

A Place at the Table: Social justice in an ageing society

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 25 September. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: 'A Place at the Table: Social justice in an ageing society'.

The Statement celebrates the value and dignity of older people in Australian life. It challenges us to recognise their significant contribution to society and emphasises that this contribution should not be valued in mere economic terms. The Statement calls for justice for those who are most vulnerable and warns about a view of older people as burdensome or dispensable.

CWL

The CWL will have their monthly meeting this Tuesday September 13th at 1.30pm in the Parish Centre.

Grandmother's Group

Grandmother's group will meet next Wednesday September 14th at 2pm at Bernadette Harington's house, Hewett St, Ararat.

Last Sunday's Homily

We live in a world where religion has become a tool people can use to their advantage rather than a means of growing closer to God. Sister Joan Chittister challenges readers to reflect upon whether they truly live what they say they believe or whether they have created their own images of God to suit whatever is convenient for their personal and/or social situations.

"Flight" by Nadia Wheatley, winner of this year's Children Book Award.

The current Social Justice Statement about Refugees and Asylum Seekers called, 'For those who have come across the seas' is coming to a close however, the matter needs our sustained commitment towards a just outcome for the 1313 people who are still held in off-shore detention. "Flight" was awarded the Children's Book Council of Australia Picture Book of the Year. I like to think this prize is a vote of support for the millions of refugees who, like the characters in this story, are sacrificing everything they have in the hope of finding a safe home. You are encouraged to listen to Nadia Wheatley's acceptance speech (1:30min long). You might also consider reading this book as part of Advent, given the focus aligns with the flight into Egypt by Mary, Joseph and Jesus. Resources available from <https://riverbendschoolsbookclub.files.wordpress.com/2016/04/flight-teaching-notes.pdf>, <http://www.lamontbooks.com.au/media/68289/ps-flight.pdf>

Lay Pastoral Ministry Program - start in October or next year.

The Lay Pastoral Ministry Program offers low-cost opportunities for online study and formation for lay workers in the diocese, both employees and volunteers. The **October** study cycle starts soon so **contact us now** - or you can start next year. If you are interested, first check out the details on the diocesan website (link to Lay Pastoral Ministry Program at bottom right of front page), then contact Amanda Smith, ph: 5337 7125, email: amanda.smith@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Information for Parents about Safe Schools Coalition Australia

The Australian Catholic Bishops Commission for Family, Youth and Life have published information for parents regarding the Safe Schools Coalition Australia program being conducted in government schools. More information is available from the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

ROSTERS—please note the same parishioners are on both weekends due to the start of the new roster. Apologies for any inconvenience

It's Roster season again and the Parish Council have been working hard to put the next 6 months worth of rosters together. The roster has been emailed but if you would like a hard copy—please see Joyce in the office. There is also a hard copy on the Notice Board. If you need to change a Ministry, please call someone to swap days. Many Thanks.

Lifeline: 131114 **Ararat Police:** 5355 1500 **Sexual Assault Crisis line:** 1800 806 292

Counselling service: Relationships Australia – 1800 052 674 **Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Towards Healing** – 1800 099 340



Sunday, 11th September 2016 Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

As we celebrate, we acknowledge the Indigenous owners of the land on which The Church of The Immaculate Conception is built, the Tjapwuring people, and we respect the presence of the spirits of their ancestors among us.

First Reading **Ex 32:7-11. 13-14**

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 50:3-4. 12-13. 17. 19. R. Lk 15:18

(R.) I will rise and go to my father.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.

In your compassion blot out my offence.

O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)

2. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)

3. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise.

My sacrifice is a contrite spirit; a humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn. (R.)

Second Reading **1 Tm 1:12-17**

Gospel Acclamation **2 Cor 5:19**

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

Alleluia!

Gospel **Lk 15:1-32**

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10th/11th September 2016

RECENT DEATHS:

Graham Carmichael, Barbara Caporn (Golden Gate)

ANNIVERSARIES:

Eileen Rees, John Seild, Fr Frank McLaughlin, Ross McCann, John Hennessy, Patricia Egan, Gertrude Brennan, Ronald Ryan, Vin Fitzpatrick, Molly O'Connor, Keith Young, Teresa Conroy, Geoffrey O'Brien, Ruth Molloy, John Molloy, Matin Creenaune, Maureen Rathgeber, Eileen Arnold, Hugh Waring, Judith Vos, Jan Smith, George Tutton, Thomas O'Connor, Alice Parker, John Parker

SICK:

Ena Harrison, Margaret Kidd, Wendy Shea, Frank Dempsey, Maurice Rutter, Shirley Billet (thank you for your continued prayers), Kerrie Mulcahy, Natasha Martens.

Hospital: *If you are in hospital and would like to receive Communion, could a family member please contact the office.*

Please Pray for the Intentions of:

Baptisms: Welcome to the World!

Confirmations & First Communions:

Prayer of Pope Francis for the Year of Mercy

Lord Jesus Christ,

you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father,

and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.

