



QR Code for Young People

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

Giving Tree

A 'Giving Tree' has once again been placed in the Church. On the Giving Tree will be decorations with gift ideas. Families are invited to take a decoration and purchase a gift for those in need in our district. Please place gifts under the tree (unwrapped) and members from St Vincent de Paul will collect and distribute. We ask that all donated gifts be placed under the tree by **Wednesday Dec 16th** in order to give the volunteers time to sort, wrap and distribute the hampers/gifts before Christmas.



Centacare Annual Toy Drive

Nov 8 - Dec 15 To donate please purchase an age specific toy, select a name tag from one of the Centacare gift trees located at Toyworld Ballarat, Curves Sebastopol or Curves Wendouree.

Info keryn.monshing@centacareballarat.org.au

Year of Mercy - Opening of Holy Door

Pope Francis has announced an Extraordinary Jubilee which has at its centre the mercy of God. It will be a Holy Year of Mercy. This Holy Year will commence on December 8, 2015, the next Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and will conclude on Sunday, November 20, 2016, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Year of Mercy website: <http://www.iubilaeummisericordiae.va/content/gdm/en.html>

All are invited to attend the Opening of the Door of Mercy at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat by Bishop Paul Bird CSsR on Sunday, December 13, 2015, 10.30am. Refreshments will follow the Mass.

Saint of the week: St. Ambrose—Bishop, Confessor and Doctor of the Church December 7th

Children and the Toilet—Just a reminder that all children **MUST** be accompanied by an adult when going to the toilets during Mass. This is for the safety of the children.

ST. MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL ARARAT is advertising for the position of a **Part-time Art Teacher (0.4)** commencing **January 2016**. Applications should be addressed to: (applications close **Wed Dec 9th** at 4pm)

Mr Tom Hogan (The Principal)

St. Mary's Primary School

Moore Street

Ararat Vic 3377 Ph: 53521796

principal@smararat.catholic.edu.au



2nd Sunday of Advent - Year C

6th December 2015

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

FIRST READING Bar 5:1-9

Jerusalem – God will show you splendour.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 125. R. v.3

(R.) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. (R.)
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them! What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. (R.)
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. (R.)
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. (R.)

SECOND READING Phil 1:3-6, 8-11

Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Lk 3:4, 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Lk 3:1-6

All people shall see the salvation of God.

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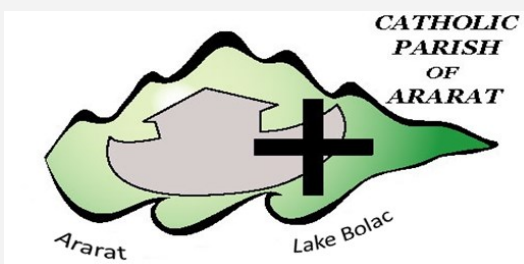
Prayer of Pope Francis for the Year of Mercy

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.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, ARARAT, ST. BERNARD'S, LAKE BOLAC,
304a Barkly Street, Ararat Vic 3377 , PO Box 92, Ararat Vic 3377
ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Andrew Hayes
PRINCIPAL ST. MARY'S SCHOOL: Mr Tom Hogan
PRINCIPAL MARIAN COLLEGE: Mrs Carmel Barker

ST. MARY'S PARISH OFFICE: Ph: 5352 5460
Fr Andrew Hayes email andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au



Office Hours
Tues/Wed/Fri 9am—2pm

ARARAT MASS PROGRAMME FOR THIS WEEK

Monday 7th	12.45pm	Marian College
Tuesday 8th	11.00am	Funeral Prayers for Bernard Joyce
Friday 11th	6.00 pm	Hopkins Correctional Centre

Saturday 12th	6.00 pm	Ararat
Sunday 13th	8.30 am	Lake Bolac
	10.30 am	Ararat

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday 24th	6.00pm	Ararat
(Christmas Eve)	8.00pm	Lake Bolac
	Midnight Mass	Ararat
Friday 25th	9.00am	Ararat—Christmas day Mass

A VOCATION VIEW

Who, today, is willing to make ready the way of the Lord, to clear Him a straight path? Good, I prayed you would.

