



Holy Spirit  
Parish  
Gariwerd

# Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2025

## The Presentation of the Lord

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

Malachi 3:1-4

A reading from the prophet Malachi

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 23:7-10. R. v.10

(R.) Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

1. O gates, lift up your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)
2. Who is the king of glory? The Lord, the mighty, the valiant, the Lord, the valiant in war. (R.)
3. O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)
4. Who is he, the king of glory? He, the Lord of armies, he is the king of glory. (R.)

### Second Reading

Hebrews 2:14-18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

### Gospel Acclamation

Luke 2:32

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is the light of revelation to the nations, and the glory of your people Israel. Alleluia!

### Gospel

Luke 2:22-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke  
When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said: 'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.'



# Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

**Parish Priest** Fr. Neville Stanislaus - [neville.stanislaus@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:neville.stanislaus@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
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**Phone** 03 5352 5460  
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## 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

9th Feb 2025  
Isaiah 6:1-8/ 1 Corinthians 15:3-8,11/  
Luke 5:1-11

## 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 10am Lowe St  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 10am Garden View  
4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 10am ARVillage

## Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> Feb Mass in Stawell Cancelled

## Anniversaries

Beverly Woods, Joan Abbott, Roy McInerney 1984, Margaret Devery 2003, Lillian Scott 2002, Alan Giles 2020, Mark Hunt, Robert Thistlethwaite, Sarah Smith 1961, Jessie Toogood 1967, Tom D'Arcy 2001, Frank Thomas, Carmela Zammitt, Joseph Zammitt, Terry Weeks, Colleen Peacock, Terry Weeks, Fr John Kelly, Ann Pola, Sr Dorothy Molley, Stanley Hucker, Noel Peck, Peter Monaghan 1962, William McGarry 1974, Michael Mornane 1983, Glenda Sertori, Cec McOwan, John Kelly, Robin Wright, Petronella Van Keulin, Merna Dorothy McMaster, Margaret Tyndall, Thomas Creenaune, Anthony Gordon, Imelda Gordan, Betty Parker, Margaret Traynor, Charles Forster 1950, John Trotter

## Lake Bolac Roster

Sat Feb 1<sup>st</sup> Reader Jane Higgins/Prayers of Faithful Rosemary Liston / Cleaning Leanne Breen  
Sat Feb 15<sup>th</sup> Reader Phillip Meek/Prayers of Faithful Jane Higgins  
Sat Mar 1<sup>st</sup> Reader Val Albert/ Prayers of Faithful Denise Haslett /Cleaning Rosemary Liston  
Sat Mar 15<sup>th</sup> Reader Rosemary Liston/ Prayers of Faithful Judy Aldous  
Sat Mar 29<sup>TH</sup> Reader Tricia Higgins/ Prayers of Faithful Deb Glasson  
Sat Apr 5<sup>th</sup> Reader Mick Brennan/ Prayers of Faithful Tricia Higgins  
Sat Apr 19<sup>th</sup> Reader Rebecca Rodger/ Prayers of Faithful Phillip Meek /Cleaning Team Effort

## Ararat Roster

Sun Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> Facilitator Peter B / Reader Harry C/ Euch Min Marg M/Teresa  
Sun Feb 9<sup>th</sup> Facilitator Pat McA / Reader Jenny McA/ Euch Min Anna C /Mary C  
Sun Feb 16<sup>th</sup> Facilitator Peter B / Reader Pat L/ Euch Min Sr John / Harry  
Sun Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> Facilitator Teresa / Reader Pat L / Euch Min Mary C / Charlie

## Stawell Roster

Sun Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> S/Minster K Ashton/J DeLeon/I Sturt/Reader H Potter / Offertory J Croton  
Sun Feb 9<sup>th</sup> S/Minster G Comitti/L McIntyre/K Ashton/Reader M R Thomas / Offertory L Habben  
Sun Feb 16<sup>th</sup> S/Minster M Maestros/J DeLeon/J Raeburn/Reader K Dallinger / Offertory H Reid  
Sun Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> S/Minster H Potter/G Comitti/M R Thomas/Reader D O'Donnell / Offertory M McGaffin

**Ararat CWL** Next meeting will be in the Parish centre on February 11 starting at 1.30pm.

**Bulletin Notice's** If you have a notice for the bulletin would you please send it to the office email [gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au) no later than 3pm on Wednesday's. Thank you.