Show us your face and we will be saved.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing,

so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord,

and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor,

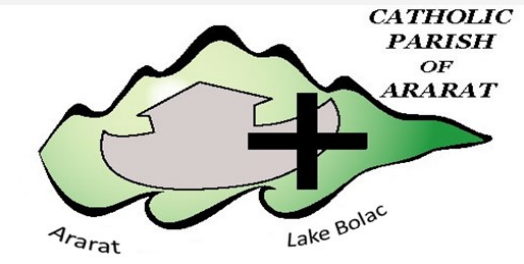
proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed,

and restore sight to the blind. Amen

CHURCHES -
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PRIEST:
Fr Andrew Hayes
andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Office Hours
Tues/Wed/Fri 9am—2pm

WEEKEND MASS TIMES		
	Ararat	Lake Bolac
Saturday	6.00pm	
Sunday	10.30am	8.30am
2nd Sunday of Every Month		8.30am Lay Assembly
Tues 13 th	9.30am	Convent
Wed 14 th	9.30am	Convent
Thurs 15 th	9.30am	Convent
Fri 16 th	9.15am Church with St Mary's (note change of time)	
	6.00pm	Hopkins

Calling All Readers!
You will find the following week's readings in the Facilitator folder for you to take home and peruse.

A VOCATION VIEW
We are like the lost sheep when we have not found our place in life. Are you part of the herd, lost from the herd, or a leader of the herd?

Church Toilets
All children—Primary school age and under— must be accompanied by an adult. Thank you for your understanding.

"A person who thinks only about building walls, wherever they may be, and not building bridges is not Christian. This is not in the Gospel."

Read more at more at -**Pope Francis @Pontifex 2016**

St. Mary's Parish
304a Barkly St. or **PO Box 92**
Ararat, 3377 **Ararat, 3377**

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Andrew Hayes
PRINCIPAL ST. MARY'S SCHOOL: Mr Tom Hogan
Download newsletter—www.smararat.catholic.edu.au
PRINCIPAL MARIAN COLLEGE: Mrs Carmel Barker
Download newsletter—www.mcararat.catholic.edu.au
PARISH SECRETARY: Ms Joyce Clery

Prayer for Refugees
God of our wandering ancestors
Long have we known
That your heart is with the refugee
That you were born into time
In a family of refugees
Fleeing violence in their homeland
Who then gathered up their hungry child
And fled into alien country
Their cry, your cry, resounds through the ages
"Will you let me in?"

Give us hearts that break open
When our brothers and sisters turn to us with that same cry
Then surely all these things will follow
Ears will no longer turn deaf to their voices
Eyes will see a moment for grace instead of a threat
Tongues will not be silenced but will instead advocate
And hands will reach out
Working for peace in their homeland
Working for justice in the lands where they seek safe haven

Lord protect all refugees in their travels
May they find a friend in me
And so make me worthy
Of the refuge I have found in you
Amen.

Day & Date	Facilitator	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	Golden Gate Communion	Welcomers	Counter	Collector	Flowers	Cleaning
Sat Sep 10th	K. Joyce	P. McAloon	A. Reynolds, L. Horsman & C. McAdie		Geoff White & M. Ryan	P. McAloon & B. Holland	Geoff White & Carmel Brennan	M. Jerram & Marilyn Brady	M. Fe Galoso & A. Galoso
Sun Sep 11th	J. Start	P. Lardner	C. Bulger, M. de Jong & K. Cham-mings	H&A Collins	Kathy Leggett & Shirley Pickering	(as above)	John Pola & P. Gemmola	(as above)	(as above)
Sat Sep 17th	H. Collins	P. Gem-mola	T. Gemmo-la, G. North & MA McDougall		D&M Lister	A&V Joyce & B. Rieniets	G. White	Joan Bond	H. Collins & E. Shea
Sun Sep 18th	N. Potter	K. Leggett	M. Cun-ningham, Sr. John & C. Reid	M&D Lister	Lois Rowe	(as above)	John Pola	(as above)	(as above)

LAKE BOLAC—MASS
Lay Assembly
READER: I. Meek
PRAYERS: M-A Otto
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Jane Higgins
Lay Assembly: Reg & Helen

LAKE BOLAC—MASS
MASS
READER: D. Haslett
PRAYERS: I. Meek
EUCCHARISTIC : MINISTER: R. Smith
CLEANING: I. Meek

Joke of the week
A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin, 5, Ryan, 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Mom saw the opportunity for a moral lesson and said; "If Jesus was sitting here, He would say, "Let my brother have the first pancake. I can wait. "Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you can have the first chance at being Jesus!"

Saint of the Week St. Ailbhe, Feastday Sept 12th, Patron Saint of Wolves. Death 528

Bishop and preacher, one of the saints whose [life](#) has been woven into the myths and legends of Ireland. He was a known [disciple](#) of St. Patrick, and is called Albeus in some records. What is known about Ailbhe is that he was a missionary in Ireland, perhaps sponsored by King Aengus of Munster. He was also the first [bishop](#) of Emily in Munster, Ireland. Legends and traditions abound about his life. One claims that he was left in the woods as an infant and suckled by a wolf. This legend is prompted in part by Ailbhe's later life. An old she-wolf came to Ailbhe for protection from a hunting party, resting her head upon his breast. He is supposed to have been baptized by a [priest](#) in northern Ireland, possibly in a British settlement. The so called [Acts](#) of Ailbhe are filled with traditions that are not reliable. Ailbhe was noted for his charity and kindness, as well as his eloquent sermons. He is beloved in Ireland.



A Big Thanks!
Parishioners have been donating handbags and \$1100 to contribute towards essentials & toiletries for those in need of the basics that we often take for granted. Many thanks to you all. And if anyone has an extra handbag, we will gladly accept them still in the Presbytery Office.
EMMA COBURN