



## Holy Spirit Parish Gariwerd



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 the traditional custodians of this land, and pay our respects to their elders both past, present and future, for they hold the memories, the traditions and culture of our ancient land, Australia. We honour the presence of these ancestors who reside in the imagination of this land and whose spirituality flows through all creation.

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

**Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C**

### First Reading

**Wisdom 9:13-18**

A reading from the book of Wisdom

What man can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord? The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind. It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens? As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above? Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

1. You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night. (R.)

2. You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. (R.)

3. Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants. (R.)

4. In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

### Second Reading Philemon 12-17: Phlm 9-10, 12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philemon

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has

brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

### Gospel Acclamation

**Psalm 118:135**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let your face shine on your servant and teach me your laws. Alleluia!

### Gospel

**Luke 14:25-33**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. 'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

# Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

**Parish Priest** Fr. Neville Stanislaus [neville.stanislaus@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:neville.stanislaus@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
**Parish Bulletin Online** [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) – follow link to parish  
**Secretary / Child Safe** Jill Croxford [gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
**Parish Email** [gariwerd@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto: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 9am  
**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 noon  
**Glenthompson** (Hamilton Parish) 2<sup>nd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays 8.30am

## Readings for next Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Sept

Numbers 21:4-9/Philippians 2:6-11  
John 3:13-17

## Weekday Masses (usual schedule) (Check bulletin for occasional changes)

**Tuesday:** 10am Stawell (Not on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month)  
**Wednesday:** Aged Care  
**Thursday:** 2.30pm Hopkins  
**Friday:** 11am Ararat

## 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

If there is a Funeral on Tuesdays (Stawell) or Fridays (Ararat) there will be NO Mass on that day.

## Anniversaries

Dominic DiDomenico, Jean Hennessy, Patricia Cronin, Irene Byrne, Alice Newman 1967, Alan Cullus 1971, Mary Potter 1975, Peter Power 1989, Carolyn Sertori, 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, Trent Howlett, 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), Fr Edward Jerram, Kathleen Edwards, Tups Brady, John Griffin, Martha McGuan 1956, Mary Brown 1967, Marlene Mornane, Eileen Rees, John Seild, Fr Frank McLaughlin, Ross McCann, John Hennessy, Patricia Egan, Mary Auld 1973, Mark Sladdin 1982, Gertrude Brennan, Ronald Ryan, Vin Fitzpatrick, Fortunata Di Domenico, Margaret Kerin 1961, Stacey Falloon 1984, Kathleen Monaghan 1989.

## Lake Bolac

Sat Sep 6 Reader Leanne Breen/ Prayers of Faithful Denise Haslett /Cleaning Jane Higgins  
Sat Sep 20 Reader Damian Phillips/ Prayers of Faithful Mick Brennan  
Sat Oct 4 Reader Val Albert/ Prayers of Faithful Damian Phillips /Cleaning Tricia Higgins  
Sat Oct 18 Reader Deb Glasson/ Prayers of Faithful Judy Aldous  
Sat Nov 1 Reader Mick Brennan/ Prayers of Faithful Brigitte Morrissey /Leanne Breen  
Sat Nov 15 Reader Damian Phillips/ Prayers of Faithful Deb Glasson  
Sat Nov 29 Reader Denise Haslett/ Prayers of Faithful Rosemary Liston

## Ararat Roster

Sun Sept 7 Facilitator M Olle / Reader Maria S / Euch Min M Mason & B Lilburn  
Sun Sept 14 Facilitator C Reid/ Reader E Shea/ Euch Min Mary C & M Ollie  
Sun Sept 21 Facilitator Harry /Reader K Leggett / Euch Min A Collins Blessie  
Sun Sept 28 Facilitator Pat McA/Reader J McA / Euch Min Cathy McA & M McD

## Stawell Roster

Sun Sept 7 S/Minster J Obi/S DeLeon /Reader D O'Donnell / Offertory H Reid & Friend  
Sun Sept 14 S/Minster S DeLeon & K Ashton /Reader D Jones / Offertory T East  
Sun Sept 21 S/Minster J DeLeon & D Jones/ Reader G Madafferi / Offertory M McGaffin  
Sun Sept 28 S/Minster J Obi & M R Thomas/ Reader L McNytre / Offertory G Pascall/P Gooden

**Parishioners invited to a Meeting in St Pat's Hall.**"After Mass on Sunday 14 September. Formation of a "St Joseph's Workshop" to help train "Disciples" to have a fuller understanding and knowledge of Belief in God and our role as Christians in a militantly secularist world."

**The Ballarat Diocesan Committee of the Catholic Women's League** invites you to join them for a reflection day for the Jubilee of Hope on Thursday 18th September in St Patrick's Cathedral precinct 9.30am -2.45pm. The day will begin with a reflection, then a tour of the diocesan archives, followed by the Angelus and Mass in the Cathedral. Lunch will be followed by a tour of the Cathedral and a talk about the building and its history. Everyone is welcome for all or part of the day. RSVP to Margaret Rowe by 10th Sept. -53582421 or -0419 114 435.

### **Prayer for Father's Day**

God our Father, we give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.

We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation; may they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for our own fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering; may they know that the God of Compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice.

We remember fathers, grandfathers, great grandfathers and father figures who are no longer with us, but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen,

Taken from <https://www.thecatholictelegraph.com/a-fathers-day-prayer-2/67183>

### **BCSF Father's Day Appeal**

The Ballarat Clergy Support Fund Annual Appeal will be held as usual on the first Sunday of September (or some other Sunday in September that is suitable for your parish). The BCSF Committee is most appreciative of the support you give each year to the appeal.