**Hello everyone, my name is Neville Stanislaus.** I was born in Sri Lanka (Ceylon) and came to Australia in 2002. My priestly ministry started in the Melbourne Archdiocese, then came to the Diocese of Ballarat in 2009. This is my 3rd Parish. The first one was Warracknabeal, St Mary's parish, second one was Camperdown, St Patrick's parish. I appreciate and acknowledge the ministry that Fr Andrew Hayes delivered to you over the past 10 years. I have no doubt that this community will continue to grow in faith, love, and service, guided by the Holy Spirit. I am excited to journey in faith with you as we experience Jesus in our own way and in our own comfort as we live in this secular world together. Please know that I am here for you. As I get to know you all, please do reach out to me if you have any need or would like to introduce yourself to me. My office days are Tuesdays to Fridays. I am contactable by the parish office phone number 53525460. Please know that my prayers are with you and that I will work with grace and love to provide comfort to this family in Christ. I hope to encourage you in your faith, and I look forward to worshipping with you in God's Church at Gariwerd Parish. Many thanks, God's peace and blessings.  
Neville Stanislaus

### **Jubilee of the Armed Forces, Police and Security Personnel: February 8-9, 2025**

The Church recognises that military personnel can contribute enormously to the stability of our world and to the establishment of peace. This Jubilee will celebrate the efforts all members of the armed forces and police, municipal police, security operators, veterans, military associations, military academies, chaplaincies and military ordinariates provide for peace. Further resources on the Jubilee of the Armed Forces, Police and Security Personnel is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/jubilee-year-2025-pilgrims-of-hope/>

### **Prayer for the Jubilee of the Armed Forces, Police and Security Personnel**

Lord our God, we thank you for the service and sacrifice of all who have made possible the freedom we enjoy and the heritage we have been given. We commend to you all who serve our nation in the Armed Forces, Police and Security. Shelter them in danger, and in time of peace keep them from all evil. For ourselves, we pray that you will help us to persevere in loyalty and courage and grant us to be worthy of those who have gone before us. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Hello Everyone, Greetings from the bishop's office. I hope the new year has begun well for you.**

Earlier this month, I announced that from March 1, 2025, Fr George Kuruvila Koorumullumpurayidam MST, currently Co-Pastor of the Western Border Parish, will become Parish Priest of Camperdown, Timboon and Hampden.

I am now pleased to announce that from March 1, 2025, Fr Cay Xuan Trinh will become Assistant Priest in the Western Border Parish.

I am also happy to announce several other appointments that will take effect from May 1, 2025.

From May 1, Fr Matthew Thomas, currently Parish Priest of the Sunraysia Parish, will also be Parish Priest of the Robinvale and Ouyen Parishes.

From May 1, Fr William Lowry, currently Assistant Priest in the South West Coast Parish, will become Assistant Priest in the Sunraysia, Robinvale and Ouyen Parishes.

At the same time, Fr Matthew Restall, currently Assistant Priest in the Ballarat East, Bungaree and Gordon Parishes, will become Assistant Priest in the South West Coast Parish.

Also from May 1, Fr Shaiju Mathew MST, currently Administrator of the Robinvale and Ouyen Parishes, will be appointed to the Ballarat East, Bungaree and Gordon Parishes.

In line with canon 517.1, Fr Shaiju Mathew will be Co-Pastor of these parishes, in collaboration with Fr Justin Driscoll, who will be Co-Pastor and Moderator of these parishes.

