



Since becoming involved in the Hamara Haq ('Our Rights') project, Dhaniram and his community in India have learnt about their rights and have been empowered to speak up for themselves. Now, real change is taking place.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help vulnerable communities in India learn more about their rights so they are empowered to speak up, ask for their rights and create lasting change.

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion 1800 024 413

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD – 20 March

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week and is rich in ritual symbolism. We carry palms, we process, and our church is no longer austere with purple but full of green branches and the red of vestments. The first Gospel recounts Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and our second Gospel proclamation takes us directly to the passion and death of Christ. We could be tempted to see this day as a historical re-enactment of such powerful and tragic events in Christ's life. But, unlike those who witnessed this procession through Jerusalem 2000 years ago, we celebrate this day in the light of the resurrection. We know that sadness and death have given way to new life and that Christ has triumphed over death. We live with the anticipation of hope and the promise of salvation.

Our fasting, prayer and almsgiving intensify during this week – the only week in our Christian calendar that we officially call holy. As we relive the rich Church tradition of Christ's final days, we are reminded also of the many women, men and children around the world who are most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice. These are the face of the suffering Christ in our time. Today we are particularly mindful of the nation of India, featured in Project Compassion this week. This country, with a burgeoning population and a growing economy, is also home to some of the poorest people in the world. As we recall Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, and enter into the story of the passion, we are challenged to do our part to ensure that God's people are empowered to share in that new life, not only spiritually, but physically as well. We give with compassion and mercy.

Saint of the week: St. Joseph Born 90 BC, Died 18 AD. Husband of Mary and *father* of Jesus. Patron of the Universal Church, unborn children, fathers, workers, travellers, immigrants, and a happy death.

Joke of the Week:

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to "honour" thy Father and thy Mother, she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?"

Without missing a beat one little boy (the oldest of a family) answered,

"Thou shall not kill."

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.

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, 20 Mar 2016: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord - 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.

19th/20th March 2016

RECENT DEATHS:

ANNIVERSARIES:

John Thomas, Tom Carter, Sr. Joyce White RSJ, Dave Dampsey, Fr John Henehan, Fr Bill O'Driscoll Bea Kelly, Elizabeth Hustler, John Colwell Barry Smith Phillip Brown Cliff Murray, John Kelly, Helen Kneebone, Betty Beer, Paz Navarro, Elizabeth Overingto, Gwen Murray, Alma Brennan, Evelyn Gleeson, Dr. Pat Claridge and Anna Drewniak

SICK:

Shirley Baker, Margaret Kidd, Maurice Rutter, Shirley Billet, Fr. Brendan Davey, Kerrie Mulcahy, Natasha Martens and Wendy Shea.

Please Pray for the Intentions of:

Libby Shea, Audrey Brown

Baptisms: Welcome to the World!

Freddie McDougall—son of Ellie and Timothy

First Reading Is 50:4-7

Responsorial Psalm Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24. R. v.2

(R.) My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

1. All who see me deride me. They curl their lips, they toss their heads. 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; let him release him if this is his friend.' **(R.)**
2. Many dogs have surrounded me, a band of the wicked beset me. They tear holes in my hands and my feet. I can count every one of my bones. **(R.)**
3. They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe. O Lord, do not leave me alone, my strength, make haste to help me! **(R.)**
4. I will tell of your name to my brethren and praise you where they are assembled. 'You who fear the Lord give him praise; all sons of Jacob, give him glory. Revere him, Israel's sons.' **(R.)**

Second Reading Phil 2:6-11

Gospel Acclamation Phil 2:8-9

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! Christ became obedient for us even to death dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel Lk 22:14 – 23:56

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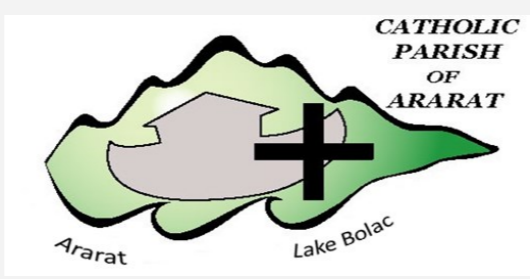
Prayer of Pope Francis for the Year of Mercy

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:
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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

