



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

Dn 7:9-10. 13-14

A reading from the book of Daniel

As I watched: Thrones were set in place and one of great age took his seat. His robe was white as snow, the hair of his head as pure as wool. His throne was a blaze of flames, its wheels were a burning fire.

A stream of fire poured out, issuing from his presence. A thousand thousand waited on him, ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him.

A court was held, and the books were opened. I gazed into the visions of the night. And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven, one like a son of man. He came to the one of great age and was led into his presence. On him was conferred sovereignty, glory and kingship, and men of all peoples, nations and languages became his servants. His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty which shall never pass away, nor will his empire ever be destroyed.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 96:1-2. 5-6. 9. R. vv.1. 9.

(R.) The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth.

1. The Lord is king, let earth rejoice, let all the coastlands be glad.

Cloud and darkness are his raiment, his throne, justice and right. (R.)

2. The mountains melt like wax before the Lord of all the earth.

The skies proclaim his justice; all peoples see his glory. (R.)

3. For you indeed are the Lord most high above all the earth exalted far above all spirits. (R.)

Second Reading

2 Pt 1:16-19

A reading from the second letter of St Peter

It was not any cleverly invented myths that we were repeating when we brought you the knowledge of the power and the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; we had seen his majesty for ourselves. He was honoured and glorified by God the Father, when the Sublime Glory itself spoke to him and said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour.' We heard this ourselves, spoken from heaven, when we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have confirmation of what was said in prophecies; and you will be right to depend on prophecy and take it

as a lamp for lighting a way through the dark until the dawn comes and the morning star rises in your minds.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt 17:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

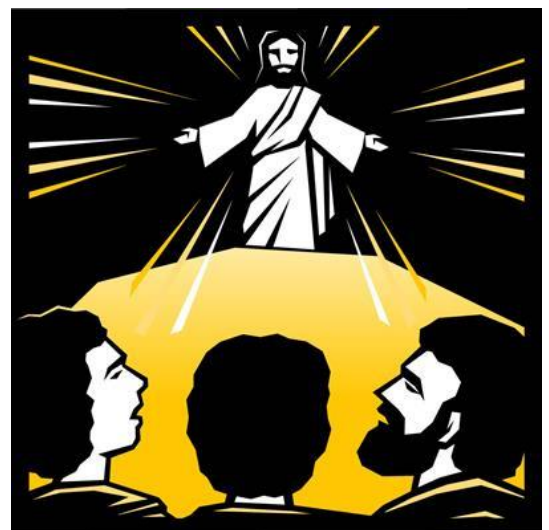
This is my Son, my beloved, in whom is all my delight: listen to him.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 17:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured: his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order, 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'



Parish Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

Parish Priest Fr. Andrew Hayes andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au
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Mass Times

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

Readings for next Sunday

August 13th, 2023
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
1Kgs 19:9.11-13/Rom 9:1-5/Mt 14:22-33

Changes to Weekday Masses in the coming weeks

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

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

Recent Deaths Catherine Holland, Tom Atkinson, Peter Speight & Wally Henning

Anniversaries

Keith McOwan, Dr Dan Meagher, Eileen Mairs 1963, Mary Molan 1966, Katherina Guelpa 1971, Bill Kenyon, Les Clark, Barbara Brossner, Martha Borella 1970, Francis O'Sullivan 1981, Carly Faloon 1987, Pauline Coghlan 2002, Derek Peters 2004, Kevin (Mick) Rutter 2008, Denise Hourigan, Aileen Falvey, Sr Josephus Lannen, Peter Henderson, Gilbert Mairs 1963, Evelyn Gavin 1972, Aileen Falvey 1987, James Stapleton, Veronica Butler, Gennie Rickard 1967, Allen McSparron 1981, Margaret Egan 1996, Angela Maloney 1996, Eileen Monument 1998, Jessie Brady 2006, Bp Francis Thomas, Beverley Austin, Arthur Mark, Leila Spiller, Gina Galea, Irene Hunter, Ada Maconachie, Robert McKibbin, Jean English 1974, Mary Austin 1981, Stan Weeks, Robert Steer, Maureen Daly, Anthony Rathgeber 1979, Edward Maddocks 1992, Kenneth McAdie, Pat McDougall, Bruce Atkinson, Kevin Beer, Pat Liston, Maurice Stewart 1976, Edward Rutter 1978, Leo Ryan 1987.

