



Holy Spirit Parish Gariwerd



St Patrick's
Stawell



Immaculate Conception
Ararat



St Francis of Assisi
Landsborough



St Bernard's
Lake Bolac

First Reading

Job 19:1.23-27

A reading from the book of Job

Job said: 'Ah, would that these words of mine were written down, inscribed on some monument with iron chisel and engraving tool, cut into the rock for ever. This I know; that my Avenger lives, and he, the Last, will take his stand on earth. After my awaking, he will set me close to him, and from my flesh I shall look on God. He whom I shall see will take my part: these eyes will gaze on him and find him not aloof.'

Responsorial

Ps 22. R. v.1 or v.4

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**

2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**

3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Romans 5:5-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of

course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled, surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

Gospel Acclamation

See Matthew 11:25

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: 'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

Sunday 2nd November 2025

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)

Information – Holy Spirit Parish, Gariwerd

Parish Priest Fr. Neville Stanislaus neville.stanislaus@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



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

Mass Times

Ararat Sunday 9am
Stawell Sunday 10.30am
Lake Bolac 1st 3rd 5th Sundays 6.30pm Vigil Sat
Landsborough 2nd 4th Sundays 12 noon
Glenthompson (Hamilton Parish) 2nd 4th Sundays 8.30am

Readings for next Sunday 9 Nov

Ezekiel 47:1-2. 8-9. 12/1 Corinthians 3:9-11. 16-17/
John 2:13-22

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

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

Aged Care Roster

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

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

Recent Death Fr Hugh Thomas CSsR

Mass for the Holy Souls November Masses – Family of Edgar Allan & Marisol DeLeon

Anniversaries

Edward Lynch, Bridget Lynch, John Stapleton, Peter Dover, Bill Vilkavickos, Maria Hickey, Anna Molan 1947, Ivy Ferguson, James Norbury, Jeff Pendlebury, Anne Whitfield, Catherine Mills 1947, Alice (Dolly) Kelly 1953, Robert Presser 1998, Jan Darbyshire, Leanne Arnold, Charles Squire 1991, Veronica Dickenson 2013, John Schwab, Jim Clinton, Max & Ethel Murray, Monica McGeogh, Tom Liston, James Morrissey 1982, William Elliot 2008, Marjorie McOwan, Kevin Rowe, David Williams, Salvatore Cannata, Agnes Andrew 1998, David Grinter, Hazel Jewell, Denis McKey 1982, Audrey Nicholson 1997, Patricia Smith, Fr Frank Crowe, Peter Van Opstal, Jacob Weeks, Arthur (Stan) Anyon 2009

Lake Bolac Roster

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 Nov 2 Facilitator Tersea G/Reader Maria S/ Euch Min Genara & Cathy McA
Sun Nov 9 Facilitator C Reid /Reader Cathy L / Euch Min Mary C & Barbara L
Sun Nov 16 Facilitator Rachael /Reader Harry / Euch Min Marg M & C Reid

Stawell Roster

Sun Nov 2 S/Minister L McIntyre & M Howard/Reader G Madafferi / Offertory Heenan Family
Sun Nov 9 S/Minister J Obi & K Ashton /Reader D O'Donnell / Offertory H Reid & Friend
Sun Nov 16 S/Minister S DeLeon & M R Thomas/Reader D Jones / Offertory Timor East
Sun Nov 23 S/Minister J DeLeon & D Jones/Reader M Howard / Offertory M McGaffin

Fr Hugh Thomas CSsR passed away recently on the 25th October 2025. Fr Hugh Thomas was the first priest to be ordained in Immaculate Conception Ararat on the 11th July 1965.

Can you help - St Pat's parish by volunteering one hour a month to help in preparing our lovely church for our Sunday Eucharist? This involves dusting, cleaning the glass doors, the votive candle stand, the brass, changing the altar colours when the Church seasons change, and flower arranging. We work in pairs and do our quiet bit to help the parish celebrate each Sunday. Ring Mary Rita – 0438 836 180

St Pat's Stawell - There is never a 10am Mass in St Pat's on the first Tuesday of each month. Instead, we will pray the rosary. The rosary is the story of the New Testament. Through the beads we follow the life of Jesus and Mary. The rosary has been an important part of Catholic life for centuries. It is a very powerful prayer.

Stawell CWL - Promotes the praying of the rosary. Some members and parishioners offer to pray the rosary in their homes, usually for a week, on a roster system. We have a small statue of Our Lady of Fatima to have in our home during "our turn for Mary" to remind us that our rosary is a parish community prayer. You are very welcome to join us to offer rosaries for peace, our parish, and any personal needs. For further information or to join our "rosary and Mary's statue" roster, please contact Margaret Rowe -53582421 or Mary Rita Thomas -0438836180 or have a chat to them after Mass.

