



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

1 Kgs 3:5.7-12

A reading from the first book of the Kings  
The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97**  
(R.) Lord, I love your commands.

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word. The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. (R.)
2. Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant. Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. (R.)
3. That is why I love your commands more than finest gold. That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways. (R.)
4. Your will is wonderful; indeed, therefore I obey it. The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple. (R.)

### Second Reading

Rom 8:28-30

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans  
We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his

Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

### 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!

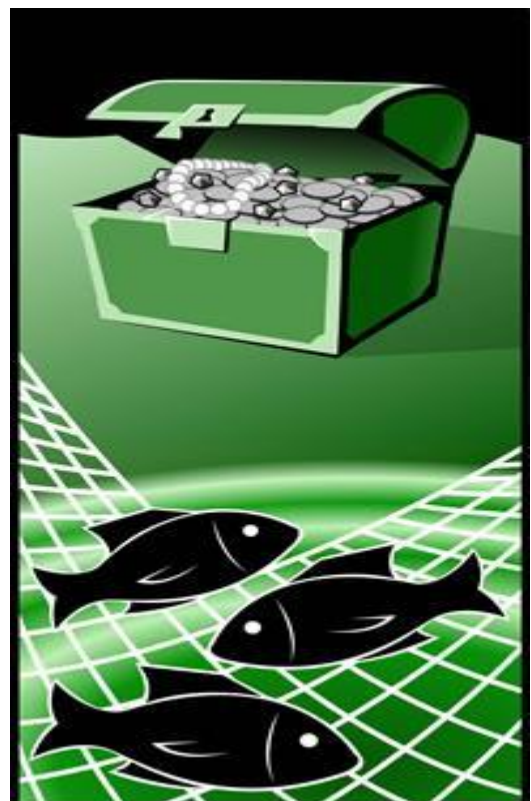
### Gospel

Mt 13:44-46

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

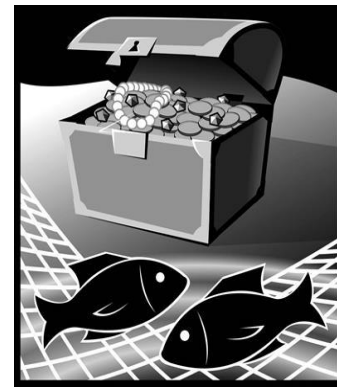
Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.'



# Parish Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

**Parish Priest** Fr. Andrew Hayes [andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
**Parish Bulletin Online** [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) – follow link to parish  
**Secretary / Child Safe** Jill Croxford [gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
**Parish Email** [gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto: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

**Ararat** Sunday 8.30am  
**Stawell** Sunday 10.30am  
**Lake Bolac** 1<sup>st</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays 6.30pm Vigil Sat  
**Landsborough** 2<sup>nd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays 12.30pm  
**Glenthompson** (Hamilton Parish) 2<sup>nd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays 8.30am

## Readings for next Sunday

August 6th, 2023  
The Transfiguration of the Lord  
[Dn 7:9-10. 13-14/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mt 17:1-9](#)

## 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

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

## Changes to Weekday Masses in the coming weeks

Tue Aug 1 No Mass in Stawell.-  
Fri Aug 4 No Mass in Ararat due to Catherine Holland's funeral at 11am.  
Tues Aug 8 No Mass in Stawell.  
Fri Aug 11 11am in Ararat will be prayers.  
Fri Aug 25 11am in Ararat will be prayers.