HOLY WEEK MASS TIMES

Mon 21 st	6.30pm	Mass of the Oils, St Patrick's Cathedral
Tues 22 nd	7.00pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (2 nd Rite), Ararat. (Please bring a plate of supper to share.)
Thurs 24 th Holy Thursday	6.00pm	Seder Meal (Passover) Lake Bolac
	7.30pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper Ararat
Fri 25 th Good Friday	9.00am	Hopkins
	3.00pm	Ararat

Seder Meal—On Holy Thursday evening Lake Bolac community will celebrate a Seder Meal. This is a traditional Jewish celebration for the Feast of Passover. This will be a wonderful lead-in to the Mass of the Lord's Supper in Ararat. Ararat parishioners are welcome to attend, but as the ritual involves the sharing of traditional foods, please let Joyce know if you intend to be there.

A VOCATION VIEW

Lent is six weeks of being serious about forgiveness and knowing we are loved.
Who will step forward to tell of God's great love for us?

"A person once asked me, in a provocative manner, if I approved of homosexuality. I replied with another question: 'Tell me: when God looks at a gay person, does he endorse the existence of this person with love, or reject and condemn this person?'
We must always consider the person."

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

Diocese's Notices

Seminary Building Appeal
Parishioners have received a letter of thanks for your contribution to last year's seminary building appeal. Our parish contributed \$1170 of a statewide total of \$520,388.30
This will allow eight more rooms to be built. Thankyou everyone for your generosity.

Mass of the Oils: Monday, March 21, 2016
The Mass of the Oils will be celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 6.30pm on Monday, March 21, 2016. This Mass is a celebration of the whole Church of the Diocese of Ballarat. We celebrate the unity and ministry of the ordained priests in the midst of the entire priestly people of God of the Diocese. This Mass also has special significance for those who will use the blessed oils in 2016 – the sick, those to be baptised and confirmed. All welcome.

Cost of Postage
Due to the increased costs of postage, it is no longer viable to post Parishioners Planned Giving Envelopes. We do apologise for this inconvenience and hope that you can collect your envelopes from the Church Foyer.
Many Thanks

Day & Date	Facilitator	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	Golden Gate Communion	Welcomers	Counter	Collector	Flowers	Cleaning
Sat Mar 19 th	P. Gemmola	T. Gemmola	G. O'Loughlan, N. Billingsley & T. Rees	N/A	R&M Jerram	The Arnold Family, T. Weeks & C. Martin	P. Gemmola	Joan Bond	Jan Crowe
Sun Mar 20 th	Nicole Potter	Kathy Leggett	H&A Collins & M. Mason	A-M Joyce	Kathy Leggett & Blessie Stoneman	(as above)	?	(as above)	(as above)
Sat Mar 26 th	Pat McAloon	Kevin Joyce	M. Cunningham, C. Reid & Sr. J. Spurr	N/A	Sr. Maree & M. Ryan	G. Carmichael, B. Holland & P. McAloon	Geoff White	M. Cunningham & Marilyn Brady	Joy & Jacinta McLoughlan
Sun Mar 27 th	Christine Bulger	Kaye Chamings	B. Slatter, D&M Lister	Elizabeth Shea	Elizabeth Shea & S. Pickering	(as above)	C. Brennan	(as above)	(as above)

LAKE BOLAC—MASS
This Week

READER: I. Meek
PRAYERS: R. Liston
EUCCHARISTIC
MINISTER: P. Upton
CLEANING: R. Liston

LAKE BOLAC—MASS
Next Week

READER: V. Albert
PRAYERS: I. Meek
EUCCHARISTIC
MINISTER: Jane Higgins
CLEANING: J. Upton

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Finance Meeting
The Finance Committee will meet at 5.30pm on Tuesday March 22nd at the Presbytery.


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 continue after Mass on Thursday morning in the Presbytery.

Farewell to John & Nancy Curnow
The Ararat Uniting Church (Barkly Street) invite you to a service to farewell the Curnows on Sunday March 20th at 11am followed by a shared lunch at noon.

Office Hours
Tues 22nd and Wed 23rd 9.00am—3.15pm Closed Good Friday

Retired Volunteers
We have had some volunteers retire from duties recently and the Parish would like to thank them for their service over the years. If anyone would like to fill their shoes in the capacity of Eucharistic Minister, Facilitator, Counter or Flower Arranger—please let Joyce know at the office.


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 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

