



Holy Spirit
Parish
Gariwerd

Sunday September 1st, 2024

TWENTY – SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

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

Deuteronomy 4:1-2. 6-8

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy
Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1

(R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault; he who acts with justice and speaks the truth from his heart. **(R.)**
2. He who does no wrong to his brother, who casts no slur on his neighbour, who holds the godless in disdain, but honours those who fear the Lord. **(R.)**
3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may; who takes no interest on a loan and accepts no bribes against the innocent. Such a man will stand firm for ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading

James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

A reading from the letter of St James
It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created. Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

Gospel Acclamation

James 1:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation. Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture: This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me. The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations. You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.' He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

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
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

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

8th Sept 2024
Isaiah 35:4-7/James 2:1-5/Mark 7:31-37

Weekday Masses (usual schedule)

Tuesday: 10am Stawell (Check bulletin for occasional changes)
Wednesday: Aged Care
Thursday: 2.30pm Hopkins
Friday: 11am Ararat **held in the Presbytery**(Check bulletin for occasional changes)

Aged Care Roster

1st Wednesday 11.15am Eventide
2nd Wednesday 10am Lowe St
3rd Wednesday 10am Garden View
4th Wednesday 10am ARVillage

Recent Death Helen Prowd

Anniversaries

Mary Rutter 1953, Ruby Seeary 1969, Pascalle Valente 2011, Edmund Gleeson, Margaret Johnson, Bruce Harrison, Nicholas Cosgrave 1952, Alice Tiddy 1952, Robert Prydderch, Alex Shields, Marjorie Stapleton, Robbert Prydderch 1957, Michael Walsh 1995, Frances Woolley 2019, Thomas Turvey 1963, B. Seeary 1972, William Power 2009, Nancy Gibson 2010, Margaret Ryan, Joe Hayes, Mary Kelly, Kaz Grabowski, Judith Haberecht-Reid, Natasha Eastick, Theresa Healy 1952, Margaret Jess 2005, John Jess 2019, Kevin Joyce, Tom Ryan, Seamus Hennessy, Elywn Lillis, Annie Larkan 1972

Lake Bolac Roster

Sat Aug 31st Reader Leanne Breen/ Prayer of Faithful Jane Higgins
Sat Sept 14th Reader Rosemary Liston / Prayer of Faithful P Meek/Cleaning Leanne Breen
Sat Sept 28th Reader Helen Smith/ Prayer of Faithful Judy Aldous

Ararat Roster

Sun Sept 1st Facilitator Charlie R / Reader Jim/ Euch Min Jan C
Sun Sept 8th Facilitator Peter B / Reader Harry / Euch Min Anna C
Sun Sept 15th Facilitator Marg O / Reader Rebecca / Euch Min Sr John
Sun Sept 22nd Facilitator Pat L / Reader Kath L / Euch Min Charlie
Sun Sept 29th Facilitator Pat McA / Reader J McA / Euch Min Genara

Stawell Roster

Sun Sept 1st S/Minster M Howard /Reader D ODonnell / Offertory M McGaffin
Sun Sept 8th S/Minster L McIntyre /Reader G Madafferri/ Offertory Timor E
Sun Sept 15th S/Minster M Maestros /Reader K Dallinger / Offertory Pascall/Gooden
Sun Sept 22nd S/Minster K Ashton /Reader MR Thomas/ Offertory J Croton
Sun Sept 29th S/Minster G Comitti /Reader D ODonnell / Offertory L Habben

Lake Bolac Shared Tea

There will be a shared tea in Lake Bolac after Mass on Saturday August 31.

Ararat CWL

Next meeting Tuesday 10th September 1.30pm in the presbytery meeting room, all welcome.

Caritas- Thank you Message to all Gariwerd Parishioners.

Your unwavering generosity in supporting those in need in 2024 is truly commendable & deeply appreciated. Thank you all for your donations. Kind Regards Jillian Hoglin Caritas Ballarat.

Move Over a Bit

Last Saturday night I had the immense privilege of being among hundreds of people at the table of Premier Jacinta Allan for the annual Victorian Multicultural Gala Dinner, on Cunningham Pier in Geelong. I think I was there as an honorary Muslim. There were seemingly people from every country, language, faith and dance routine. The Ukrainians got the most photos for their dancing. The bishops were on the table next to me. In the front row was a table-full of new arrivals from Palestine, the refugees who Peter Dutton would have refused. They got the rousingest cheer! The premier announced that we are soon to name 6000 streets, parks and bridges after our migrant heroes, and that migrant communities will be asked to nominate their people. Mildura will go off when they get to name their Italian *persone magnifiche*. I lived there. 6000 won't be enough streets.

The premier didn't say, but it seems to me that the naming of all these places uses the same logic as the decision to name every new state school from 2025 with an Indigenous name. Names matter. Language matters. When 4% of statues in Australia represent women, and less than 2% of street names honour migrants ... It matters.

