



**Holy Spirit
Parish
Gariwerd**

Sunday October 8th, 2023

TWENTY SEVENTH 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

Isaiah 5:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead? Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 79:9. 12-16. 19-20. R. Is 5:7

(R.) The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

1. You brought a vine out of Egypt; to plant it you drove out the nations. It stretched out its branches to the sea, to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. (R.)
2. Then why have you broken down its walls? It is plucked by all who pass by. It is ravaged by the boar of the forest, devoured by the beasts of the field. (R.)
3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)
4. And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. (R.)

Second Reading

Philippians 4:6-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians
There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that

is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel Acclamation

John 15:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 21:33-43

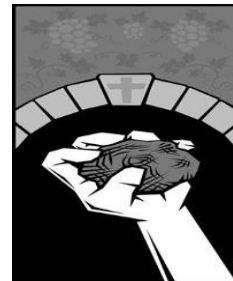
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see? 'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'



Parish Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

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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

15th October 2023
Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
Isaiah 25:6-10/Philippians 4:12-14, 19-0/Matthew 22:1-10

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

Anniversaries

Frederick Waring, Carmen Claridge, Bill Canty, Glen Lister, Gerry Lillis, Ian Brown, Daniel Resnik, Daniel Francis O'Rourke 1955, Kathleen Monaghan 1961, Bernice Lane, John McLaughlin, Robert Carmody, Mary Cameron 1995, Mary Ann Rutter 1997, Esther O'Gorman 1999, Sharyn Soule 2015, Margaret Thomas, Teresa O'Loughlan, Anne Hinchey, Rachel Gratton, Kevin Molloy, Rudjip Sexton 1943, Iris Gavan 2007, Evelyn Newall 2011,, Dianne Nijhof, Lilian Young, Margaret Day 1967, Nicola Martino 1957, John Toogood 1964, Doreen Brasier 1997, Mary Kindred 2016, Edward Murray 2005, Gladys McKenzie-McHarg, Francis Evans 1961, David Stewart 1977,

Golden Gate Roster

Sun 8th Oct Jim & Jan / Sun 15th Oct Elizabeth/Sun 22nd Oct Teresa
Sun Oct 29th Harry & Anna/Sun 5th Nov Jim & Jan/Sun 12th Nov Elizabeth/Sun Nov 19th Teresa
Sun 26th Nov Harry & Anna/Sun Dec 3rd Jim & Jan

Lake Bolac Roster

Sat Oct 14th Reader Helen Smith/ Prayers of Faithful Judy Aldous
Sat Oct 28th Reader Tricia Higgins/ Prayers of Faithful Val Albert

Ararat Roster

Sun Oct 8th Facilitator Pat L/Reader Peter B/ Euch Min M Ollie
Sun Oct 15th Facilitator Cathy Mc/Reader Kath L/ Euch Min Sr John
Sun Oct 22nd Facilitator Harry /Reader Charlie /Euch Min Anna
Sun Oct 29th Facilitator Pat M /Reader Jenny M /Euch Min Marg M

Stawell Roster

Sun Oct 8th S/Minister M R Thomas/Reader M Howard/ Offertory Gooden/Pascall
Sun Oct 15th S/Minister K Ashton /Reader C Barker/Offertory J Croton
Sun Oct 22nd S/Minister M Howard/ Reader J Van Diesen/ Offertory L Habben
Sun Oct 29th S/Minister M Maestros/ Reader D O'Donnell/ Offertory M McGaffin

Stawell CWL will be hosting a cuppa after Mass on Sunday 15th October. All welcome.

Ararat CWL change of meeting: The next meeting of the Ararat Branch of CWL will be Tuesday 17th Oct starting at 10am

St Bernard's Lake Bolac will be holding a finger food dinner after 6.30 pm Mass, on Saturday, October 28th. Please bring a plate of finger food to share. A microwave is available to heat food if needed. There will be a giving bowl for donations to support our Indian Mission.

St Patrick's Church - There is a yellow fruit box on the notice sheet table near the organ if you feel able to pop in a grocery donation for those in need in our town and region, on behalf of the Stawell Inter Church Council Welfare Cottage.

The Stawell Inter Church Council welfare Cottage is struggling to keep up with the demand for help and they are seeking grocery donations to help them help those in need. They are particularly looking for donations of tinned items like stew, soup, tuna, vegetables, spaghetti meat sauce. Also soaps, toothbrushes, shampoo, clothes washing powder and dish washing liquid. If you feel able to, could you please buy one extra item when you grocery shop and put it in the donations bin in the church?. There are many in our town and region who are having a hard time making ends meet.

City Heart Church of Christ will be hosting Steven McWilliams of Berry Street in Ballarat to give a talk on Foster Care in our area on Sunday 8th October when he will give a brief 5-minute introductory talk during their morning Church service. This will be followed by an expanded talk after the service during morning tea. There will be a time for questions etc. The service will finish around 11.15 or 11.20 and Steve will give his talk at 11.45. Everyone is invited to morning tea and to hear Steve talk about Foster Carers, either short-term, long-term, or emergency, who are crucial in providing a nurturing & safe homes at a critical time in these children's lives.

