



Holy Spirit
Parish
Gariwerd

Sunday September 10th, 2023

TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY

TIME A

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

Ezekiel 33:7-9

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2.6-9. R. v.8

(R.) O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.' (R.)

Second Reading

Romans 13:8-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

Gospel Acclamation

2 Corinthians 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

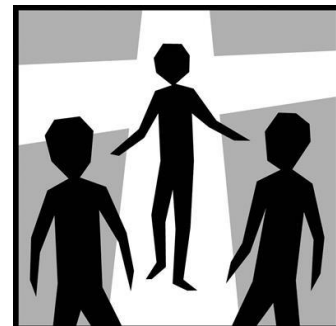
Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven. 'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'



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 gariwerd@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

17th September 2023
Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
Sirach 27:30 – 28:7/ Romans 14:7-9/ Matthew 18:21-35

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

Changes to Weekday Masses

Stawell Tues Sept 12th moved to Thurs 14th /Tues Sept 19th cancelled /Tues Sept 26th moved to Thurs 28th
Ararat Fri Sept 15 & 22 11am will be prayers.

Anniversaries

Norman Leggett, Neil Byrne, Kath Walker, Annie McNamara, John McMillan, Patrick O'Donnell 2002, Kathleen Healy 2007, Rose Kennedy, Kevin Cronin, Eileen Brown, John Goulter, Freda Ferguson, Rita Fernando, Ada McDonald 1949, Maxwell Perry 2003, David Lardner, Jess O'Neill, Ken Robson, Barry Mulvihill, Herbert Mannix, James Andrew Haslett, Antonio Balsarine 1970, Frances Naylor 1999, Martin Hayes 1999, Dominic DiDomenico, Jean Hennessy, Patricia Cronin, Irene Byrne, Alice Newman 1967, Alan Cullus 1971, Mary Potter 1975, Peter Power 1989, Hugh Nailon Snr, Graeme Pitcher, Margaret Smith, William Smith, Kath Ryan, Leslie McNiece, Laurence McNiece, Maurice McNiece, John McNiece, Sarah Williamson, Margaret Waring, Graham Carmichael, John Duggan 1974, Grace Irwin 1994, Johannah Molan 2001, Sarah Williamson 2009, Kathleen O'Kane 2019, John Edward Thomas, Fr Aurelius Maschio SDB, Norma Sutton, Mary Davies, Norma Sutton, June McKinnis, Vess Davey, Ruth Brain, Rita Seebus 2012, David Tas Young, Mary Waring, Margaret Ridgewell (Peg)

Golden Gate Roster Sun 10th Elizabeth/Sun 17th Teresa/Sun Sept 24th Jim & Jan

Lake Bolac Roster 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 Sept 10th Welcomer Rosalie//Facilitator Peter B//Reader Harry//Euch Min Anna
Sun Sept 17th Welcomer Genara//Facilitator Marg O//Reader Rebecca//Euch Min Sr John
Sun Sept 24th Welcomer Rosie//Facilitator Pat L//Reader Kath L//Euch Min Charlie

Stawell Roster Sun Sept 10th S/Minister K Ashton/Reader J Van Diesen/Offertory L Habben
Sun Sept 17th S/Minister M R Thomas/Reader K Dallinger/Offertory M McGaffin
Sun Sept 24th S/Minister M Maestros/Reader D O'Donnell/Offertory Pascual Family

Ararat CWL Next meeting of the Ararat CWL will be held on Sept 12th in the Parish Centre 1.30 pm

Ballarat Clergy Support Fund Collection for Sick and Retired Priests

The Ballarat Clergy Support Fund relies on your generosity to enable it to continue supporting our sick and retired priests. You are still able to contribute, by using the special envelope provided, or in an envelope marked "Ballarat Clergy Support Fund". Contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible.

CARING FOR THOSE WHO CARED FOR US – THE CHURCH COMMUNITY'S RESPONSIBILITY

Samaritans Purse operation Christmas child shoeboxes are available now.

Each preprinted shoebox costs \$1 and contains directions on how to pack the boxes and what you might like to include. This year the shoeboxes are being coordinated through the Stawell Uniting Church. To get a shoebox ring Jane – 0498 700 027 or Robyn – 0419 133 189. Filled shoeboxes need to be dropped off at the Stawell Uniting Church hall on Tuesday 10th October between 10am and 12 Noon along with \$12.50 for the shipping of the box to children in need overseas.