Julian Hill, the Federal Assistant Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, came out with this ripper of a statement: "Diversity is easy, but inclusion is hard", I had to turn around and punch that one into my phone. What's the difference between diversity and inclusion? It's one thing to be thankful that there are interesting and diverse people in our community. I like korma and rice and pasta. I *am* Italian. I'm not so excited about lentils and olives. It's quite another thing to enable people in from the margins. Imagine if all the people with nationalities, genders, abilities, (I think the people with wheels in the Olympics are amazing), languages, faiths, back stories of every kind, anybody different, what if they all got a good go? Imagine. Diversity is easy. They are just here. Inclusion means the rest of us might have to move over a bit.

Ballarat Clergy Support Fund - Collection for Retired Priests

The Ballarat Clergy Support Fund provides for retired priests who have spent a lifetime selflessly caring for others, and who deserve a happy and peaceful retirement. The Fund is currently supporting and caring for seventeen retired priests. Over the next few years a number of priests currently in parish ministry will be moving into retirement and will also need to be supported by the fund. This annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our retired priests. Please give as generously as you can and help us continue 'caring for those who cared for us'. Special envelopes are available for this collection, which will be taken up today. You may also return your envelope next week. A credit card facility is available for your convenience, and contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible. *Caring for those who cared for us - the Church community's responsibility.*



Diocesan Social Justice Commission Reflection Day – Saturday, September 7, 2024 – updated notice

The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission invite all members of the diocese to a Reflection Day, in celebration of the launch of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2024-2025, "Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World" on Saturday, September 7, 2024 from 10.00am - 2.30pm at Ss Michael and John's Horsham Parish Centre. Facilitator for the day is writer and educator, Michael McGirr. Registrations are essential through trybooking. Scan or click the QR code. Please contact your parish office if you need assistance to register for the day. A flyer is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/social-justice/social-justice-statement/>



REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The overarching theme of the readings for this Sunday is 'words spoken in truth'. On one level, the laws are the words of the covenant. They are part of the contract that was drawn up between God and the people. They are words of truth, because they are the reliable revelation of God and because they genuinely reflect righteous living. The biblical covenant laws are truly humane. Obedience to the words of the covenant leads to life and blessings, while disobedience results in the opposite. Our religious customs always carry some profound religious meaning, but we may not know or care what it is – and yet we perform them. Do people know or care why we stand or sit or kneel during liturgy? Do people have a 'church' wedding because it is a religious event, or because 'that's the way we have always done it'? Religious practices do not always flow from a deep religious conviction. But once we realise our need for God, these practices become genuine expressions of religious sentiment. When the word of God has taken root in us, everything becomes a religious practice. This word can come to us through the teachings of our faith, through the example of good people around us, through the wonder and mystery of creation. When it does take hold of us, our inner eye is opened, our hearts are softened, and we turn instinctively to God like a flower turns to the sun. When we are brought to birth in this way, covenant law becomes sacred, religious practices are cherished, and we are filled with the power that saves.



REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate - Holiness: Contagion not Quarantine

Many religious leaders have thought that some foods or some people are such a threat to the holiness of their followers that contact with 'unclean', 'defiling' foods or people must be avoided. Our Lord was totally opposed to the idea that holiness was something secured or gained by being quarantined or separated from any-thing or any-person. On the contrary, he could touch a leper or have a meal with a prostitute. Rather than defilement flowing from the leper or prostitute to Jesus, his life flowed into them repairing their broken humanity, healing them bodymindspirit, holistically, making *them* holy. The fact is that God, embodied in Jesus Christ, is contagious. The contagion of Divine Life is meant to flow into the inner depths of personality, into the heart. When this occurs, the Divine Life in the human person causes 'holiness'. We have to strive to put ourselves in the way of this contagion. We become holy when we allow ourselves to be touched by our Lord Jesus Christ. How do we do this? By hearing of His life in the Gospel, by being nourished by His life in Holy Communion, by being touched by the plight of those in whom He is to be found. St James in the second reading describes some who are particularly vulnerable in a patriarchal society with no social security system: the widows and orphans. No doubt, we can identify equivalent groups in our own society and overseas. We could take a moment to pray that we might be more conscious of the Holy Spirit germinating something in our hearts, making us holy from the inside out, that our holiness be authenticated by good works so that we may be holy as the Lord our God is holy.

Lectionary Art and Reflection

by Jenny Close Reflection by Artist

Jesus often affronted traditionalists by breaking the rules. Here he reprimands the Pharisees for replacing heartfelt devotion with soulless laws. It is possible to be faithful to traditional laws and yet have a wicked heart – so often our laws have emerged from human traditions rather than 'the commandment of God'. The greatest commandments are to love God and love our neighbour. The first commandment is most frequently expressed in the love and care that we show towards others – 'to care for orphans and widows' as the letter of James suggests in the second reading. Certainly care for persons rather than rules is foremost in the values of God's reign as witnessed by the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus.