### **Safeguarding Sunday – September 14**

The following resources are available for Safeguarding Sunday <https://www.catholic.au/s/article/Safeguarding-Sunday-2025-Resources>:

### **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. This annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our retired priests. Your generous support has enabled us to continue 'caring for those who cared for us'. Special envelopes are available for this collection, which will be taken up next week. Scan or click the QR code for CDF Pay, select your parish and select "My giving is for Retired Priests Collection". **CARING FOR THOSE WHO CARED FOR US – THE CHURCH COMMUNITY'S RESPONSIBILITY**



### **Season of Creation**

Each year from September 1 - October 4, the Christian family unites for this worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. It is a special season where we celebrate God as Creator and acknowledge Creation as the divine continuing act that summons us as collaborators to love and care for the gift of all that is created. This year's theme, "Peace With Creation", reminds us that many human activities amount to a "war against Creation." Unsustainable lifestyles, exploitive business models, excessive consumption and throw-away cultures, thoughtless destruction of habitats, disregard for biodiversity loss and the devastation of literal wars are just a few of the human dynamics threatening the web of life around planet Earth. The mission before us as people of faith and members of the human community is to work for the justice and global solidarity that are essential to establishing "Peace with Creation." The full text of Pope Leo's Message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation can be accessed at

<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2025/07/02/250702e.html>.

## **Social Justice Statement Webinar: Tuesday, September 9, 2025**

The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission invite all to a Webinar in celebration of the launch of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2025-2026, "Signs of Hope on the Edge: Serving People Living in Homelessness and Mental Ill-Health" on Tuesday, September 9, 2025 from 7.00pm – 8.15pm. The webinar will include an overview from Bishop Paul Bird CSsR and presentations from James Treloar, Senior Manager in Homelessness and Housing Support at CatholicCare Victoria, Michael Ryan, OAM, President of the Ballarat region of the St Vincent de Paul Society and Maria Noonan, CEO of St John of God Hospital Ballarat and Warrnambool. Please register via the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/service-and-agencies/welfare/social-justice/social-justice-statement-current/>. The Statement and further resources are also available from this webpage.

## **Invitation to YCW gathering**

In recognition of 100 years since Cardinal Joseph Cardijn began the Young Christian Workers movement, Mass will be celebrated on Sunday October 19, 2025 at St Columba's Church (802 Lydiard Street North), Ballarat North at 11.30am. Lunch will follow at the Golf House Hotel, 920 Doveton Street North, Ballarat at 1.00pm. Please accept this invitation and offer it to anyone you know that has been involved in past YCW actions and notify one of the following of your intended attendance. RSVP by the end of September for catering purposes: Gerry Donovan, ph. 0409861063; Denise Bertram, ph. 0417502246; Larry Walsh, ph. 0417534936; Colin Lynch, ph. 0417681095

## **St Patrick's Cathedral Choral Scholarships**

The 2026 St Patrick's Cathedral Choral Scholarships recruitment campaign is underway. Choral Scholarships provide \$1000 per annum towards the education or music tuition costs of Years 3-6 students with musical aptitude. Choral Scholars sing and rehearse regularly at the Ballarat Cathedral. They are taught a broad and exciting range of repertoire, including traditional styles of sacred music and contemporary church hymns. We invite children in Years 3-6 to audition for a 2026 St Patrick's Cathedral Choral Scholarship Auditions in late Term 3 and early Term 4. Contact Choir Director, Vincent Sully [Vincent.sully@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:Vincent.sully@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or ph. 0407 310 115. More information on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61562889995868>

## **Under the Southern Cross: A Journey of Faith and Unity**

In 1950 the Catholic Bishops issued, "On Immigration", a landmark pastoral letter urging the community to offer generosity to those seeking to make Australia their new home in the post-war era. Today, 75 years on from the letter, Australia's Catholic Bishops are issuing the statement, "Under the Southern Cross: A Journey of Faith and Unity." The bishops are seeking to remind Australians of, to quote the statement, the "timeless call to hospitality and generosity". Access the statement from the diocesan website [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)

## **School Community Improvement Grants**

The Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Foundation will make funding available to six Catholic Primary Schools for new projects that aid in the improvement of the welfare of their community within the Diocese of Ballarat. Up to \$5,000 will be made available, per project, delivered during 2026. Any DOBCEL primary school within the diocese can apply for the grant through the grant process, as outlined on the Diocese of Ballarat website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/stewardship/catholic-diocese-of-ballarat-foundation/>. Grants will be awarded to the six schools within the diocese that best meet the criteria for community improvement that show impactful support toward the mission and objectives of the Foundation. This includes, but not limited to, providing relief, comfort and support for those suffering disadvantage within the diocese.

## **REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate - Hate your father**

I am told that, in most Middle Eastern languages, there is no word for 'prefer'. Perhaps influenced by extremes of heat and cold, the vocabulary of 'love' and 'hate' is used instead. No one can imagine Jesus 'hating' Joseph, but he clearly gave *preference* to his mission, even as a precocious 12 year old in the Temple. In today's Gospel, Jesus was preparing his followers, imminently and over the generations, for persecution. This would include real-life situations of families denouncing a son or daughter, or a brother turning over a brother to the authorities. Imagine a Chinese Catholic hearing this Gospel this morning, and this afternoon being betrayed by family members for remaining loyal to the successor of St Peter. Jesus exhorts such a follower to prefer this cross over what the family considers politically correct. We could pause for a moment to pray for all families, torn apart for allegiance to Jesus in His Church, that they may be re-united in the peace of the Risen Lord.