ukraine to you. Protect them in this time of peril; let them know not death but life, not slavery but freedom. You are Father of all; we are brothers and sisters. Give us the strength to live that truth in love, choosing peace not war.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate The Shepherd's Voice

In Jesus' time, the shepherd lead from the front: the sheep followed the sound of his voice to reach good pasture. Jesus describes other voices who might try to mislead the sheep as 'thieves and brigands'.

In John's gospel, Judas, the thief from the common purse of the disciples, led a group of temple guards and Roman soldiers to take Jesus by force.

Barabbas was a brigand, a leader of an insurrection. Our Lord knew that armed rebellion against the Romans would lead to the destruction of Jerusalem.

So, Jesus is warning his followers against the seductive voices of those who advocate the use of violence.

In particular, the successor of Peter should echo the voice of Jesus the Good Shepherd and no other. Popes of the modern era seem to be listening more attentively to the Good Shepherd, as successors of St Peter who was instructed: 'Feed my lambs, feed my sheep'.

We could pause for a moment to attune our ears to the sound of the Shepherd's voice and follow Him so that He may lead us to pastures where we can have life, abundantly.

Alleluia!



Historical Context – A line of shepherds

When Jesus used the image of himself as a shepherd, he named himself as belonging to a Jewish ancestry that associated itself with shepherds. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Moses were all shepherds. David, the second King of Israel, was regarded as the greatest king in Jewish history. His humble beginning, captured magnificently in the sculpture by Michelangelo, was as a shepherd boy guarding his flock with a slingshot. The kings of Israel were charged to 'shepherd' their people rather than to lord it over them as the pagan kings did.

Scriptural context – Psalm 22

Today's responsorial psalm uses Psalm 22 (sometimes referenced as Psalm 23), 'the Lord is my shepherd'. It is a very popular psalm and is often reproduced on Christian posters and other artworks. It was also a popular psalm and image at the time of Jesus. For Jesus to describe himself as the good shepherd caused great distress among the Jewish officials. They saw Jesus as being blasphemous for the psalm makes clear that the Lord is the shepherd. Jesus quite deliberately makes clear that he and the Father are one: the Lord is the shepherd and Jesus is the good shepherd.

Gospel Focus – Life to the Full

John 10:10 is a very famous quote from this gospel passage. Having life to the full does not imply life filled with every convenience, comfort and wealth. Rather, it is about living a life filled with purpose and intent. If we fail to live with purpose and meaning then our life is a hollow shell of what it could be. Jesus came that we may have life – a life that is at its fullest when it is lived in such a way as to be an expression of what Jesus taught and lived.