I thank all these priests for their willingness to take up these new assignments. I pray that these appointments will bring blessings on them as well as on the parishioners they will be serving.

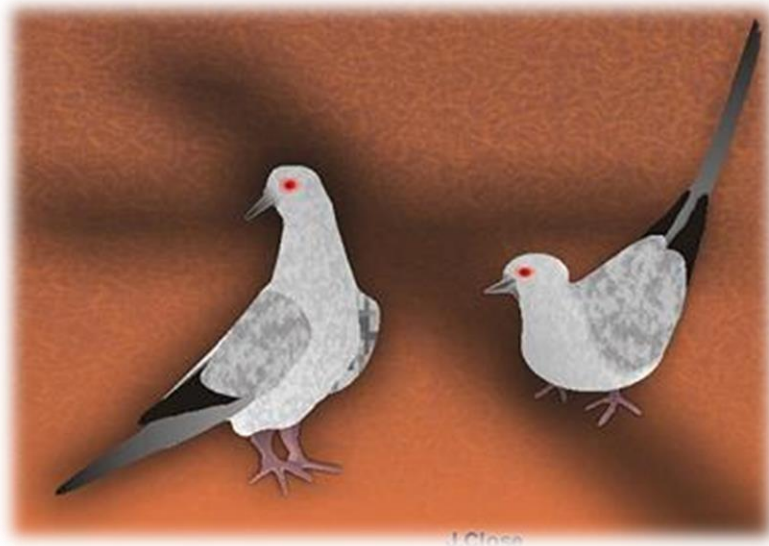
May this Jubilee Year be truly a Jubilee of Hope for all the communities throughout our diocese.

God bless you all. Bishop Paul



## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate -*The Word of God for young and old*

In a time (in the Western world at least) when there seems to be a growing gap between the old and the young, it is good to reflect on this Gospel incident. A young woman, still in her teens, a newly-wed cradling her newborn son in her arms, places that baby in the arms of a very old stranger who embraces her child with all the fervour of a *now* fulfilled hope. Is this the model for overcoming the distance between young and old in our culture? Can the young, like Mary, listen to the wisdom of tradition from an elder? Can the old like Simeon still be open to a moment of serendipity mediated by the young? The answer is: 'Yes, when young and old come together around Jesus.' As Pope Francis remarks of this encounter: 'Jesus is at the centre.' (*Homily 2 Feb 2018*) At whatever age we find ourselves, Mary is only too willing to place Jesus in *our* arms to fulfil our hopes and our yearnings. Perhaps we could pause for a moment to accept the gift of Jesus placed in our arms and hearts so that we can say with Simeon: 'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace.'



## Lectionary Art and Reflection by Jenny Close

The token price that Mary and Joseph paid to 'buy back' Jesus was two pigeons – a modest price for a poor family. Jesus was only on loan to them. Not all the riches in the world could ransom him from his destiny and he lived in the shadow of the Cross all his life.

## REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

Pope Francis draws our attention to the way

that today's feast is about encounter. He is particularly interested in how this episode takes place 'between the young and the old'. This was a profound spiritual moment shared by 'two newlyweds,' as the Pope describes Mary and Joseph, and the elderly and faithful Simeon and Anna. The Pope draws our attention to their respective dispositions. Mary and Joseph are not just going through the motions. They clearly really believe that what they are doing is important, even if they wonder what it all means. Meanwhile, Simeon and Anna were clearly 'guided by the Holy Spirit' and 'full of life!' Their encounter was not only between generations, therefore, but was also what the Pope calls 'a unique encounter between observance and prophecy.' 'It's good for the elderly to communicate their wisdom to the young,' the Pope reminds us, 'and it's good for the young people to gather this wealth of experience and wisdom, and to carry it forward ... addressing the challenges that life brings.' Perhaps we might pray this week for the wisdom to respond to the promptings of the Spirit, and for the Grace to leave a joyful mark on all the people we might encounter, young or old.