The Voice Conversation

Opportunity to dig deep into understanding and be informed before 14th October voting day.

Table conversations on the referendum for a First Nations Voice to Parliament.

A last round of table conversations, involving respectful, small group, facilitated discussion will be held:

First Part 2pm Sunday 24 September AND Second Part 2pm Sunday 8 October

At the Stawell Uniting Church Hall. Scallan St.

Each part approx 1.5 – 2 hours. The program expects attendance at both sessions.

Booking essential Julie 0407 561135

A young man is passing by a bar when he sees an old woman fishing with a stick and a string in a puddle by the sidewalk. "She must be a poor old fool," he thinks to himself, and out of the kindness of his heart, he invites the woman in for a drink. After he's paid for their round and the two are sitting quietly, he asks her, "So how many have you caught today?" The old woman grins, takes a big sip of her drink, and replies, "You're the eighth."

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

Ezekiel and Jesus both have good advice for dealing with people when wrong things are done.

How easy is it to confront a friend when you think you have been wronged or treated badly? Do you tend to ignore the wrong? Do you talk about it honestly? Or do you tend to hold a grudge? Does the advice in today's readings relate to today's situations, or do you think we need to look at other alternatives when dealing with modern wrongs? How so? Jesus assures us that whenever two or three pray together, Jesus is always there, and our prayers are always answered. Do you think that prayers are always answered? Or do you think it depends on the type of prayer and what is asked for? Or do you think that prayers are always answered, but sometimes the answer is no? How do you think prayer works? What kind of prayers do you most often pray? Do your prayers ask for something? Do you pray for strength and guidance? Do you ever pray with one or two others?

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

It is difficult for leaders to call people to accountability. Such is the unenviable responsibility of pastors in the parish, coordinators of religious education, members of the parish council, principals in the school, directors of liturgical ministry, to name but a few. Disciples must also engage in the very difficult process of reconciliation. Differences of opinion, misunderstandings, and actual offences tend to alienate people. We see this happen in families, neighbourhoods, parish communities, workplaces. It is not enough to say that we must try to forgive from our hearts. The process of reconciliation requires significant movement toward the admission of guilt as well. Both the one offended and the offender must be willing to be transformed.

Gathering two or three together in prayerful collaboration is not as easy as it sounds. If collaboration is to be effective, we have to be open and honest about our opinions and our biases, and respectful of the opinions and biases of others. We must work for the common good and not merely for what we personally think is best. We must be willing to accept and implement decisions with which we may not totally agree, and we must live with them gracefully. All of this calls for unselfish love. Love fulfils the entire law only: when we honour our personal commitments and the personal commitments of others; when we value the life, dignity and reputation of others; and when we respect their possessions. It is only because love is so demanding that it covers all of our responsibilities.



1890 Baptism Font in Stawell

Parishioners in Stawell might recall that we had found ourselves with four baptism fonts at St Patrick's, each with a treasured history. The Glenorchy Anglican font is now our main baptism font. Another is the holy water font at the door near the crucifix and the third has a new top on it and is the table for the offertory gifts, near the organ.

This week the fourth font found its new home and purpose. It has a new top on it and is being used as the credence table on the sanctuary. The credence table is the small side table that has the chalice, water and wine cruets, hand washing bowl etc for use during Mass.

SEASON OF CREATION by Nick Brodie

This Gospel is clearly about becoming part of team Jesus. There's the bit about gathering in twos and threes to find agreement about what we – including Jesus – want or need. Then we (the Greek 'you' is plural) are told we can jointly bind and loose, literally from the ground up.

This is, therefore, a profoundly synodal passage. It's an instruction manual for dealing with the messy realities in which the Church sometimes finds itself, and a reminder of the importance of community. There is even a plan for dealing with the odd recalcitrant brother who just won't listen! Jesus' key takeaway is about persistence and working together. In our own times, where there is lots of scope for collective action on important issues, Jesus' frequent mention of 'earth' resonates. We are called to be the salt of the earth, a grounded people whose decisions can have heavenly effects

Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close

Reflection by Artist

This week's gospel is about the difficulties and possibilities of a faith community. These involve our willingness to forgive and the promise of God's presence among us: 'where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.' The united prayer of such a community is powerful