## Anniversaries

Mary Bryant, Kevin Harrison, Mary Dwyer 1970, Laurence Cross 1992, Leo Heenan, Lorna Norbury, Gavan Peters 1967, Win Cawthorne 1992, Gregory Maloney 2004, Marli Tilley 2014, Frances Murray 1955, Patrick O'Neill, Michael Molan 1997, Lionel Tillett, Marjorie Tillett, Paddy McLoughlin, Robert Mason, Molly Gleeson, Leonard Henry Horsley, Thomas Smith 1958, Thas Homfray 1966, John Seary 1977, Charles Parker 1981, Don Hearn, Josephine Pinzone, Phil Brady, Neville Cruse, Teresa Healey 1947, Catherine Layton 1950, Elsie Seary 1963, Alan Walker 1995, Irene Naylor 2012, Christopher Hogan, Nora Hogan, Alice Greenwood, Fleetwood Smith 1956, Vincenzo Pinzone, Myrtle Casey, Susan Aisbett, Kathleen Frances Hewitt, Michael Molan 1959, Mary Browne 1999, Annie Browne 2000, Robert McKey 2006, Brian Raeburn 2007

## Recent Deaths

Gerardine Mary Rathgeber and Catherine Holland

## Golden Gate Roster

Sun 30<sup>th</sup> July Margaret/Sun 6<sup>th</sup> Aug Elizabeth/ Sun 13<sup>th</sup> Aug Jim & Jan//Sun 20<sup>th</sup> Aug Harry & Anna

## Lake Bolac Roster

Sat July 29<sup>th</sup> Reader Helen Smith// Prayers of Faithful Judy Aldous  
Sat Aug 5<sup>th</sup> Reader Mick Brennan// Prayers of Faithful Rosemary Liston/ Cleaning Jane  
Sat Aug 19<sup>th</sup> Reader Deb Glasson// Prayers of Faithful Helen Smith  
Sat Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader Damian Phillips//Prayers of Faithful Tricia Higgins/Cleaning Judy

## Ararat Roster

Sun July 30<sup>th</sup> Welcomer Rosie//Facilitator Peter Bren// Reader Kath L//Euch Min Marg M  
Sun Aug 6<sup>th</sup> Welcomer Gwen//Facilitator Pat McA// Reader Jenny McA //Euch Min Nora  
Sun Aug 13<sup>th</sup> Welcomer Lorna//Facilitator Peter Bren// Reader Charlie//Euch Min Genara

## Stawell Roster

Sun July 30<sup>th</sup> S/Minister Marg Rowe // Reader Kevin Dallinger / Offertory L Habben

## Ararat CWL

Social Afternoon Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2023 Parish Centre 1.30pm All Welcome.

## Grandmothers Meeting

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2pm at 5 Mount Romnya Lane Ararat, All Welcome

## **Farewell Rev Heather Scott**

The Rev. Heather Scott will be celebrating her last Mass in the Stawell Anglican parish on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July at 10am. Everyone is welcome to attend the Service in the Holy Trinity Church, Stawell and or the cuppa in the church afterwards.

## **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ecumenical Service**

Stawell Inter Church Council holds an ecumenical prayer service whenever there is a fifth Sunday in the month. The next ecumenical service will be on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July at 5pm in the Stawell Lutheran Church, Scallan St. Everyone is welcome. The Service is usually 30 minutes in duration and is followed by a cuppa in their church hall.

## **Towards Full Presence: A Pastoral Reflection on Engagement with Social Media**

Meta, the parent company of Facebook and Instagram, recently released a new social media platform in competition with Twitter, called Threads. For many people, this social media shift has prompted a pause button in a love-hate relationship with how the internet fundamentally works. Dialogically we might ask, who is my (social media) neighbour? To inform this current question, the Vatican Dicastery for Communication has issued a document titled "Towards Full Presence: A Pastoral Reflection on Engagement with Social Media" and is available to download at [https://www.vatican.va/roman\\_curia/dpc/documents/20230528\\_dpc-verso-piena-presenza\\_en.html](https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/dpc/documents/20230528_dpc-verso-piena-presenza_en.html)

## **Parish of Saints Anne and Joachim, Sunraysia**

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR decreed the establishment of a new parish in the diocese on July 1, 2023 – the Parish of Saints Anne and Joachim, Sunraysia. The newly established parish will comprise the territory that belonged to the parishes of Merbein (est. 1965), Mildura (est. 1906) and Red Cliffs (est. 1953). More information available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/pnews/parish-of-saints-anne-and-joachim-sunraysia/>