“No one can grow if he does not accept his smallness.”
-Pope Francis @Pontiflex 2015

www.kairos.com.au
The latest issue of Kairos now available at the back of the church. \$2 each.
KAIROS
CATHOLIC JOURNAL

5th/6th December 2015

RECENT DEATHS:

Bernard Joyce

ANNIVERSARIES:

Mons. Bill McCunnie, Phyllis Brown, Ellen Mullins, Patrick Mullins, Maura Brown, Nel Wagener, Penny Lang, Agnes Joyce, Fr. John Martin, Fr. Syd Morey, Athol Howman & Fr. Martin Gleeson.

SICK:

Arthur Spiller, Pat Davis, Shirley Billet and Hilary Doveton

A Warm Thank You

Many of you will remember Jane Boag and her kidney transplant operation on December 18th last year. She recently sent a “Thank You” card to the Parish— which is on the Church notice board. She is expressing her thanks for all the support that was given to her by the Parishioners at St. Mary’s Parish. She is doing very well!

If you would like to be updated on the progress of Jane and the donor, please go to: Facebook page: Jane Boag’s Kidney Transplant Fundraiser

THIS WEEK 5th/6th

FACILITATOR

SAT: Anne-Maree Joyce SUN: Maryanne McDougall

READERS

SAT: Peter Brady SUN: John Brennan

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

SAT: T. Gemmola, M. Stapleton, L..Horsman
SUN : M. de Jong, G. O’Loughlan, N. Billingsley

COUNTERS

A & V Joyce

GOLDEN GATE COMMUNION

Elizabeth

FLOWERS Mary Stapleton

CHURCH CLEANING

Bernadette Harrington

WELCOMERS

SAT: Margaret Ryan
SUN: Brian & Margaret Joyce

LAKE BOLAC

READER: R. Liston
PRAYERS: K. Gleeson
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: R.Smith
CLEANING: J. Aldous

NEXT WEEK 12th/13th

FACILITATOR

SAT: Angela Reynolds SUN: Charlie Reidl

READERS

SAT: Mardi McOwan SUN: Pat Lardner

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

SAT: A.M Joyce, H. Collins, A. Collins
SUN : C. Bulger, M. Olle

COUNTERS

P&M Brady, P. Gemmola

GOLDEN GATE COMMUNION

Jewell

FLOWERS Mary Cunningham

CHURCH CLEANING

Christmas Cleaning Volunteers Please

WELCOMERS

SAT: Margaret Ryan
SUN: Brian & Margaret Joyce

LAKE BOLAC

READER: H.Smith
PRAYERS: R.Smith
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: L.Breen
CLEANING:

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Reconciliation

Ararat Wednesday Dec 16th 7.00pm 2nd Rite
Lake Bolac Sunday Dec 20th—during Mass 2nd Rite

Making a Scene at Christmas

As mentioned in last week’s Notice Sheet, there will be an amazing display of Nativity Scenes in the Parish Centre over the December weekend of the 19th and 20th. For this exhibition to go ahead without a hitch— we are calling on some volunteers to help set up and pack up. Setting up will take place at 4pm on Friday Dec 18th and packing up from 4pm on Sunday Dec 20th. Please email Fr. Andrew or call the Parish Office.

CWL

Anna Collins from the Country Women’s League would like to inform the members of their annual Christmas Party which will be held at the **Parish Centre on Tuesday Dec 8th at 6.00pm.**

Willaura Hostel

A combined church service will be held at the Willaura Hostel on Wednesday Dec 9th commencing at 1.30pm. This will be followed by afternoon tea.

Christmas Office Hours

Friday Dec 25th and Tuesday Dec 29th—CLOSED

Christmas Notices

If you would like anything added to the Christmas notice sheet/bulletin, please let Joyce know at the Parish Office by Wednesday Dec 23rd on 5352 5460 or email on ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Rosters

Joyce will be working on the rosters later on in the month for next year. Thank you again to all the volunteers and do let Joyce know about any changes you would like made.