Golden Gate Roster Sun 6th Aug Elizabeth/ Sun 13th Aug Jim & Jan/Sun 20th Aug Harry & Anna

Lake Bolac Roster
Sat Aug 5th Reader Mick Brennan// Prayers of Faithful Rosemary Liston/ Cleaning Jane
Sat Aug 19th Reader Deb Glasson// Prayers of Faithful Helen Smith
Sat Sept 2nd Reader Damian Phillips//Prayers of Faithful Tricia Higgins/Cleaning Judy
Sat Sept 16th Reader Leanne Breen//Prayers of Faithful Jane Higgins
Sat Sept 30th Reader Rosemary Liston//Prayers of Faithful Phillip Meek

Ararat Roster
Sun Aug 6th Welcomer Gwen//Facilitator Pat McA// Reader Jenny McA //Euch Min Nora
Sun Aug 13th Welcomer Lorna//Facilitator Peter Bren// Reader Charlie//Euch Min Genara
Sun Aug 20th Welcomer Rosalie//Facilitator Pat L// Reader Elizabeth//Euch Min Marg M
Sun Aug 27th Welcomer Sr John//Facilitator Cathy M//Reader Peter B//Euch Min Jan C

Stawell Roster
Sun Aug 6th S/Minister Michelle Howard/ Reader Carmel Barker / Offertory M McGaffin
Sun Aug 13th S/Minister Kath Ashton/ Reader Joan Van Diesen / Offertory Pascual Family
Sun Aug 20th S/Minister Lesley Morgan/ Reader Heenan Family / Offertory Irene Sturt
Sun Aug 27th S/Minister Marg Rowe/ Reader Di O'Donnell / Offertory P Gooden & G Pascall

Ararat CWL Social Afternoon this Tuesday 8th August Parish Centre 1.30pm. All Welcome.

CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal

The CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal is held in August each year in partnership with parishes and is their major annual fundraiser. CatholicCare Victoria delivers programs and services to support families, children, young people and individuals to help everyone reach their full potential. The services include counselling and mental health services, specialised support for children and teens, refugee and asylum seeker help, pastoral care in hospitals and prisons, support for separating families, social housing and homelessness support. Please donate to the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Your support and generosity will help provide caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families in our community. You can donate online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9287 5513.

McAuley House for Women and Children

McAuley House is celebrating 15 years since the establishment of McAuley Community Services for Women, following the merger of Mercy Care and Regina Coeli. Over the past 15 years McAuley House has supported more than 13,000 women and children. The demand for services remains high. McAuley House will continue advocating for real change that will allow more women and children to remain safely in their homes after violence and avoid homelessness and further disadvantage. A donation to McAuley House supports women and children to be safe and continue this important work <https://www.mcauley.org.au/ways-to-give/donate/>

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 or ph. 0419 902538.

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](https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/dpc/documents/20230528_dpc-verso-piena-presenza_en.html)" and is available to download at https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/dpc/documents/20230528_dpc-verso-piena-presenza_en.html

Social Justice Statement 2023-2024: "Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples"

Social Justice Sunday is August 27, 2023 and the new ACBC Social Justice Statement, "Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples" will be launched on Thursday, August 17 at Holy Family Primary School, Emerton, Parramatta Diocese at 9.00am. RSVP by August 10 to email ojep@catholic.org.au. For those who cannot attend in person, it will be livestreamed on Facebook. Further information and resources will be available at <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2023/07/20/listen-learn-love/>

World Youth Day Prayer

God, merciful Father, in your Son, Jesus Christ, you have revealed your love and poured it out upon us in the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. We entrust to you today the destiny of the world and of every man and woman. We entrust to you in a special way young people of every language, people and nation: guide and protect them as they walk the complex paths of the world today and give them the grace to reap abundant fruits from their experience of the Lisbon World Youth Day. Amen.