Stawell Lions Club is relaunching "the prescription glasses Initiative". The Lions Club will collect spectacles no longer required and distribute them to those in need both in Australia and overseas. If you can help there is a glasses collection box by the holy water urn in St Pat's Church.

60th Anniversary of Nostra Aetate: Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions

This Declaration spoke positively about other religions and their believers and continues to inspire and guide Catholics in forging relationships of mutual respect and collaboration with other members of other religions. The 60th anniversary provides the opportunity to read the Declaration again, to appreciate its significance, to celebrate its fruits, but most of all, to apply it to the multi-religious reality of Australia and the world "in our time". The Australian Catholic Bishops Australian Bishops Commission for Christian Unity and Inter-religious Dialogue provides reflections on the document, 60 years on <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/60th-anniversary-of-nostra-aetate-declaration-on-the-relation-of-the-church-to-non-christian-religions/>

A compelling opportunity is on the way

The Catholic Diocese of Ballarat is excited to be joining with the Catholic Theological College to provide formation in Leadership for Synodality in the Diocese of Ballarat through a bursary funded by the Therese D'Orsa Mission Fund. The idea for this program emerged following the Ballarat Diocesan Assembly at the end of 2024. The Diocesan Assembly Report details the support for building a Synodal Church in this diocese with a prominent outcome of the Assembly being the need to provide formation for synodal leadership. This Formation in Synodality Pilot Program for the Diocese will offer 3 modules/units: Scripture, Synodality and Belief in a Secular Age. More details will be available early November with expressions of interest due in December. Look out for the details!

Catholic Mission Month Appeal

On behalf of the Church in Zambia we would like to again thank you for your generosity. Your gift is helping empower women, provide essential healthcare, and bring hope to vulnerable communities. To learn more about the impact your support is making, please visit <https://catholicmission.org.au/see-our-work-in-action/mission>. Here, you can also sign up to our regular newsletter to keep up to date with the latest news. If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please do so at <https://catholicmission.org.au/see-our-work-in-action/mission>. Your action will make a positive impact for many around the world.

Jubilee of the World of Education: October 31 – November 2, 2025

The Jubilee of the World of Education celebrates all forms of education – early learning, school (both primary and secondary), and tertiary education. Further resources for the Jubilee of the World of Education are available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/jubilee-year-2025-pilgrims-of-hope/>



REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate *‘Indeed, I promise you: today you will be with me in Paradise.’*

Today, many of us will visit the grave or plinth of a beloved member of the family or a friend. If you are like me, you will first tidy the area, prune any dead heads off the rose bush, place some fresh flowers and then pray.

The beautiful Catholic custom is that on this day especially – All Souls’ Day – we pray for those who have died. We prayed for them when they were with us on earth. Death is no barrier to continuing that prayer. We pray for them and for ourselves that one day, when every tear is wiped away, we may join them in heavenly bliss.

What grounds our hope? Nothing more, nothing less, than the victory of Jesus Christ over death. We pray that those we love even now are sharing in the benefits of that triumph.

For most, as I expect for me, that may involve a *purging* of those traits of personality which prevent the fullest participation in the bliss of Heaven. But that bliss is what God desires for each one of them and for me.

God prays for the fulfilment of that desire whilst souls are being purged (whatever that may involve). Our praying for the dead is simply our participation in this prayer of God, our privilege which we intentionally share in. Even those not intentionally sharing our faith often say R.I.P., rest in peace, and that is a prayer!

And so we pray with confident Christian hope:

‘Endless light shine on those we love, O Lord. May their souls and the souls of all those who have died, through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.’

Have you thought? All Saints / All Souls

The feasts of All Saints (Nov 1) and All Souls (Nov 2) can be seen as something of a twin feast that celebrates all those who have died. With the feast of All Saints we celebrate all those who have died and have entered into direct and immediate communion with God in heaven. With the feast of All Souls we celebrate and pray for those who have died but have not yet entered into that direct communion with God. These two different states revolve around the Church teaching on *purgatory* – a state or process of purification before entering into heaven.

Historical Context – Halloween

Much of the significance and meaning of the feasts of All Saints and All Souls has been overtaken by the popular celebration of Halloween. The feast of All Saints was also known as All Hallows Day – in the Old English language hallow means to sanctify or make holy. The day before, October 31, was All Hallows Eve(ning) and the name over time became shortened to Halloween. In early Christian tradition, it was believed that souls were released from purgatory on All Hallows Eve for 48 hours and the dressing up and celebrations were to both placate and confuse the wandering souls.

