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Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help empower communities in Papua New Guinea to lead their own development and create more harmonious futures.

www.caritas.org.au/project compassion 1800 024 413

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – 28 February

Today's collect prayer reminds us that fasting, prayer and almsgiving are a 'remedy for sin'. Giving has always been identified with worship both in the Christian and Jewish tradition. In the ancient Christian church it was customary to provide not only the bread and wine for the Eucharist but also food and clothing for those in need in the community. It was the role of deacons to assist the bishop to distribute the gifts brought to Mass to the widows and orphans who depended on the community for survival.

Augustine and the early fathers rebuked members of his community who came empty handed to Eucharist on the Lord's day. He constantly reminded them that the Christ of the altar was identical to the Christ of the poor in the marketplace. One could not encounter the Body at Eucharist without also caring for the Body of Christ living without food, shelter and clothing. One must lead to the other.

This week of Project Compassion we are invited to focus on our close northern neighbours, the people of Papua New Guinea. In a nation overflowing with the beauty of its people and the richness of their cultures, we can embrace our near neighbours as they enhance their capacity to build communities of lasting peace. When we hear stories of goodness and hope we are all nourished by God's living word calling forth in us compassion and generosity.

On this day we welcome our catechumens who begin their final preparations for baptisms with the first of the public scrutinies. We also reflect on the wisdom and generosity of Christ who saw beyond the outward behaviour of the Samaritan woman into a heart capable of compassion and generosity. Not only did this woman change her behaviour but she became an active disciple of the good news, bringing her whole village to Christ.

Saint of the week: St. Anne Line—death 1601. English [martyr](#) from Dunmow, Essex. The daughter of William Heigham, she was disowned by him when she married a Catholic, Roger Line. Roger was imprisoned for being a [Catholic](#) and was exiled and died in 1594 in Flanders, Belgium. Anne stayed in England where she hid [Catholic](#) priests in a London safe house. In this endeavor she aided Jesuit Father [John](#) Gerard until her arrest. Anne was hanged in Tyburn on February 27, 1601. Pope Paul VI canonized Anne Line in 1970 as one of the [Forty Martyrs](#) of England and Wales.

Joke of the week At the Wedding

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?" "Because white is the colour of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life." The child thought about this for a moment, then said "So why is the groom wearing black?"

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.

Rosters: Apologies to all for any mistakes regarding the Roster. Should you need to change anything, please go **directly** to Joyce at the Parish Office or email her on ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au . Thanking you all for your patience.

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, 28th Feb 2016:
Third Sunday of Lent - Year C**

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.

27th/28th February 2016

RECENT DEATHS:

ANNIVERSARIES:

Fr. Thomas O'Brien, Geoff Dohnt, Julie O'Brien, Brian Toner, Bill Campigli, William Kneebone, Gwen Clark, Teresa Cairns, Fr. Matt McGloin, Jason Bond, Fr. Gerard Gasper CSsR, Fr. Gerard Gasper CSsR

SICK:

Shirley Billet, Fr. Brendan Davey, Natasha Martens, Wendy Shea and Arthur Spiller.

Please Pray for the Intentions of:

Libby Shea, Audrey Brown

Baptisms: Welcome to the World!

Archer Smith—Son of Kodie-Rose and Michael

First Reading Ex 3:1-8. 13-15

Responsorial Psalm Ps 102:1-4. 6-8. 11. R. v.8

- (R.)** *The Lord is kind and merciful.*
1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. **(R.)**
 2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. **(R.)**
 3. The Lord does deeds of justice, gives judgement for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses and his deeds to [Israel's](#) sons. **(R.)**
 4. The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. **(R.)**

Second Reading I Cor 10:1-6, 10-12

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:17

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Repent, says the Lord;
the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Lk 13:1-9

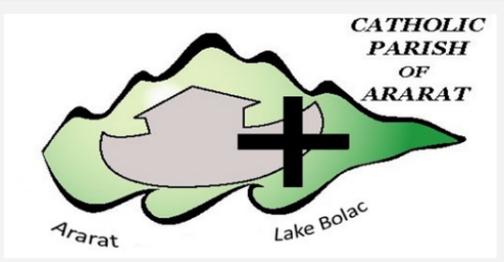
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Prayer of Pope Francis for the Year of Mercy
Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father,
and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.
Show us your face and we will be saved.
Send your Spirit and consecrate every 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.

CHURCHES - Immaculate Conception, Ararat
St. Bernard's, Lake Bolac

CONTACT US

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

Office Hours
Tues/Wed/Fri 9am—2pm

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

	<u>Ararat</u>	<u>Lake Bolac</u>
Saturday	6.00pm	
Sunday	10.30am	8.30am
2nd Sunday of Every Month		8.30am Lay Assembly

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

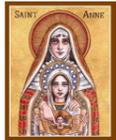
"This week I will be away for the annual priests' retreat." - Fr. Andrew

Fri 4th	6pm	Ararat
	6pm	Hopkins

Yes there are two Masses at the same time. Fr Peter Wood will be celebrating the Mass at Hopkins.

A VOCATION VIEW

"Each Lent should bring us closer to our God. There is no failure, except that of no longer trying. You can still follow Jesus more closely"



St. Anne has been found!