## **Evangelisation: Encounter, Discipleship, Mission**

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has published "Evangelisation" that offers a spiritual and theological reflection on the proclamation of the Gospel through the lenses of encounter, discipleship and mission. Download at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/faith-formation-and-spirituality/>

## **Applications invited for Study and Mentoring (SAM) Leadership Program**

The Good Samaritan Study and Mentoring (SAM) Leadership Program offers both financial and personal support to mature-aged Catholic women as they undertake undergraduate or postgraduate theological/spiritual study at a recognised theological Institution. Applications close September 6, 2023. More information available at <https://www.goodsams.org.au/article/applications-invited-for-womens-study-and-mentoring-program-2/>

## **St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust**

The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. More information and Applications Forms are available at <https://pallottine.org.au/svpscholarship>. Closing date is August 4, 2023

## **Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Online Study**

The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF) is a growing initiative to offer adult religious education and faith formation anytime and anywhere, online. This low-cost (\$50usd) online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parishes is available through our partner, Dayton University. The next Cycle begins August 28. There are 41 subjects to choose from – find one that interests you! Registrations are open now. email [djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or ph. 5337 7121.

## **Sacred Heart College Ballarat Reunion**

A reunion of SHC Ballarat East class of 1965 plus anyone who attended SHC, will be held on Sunday, October 15, 2023 at GC's Ballarat from 11.00am – 3.00pm. To attend email [loisknights345@hotmail.com](mailto:loisknights345@hotmail.com) or ph. 0419 902538.



## Gospel Focus – The Kingdom is like...

Throughout the gospels, Jesus consistently uses the figures of speech of simile and metaphor to describe the kingdom. He never directly describes the kingdom. It is always described as being like some situation or person or as if... This figurative use of language means that we have no single clear picture of what the kingdom is like but we do have a multitude of metaphors and descriptions. This style of description adds to the paradoxical nature of the kingdom – it is like many things yet we don't really know what it is like at all.

## Scriptural context – Matthew Ch 13

Over the last few weeks we have now heard Matthew Chapter 13 almost in its entirety. We heard first the parable of the sower then last week three short parables about weeds amongst the wheat, the mustard seed growing into a great tree and leaven in the flour. Finally, today we have had these additional pithy parables. The entire chapter seeks to paint metaphoric images of the kingdom. Woven through these images is a suggestion that the kingdom is open to all – all are presented with the invitation – but not everyone will accept that invitation or respond to it in the same way.

## Have you thought? Interpretation

In today's passage the gospel writer appears to describe himself: 'every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.' It is a fantastic description of what it means to be an interpreter of the gospel. To interpret scripture, one must draw on what is old; applying understandings of the text in its original context and its original audience. But one must also draw on what is new; making connections between that original setting and the context in which it is being read today.

## Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close Reflection by Artist

'The Kingdom of heaven is like . . .' Jesus likens heaven to a hidden treasure, a pearl of great price and a fishing net. In the last image, heaven is described as a grab bag containing a jumble of marine life. The net drags everything in and then the catch is sorted. No rubbish gets into heaven!

## REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE – by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

The Reign (power and control) of God is also known as the Kingdom of Heaven. It takes place on earth and reaches its fullness in heaven.

Often in school, business, politics and social settings people try to assert their own power and take control of things.

Where have you seen this happen?

When people surrender their life to God's power, life is

different. Then people don't try to control things or one another; they try to work together so that God's way rules. This rarely occurs on earth, but it happens once in a while. There is peace, understanding and cooperation, and no fear, competition or dishonesty.

Have you ever seen this happen? If so, where? What was the situation?

Do you think you can do anything to help bring forth the Reign of God – at home, at school, at your job, with your friends? Why or why not? What would have to happen to create a little heaven on earth?