Diocesan Social Justice Statement launch

The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission have released presentations for the diocesan launch of the Social Justice Statement 2023: Listen Learn Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. This event is pre-recorded and in digital format so that parish and school communities, along with individuals, can access these resources at their convenience <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/social-justice/social-justice-statement/>

Faithful invited to pray for Synod of Bishops

The Vatican is asking all baptised people, regardless of whether they will be in Rome, to participate in October's assembly of the Synod of Bishops with their prayers. More information available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/for-a-synodal-church-communion-participation-and-mission/>

October is World Mission Month

In his World Mission Day message for 2023, Pope Francis reminds us through Luke 24:13-35, "hearts on fire, feet on the move", that the missionary journey of all disciples is that upon encountering Jesus, our hearts burn within, our eyes are opened and ultimately, our feet are set out on the way. Catholic Mission has launched the World Mission Month 2023 Appeal, highlighting the Work of Salesian Sisters in Timor-Leste. Sr Carolina, who is the face of the awareness and fundraising campaign, is a great example of the devotion of missionaries, dedicating herself to providing critical healthcare services to the rural community of Venilale in Timor-Leste. After decades of journeying with the Venilale community, Sr Carolina can summarise her understanding of Mission in a sentence: "Mission is where many people need you." Through Catholic Mission, you are invited you to journey with Sr Carolina, and walk alongside the Salesian Sisters and the resilient community of Venilale. Parishes, schools, and supporters across Australia will be encouraged to provide resources for the Clinic to continue to provide life-giving services to the local community. You can contribute today by scanning the QR code or clicking the link.



Music for Referendum from Monica Brown

Monica Brown is one of Australia's well respected Catholic/Christian composers who has been ministering for over 40 years through the not-for-profit organisation of Emmaus Productions. Monica has composed two songs for the referendum, "One People One Land" and "Spirit Dream". All copyright restrictions of the songs have been waived by way of setting the songs free to contribute in some way to this critical national discernment. Music, sheet music and lyrics are available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/music-for-referendum-from-monica-brown/>

Prayer Service for the Referendum: Moments of healing this country

"One Journey, Together" online prayer event will be held on Friday, October 13, 2023 from 8.30am – 9.30am AEDT. This will be an opportunity to pause, and to reflect on our hopes for the referendum, reconciliation more broadly and for what will follow. Scan or click the QR code to register.



St Brigid's College Horsham Reunion

St Brigid's College Horsham invite past pupils of the classes of 1973, 1983, 1993, 2003 and 2013 for a reunion. The reunion will be held at St Brigid's College on Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 2.00pm. For more information scan or click the QR code.



Two little boys were known troublemakers, stealing everything they could get their hands, even from the church. One day a priest stopped one of the boys and asked, "Where is God?" The boy shrugged and the priest repeated, "Where is God?" The boy ran out of the cathedral crying to his home where he hid in a closet. Eventually his brother found him and asked, "What's wrong?" The crying boy replied, "We're in trouble now! God is missing and they think we took him!"



Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv DD STL
Bishop of Parramatta

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27 September 2023
The Feast of St Vincent de Paul

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Referendum on October 14th, 2023 on the Voice to Parliament will be a critical moment in the life of our nation. It will have implications for what kind of society we want ourselves to be.

I believe that just as a YES vote to the Referendum in 1967 (which recognised First Nations People as part of the Australian population) was, a heart-felt YES to the Voice is a YES to a better future for Australia. Indeed, a more civilised and gracious response to a history littered with violence is hard to imagine.

For despite much progress since European settlement, we must redress the near destruction of our First People's ancient spirituality and culture. The Church was regrettably complicit in this.

Enabling our First Nations People to have a say on the issues that affect them is a matter of the heart, common sense and justice. Six years ago, the Uluru Statement from the Heart was issued from the physical heart of our country. The First Nations leaders invite us to join them on a journey of hope. They speak about the painful reality that so many of their children face. They describe this reality as "the torment of our powerlessness". The Voice to Parliament is one significant step which will empower them to participate in the process of ending this torment.

It will also acknowledge the unique place that First Nations People have. They are not another cultural group or interest group like migrants who have come to this country, for a better life or as farmers or miners or small business people. They have a relationship with this country that no other group of Australians has. They have lived sustainably and cared for the land, waterways, plants and animals for over 60,000 years. Non-Indigenous Australians are beneficiaries of their rich heritage, wisdom, culture and spirituality.

It is unacceptable that there should exist a growing divide between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Australians. The Closing the Gap Report makes this painfully clear. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Peoples are the most disadvantaged and marginalised people in Australia.

We cannot be comfortable with the status quo when it is linked to the oppression of the past. I believe we must be guided by the principles of social justice and address the legacy of dispossession that places our Indigenous People in an entrenched institutional and intergenerational disadvantage. It is the work of the Gospel community to create policies and practices, institutions and culture in which "the lowly are raised and the hungry are filled with good things" (Mary's Magnificat in Luke 1:52-53).

Pope St John Paul II reminded us in his address: "The Church in Australia will not be fully the Church that Jesus wants her to be until you, the Aboriginal people, have made your contribution to her life and until that contribution has been joyfully received by others." (Alice Springs, 29 September 1986, para. 13) Similarly, we will not be a fully mature nation until the unique place of our Indigenous brothers and sisters is enshrined, celebrated and strengthened.

Whatever the outcome of the referendum, we must continue the work of justice, healing, reconciliation and recognition of our First Nations People. We need to walk with them, day by day, and work with them to bring about change for the better - for their people and for all of us. Strengthening our relationship with our Indigenous brothers and sisters is integral and indeed critical to the strengthening of the whole nation.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv STL DD
Bishop of Parramatta