"The Roman Curia has its defects, but it seems to me that people often overemphasize its defects and talk too little about the health of the many religious and laypeople who work there."

Read more at more at **-Pope Francis @Pontifex 2015**

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
PRINCIPAL MARIAN COLLEGE: Mrs Carmel Barker
PARISH SECRETARY: Ms Joyce Clery

24 Hours of Prayer for Mercy

Next **Friday March 4th** our parish will join Pope Francis' call for 24 hours of Prayer for Mercy. We will begin with Mass on Friday at 6pm at St Mary's Church and conclude with our usual 6pm Mass on Saturday evening. The Parish Council has begun a list of people for whom we might all pray. In the Church foyers are lists of intentions for this 24 hours of prayer. Please take a pen and add more intentions. The list thus far: people in Fiji and Syria, those who resort to violence in the name of religion, victims of clergy abuse, victims of abuse within the family, women abused, people who have died in disgrace, people in detention on Nauru, Manus and other detention centres, people who are deeply poor or alone, sole parents, the homeless, victims of racial abuse, ourselves for our own hardness of heart, prisoners in Hopkins, those who feel imprisoned in their homes, those unjustly deprived of liberty, the sick, everyone who feels in need of God's love.

First Nation Prayer—Native Indian

I give you this one thought to keep— I am with you still – I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow; I am the diamond glints on snow;
I am the sunlight on ripened grain, I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the morning rush I am the swift, uplifting rush
Of quite birds in circled flight. I am the soft stars that shine at night
Do not think of me as gone – I am with you still – in each new dawn.

Day & Date	Facilitator	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	Golden Gate Communion	Welcomers	Counter	Collector	Flowers	Cleaning
Sat Feb 27th	Nicole Potter	Jenny McAloon	B. Slatter, D&M Lister	N/A	R&M Jerram	The Arnold Family, T. Weeks & C. Martin	Geoff White & R. Jerram	J. North & Anne Joyce	P. Weeks & J. Start
Sun Feb 28th	Pat Lardner	Jan Crowe	P. Brady, Sr. Maree & J. Start	J&J Crowe	L&D Anderson	(as above)	Jim Crowe	(as above)	(as above)
Sat Mar 5th	Bill Slatter	Peter Brady	A. Reynolds, L. Horsman & C. McAdie	N/A	Marg Joyce	Emma Coburn & Jo Jackson	Tom Rees & Jim Crowe	M. Dempsey & M. Jerram	Jo Donnan & K. Scherger
Sun Mar 6th	H. Collins	A. Collins	C. Bulger, M. de Jong & K. Chamings	H&A Collins	L&D Anderson	(as above)	John Pola	(as above)	(as above)

LAKE BOLAC—This Week

READER: R. Phillips
PRAYERS: L. Breen
EUCCHARISTIC
MINISTER: D. Haslett
CLEANING: C. Peacock

LAKE BOLAC—Next Week

READER: H. Smith
PRAYERS: J. Higgins
EUCCHARISTIC
MINISTER: M. Phillips
CLEANING: J. Aldous

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Ararat CWL

Tuesday March 1st, lunch at The Vines 12 noon then 1.30pm meeting in the Presbytery. All members welcome.

Julian Burnside AO QC

Human rights and refugee advocate, Julian Burnside, will present "Is this really Australia?" at the Hamilton PAC on Sunday April 10 at 2pm. Info in church foyers or email refugee2015hamilton@outlook.com

Lenten Discussion Ararat

Our Lenten discussion will be at 9.30am on Thursday March 3rd.

Are you buying Slavery-free Easter Chocolate this year?

Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH) is urging people to eat only slavery-free chocolate, especially this Easter. Did you know that much of the chocolate available in Australia is made using cocoa beans picked by children, many of whom have been enslaved, or forced to work in exploitative conditions?

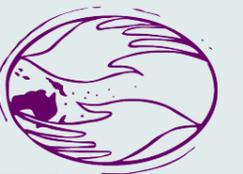
World Day of Prayer

Ararat—Sunday March 6th 6pm Church of Christ. All welcome.

Lake Bolac—Friday March 4th 11am Lake Bolac Church. All welcome, lunch after.

Stawell C.W.L. Tuesday 8th March Northern Regional Conference ,9.30am start. St. Patrick's School hall Stawell. Reflection led by Father Justin Driscoll at 11am. Mass Celebrated at 12.00 Midday, Reflection recommences at 1.30pm Concludes at 3.00 pm. Morning Tea, Afternoon Tea & Lunch provided Cost \$ 12.00. all Parishioners are welcome.

For catering purposes ... R. S.V.P. 1st March Liz Driscoll. E/Mailedriscoll@westnet.com.au ph.53581724



Palms Australia

Encounter Mission and Development, Encounter Love and Justice, Encounter humble volunteers, Encounter faith, Encounter God.

[Palms Australia will be conducting a guided tour of the communities in which their global volunteers are working in East Timor from](http://www.palms.org.au)

11 -23 April 2016

4 – 16 July 2016

26 September – 8 October 2016

There are limited places. Enquiries need to be processed by **February 22nd** so call 02 9518 9551 or register interest online:

www.palms.org.au/Encounters

QR Code for Young People