A couple of nuns who happen to be best friends go to the football together one Saturday afternoon. Dressed in old style habits they are easily recognisable to the crowd in the stand. Three slightly inebriated men sitting behind the nuns decide to give them a hard time.

A man notices the nuns and says loudly, "I think I'll move to Lord Howe Island. I've been told there are fewer than 100 Catholics there." All three men laugh loudly.

The second man adds, "I want to go to Kangaroo Island. I believe there are only 50 Catholics living there."

Again, raucous laughs from the men.

The third man says, "I want to go to Bathurst Island. There are only 25 Catholics there."

One of the nuns has finally had enough. She turns around and calmly says, "Why don't you all go to Hell.

There aren't any Catholics there."



REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

In the midst of Ordinary Time we are invited to behold the transfiguration of Christ. By some horrible coincidence, we recall Christ's brilliance on the day that the world marks another cosmic event, its birth into the atomic age at Hiroshima. The paradox of these events should not be lost on us. The white light that shone from Christ was a mere suggestion of the divine splendour that is beyond human comprehension; the flashing light from the atomic explosion was an omen of the destructive force that is within human grasp. It is imperative that the horror of the latter be brought under the control of the glory of the former.

The transfiguration was a moment in time when Jesus' divine glory broke through his humanity and shone with a brilliance that was blinding. We sing of this glory time and again in the psalms. Yet when it really appears we can hardly believe it ourselves. The readings outline three different moments when this glory was revealed. The first was reported by the visionary in the book of Daniel. The second moment was the scene of the transfiguration. The third is hidden in the resurrection testimony of the author of the Letter of Peter. We are the ones who today possess the prophetic message; we are the present day eyewitnesses of

Christ's majesty. We too have moments when we might behold his glory and hear the voice proclaiming his identity, but we need eyes of faith and ears that are open.

Gospel Reflection

Jesus takes his most trusted disciples up a high mountain to allow them to share in what he knows is about to occur. It is a very clear teaching moment in which Jesus hopes the disciples are going to finally grasp the truth about him. As the disciples stand by, Jesus is transformed before them – suddenly bathed in light and his clothes become dazzlingly white. The disciples also see Moses and Elijah standing and talking with Jesus. Moses was the great Law-giver of Jewish tradition and Elijah the great prophet. Together, they represent the Law and the Prophets – the combined wisdom that make up the tradition of Jewish teaching and Jewish scripture. It is the Law and the Prophets that Jesus' life and ministry brings to fulfilment. It is fitting that Moses and Elijah appear beside Jesus, as the three figures combined represent the fullness of Jewish tradition – the Law of Moses; the challenge and promise of the Prophets; and the compassion of Jesus that completes the other two.

Sadly, the disciples don't really get the point of what they see before them. Peter, caught up in the moment, wants to build tents on the spot to mark the moment and to continue to dwell in the moment. Jesus, however, leads them back down the mountain – back into the valley; back into the reality of life; back into the tragedy that he knows lies before them. No matter how powerful a religious experience may be, Jesus shows us that we always have to return to real life. It is not possible to remain on the 'mountaintop' as Peter would have liked to do; we have to take the .

Living the Gospel – Down from the mountain

Sometimes we experience powerful moments of connection with God or with other people. Sometimes this might be through a special experience of nature; a meaningful retreat experience; a powerful sense of being 'in tune' with another person; a reflective prayer experience; or some other significant experience. The temptation when we have these experiences is to wish that we could remain in the experience. The challenge, however, is to take that experience back into the everyday of our lives – changed by it without remaining in it.

Have you thought? Transfigured / Transformed

Jesus' transfiguration was a physical transformation that was able to be witnessed by his disciples. In our lives we have many transforming moments but they are rarely as physically obvious to others as Jesus' transfiguration. Sometimes we fail to recognise a transformative event until well after the fact – sometimes years later. It might be nice if our clothes began to shine white whenever something significant and transformative was happening to us! It might help us to pay attention to the important and life-changing moments of our lives instead of letting them slip by!

