

Mercy Associates Pilgrimage

The Mercy Associates invite you to join them on a Pilgrimage to the Academy of Mary Immaculate, Nicholson Street, Fitzroy - the first Sisters of Mercy establishment in Victoria - on Wednesday, April 20, 2016. On this Pilgrimage we will travel, reflect, pray and talk together on mercy and compassion in our lives and the world today. Catherine McAuley was the founder of the Sisters of Mercy and Ursula Frayne was one of Catherine's early companions in Dublin. Ursula led a group of Sisters to Australia and established works of mercy and compassion in Melbourne. We will visit Ursula's grave, memorial chapel and creation windows and have a tour of The Academy. A pre-pilgrimage Information Session will be held on Monday, April 11 from 2.00pm – 3.00pm in the Mercy Gathering Room, Gent Street, Ballarat (off Victoria Street). For further information please contact Ursula Diamond-Keith, email gudiamond-keith@live.com.au or ph. 0407717626 or Margaret McDonald, email nannymacca@gmail.com or ph. 53435315 or Rita Hayes rsm, email ritahayes@mercy.org.au or ph. 53313026.

Saint of the week: Feastday April 16th, Patron Saint of illness, people ridiculed for their piety, poverty, shepherds, shepherdesses, and Lourdes, France. St. Bernadette was born in Lourdes, France on January 7, 1844. Her parents were very poor and she was the first of nine children. She was baptized at St. Pierre's, the local parish church, on January 9. As a toddler, Bernadette contracted cholera and suffered extreme asthma. Unfortunately, she lived the rest of her life in poor health. On Thursday, February 11, 1858, fourteen-year-old Bernadette was sent with her younger sister and a friend to gather firewood, when a very beautiful lady appeared to her above a rose bush in a grotto called Massabielle (Tuta de Massavielha).

Joke of the Week:

Two men were sitting next to each other at Murphy's Pub in London. After awhile, one bloke looks at the other and says, 'I can't help but think, from listening to you, that you're from Ireland.'
The other bloke responds proudly, 'Yes, that I am!'
The first one says, 'So am I! And where about from Ireland might you be?'
The other bloke answers, 'I'm from Dublin, I am.'
The first one responds, 'So am I!'
'Mother Mary and begora. And what street did you live on in Dublin?'
The other bloke says, 'A lovely little area it was. I lived on McCleary Street in the old central part of town.'
The first one says, 'Faith and it's a small world. So did I! So did I! And to what school would you have been going?'
The other bloke answers, 'Well now, I went to St. Mary's, of course.' The first one gets really excited and says, 'And so did I. Tell me, what year did you graduate?'
The other bloke answers, 'Well, now, let's see. I graduated in 1964.'
The first one exclaims, 'The Good Lord must be smiling down upon us! I can hardly believe our good luck at winding up in the same place tonight. Can you believe it, I graduated from St. Mary's in 1964 my own self!'
About this time, Vicky walks up to the bar, sits down and orders a drink.
Brian, the barman, walks over to Vicky, shaking his head and mutters, 'It's going to be a long night tonight.'
Vicky asks, 'Why do you say that, Brian?'
'The Murphy twins are drunk again.'

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, 17 Apr 2016 Fourth Sunday of Easter - 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 Acts 13:14, 43-52

Responsorial Psalm Ps 99:1-3. 5. R. v.3

(R.) We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

1. Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing for joy. (R.)

2. Know that he, the Lord, is God.
He made us, we belong to him,
we are his people, the sheep of his flock. (R.)

3. Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading Rv 7:9, 14-17

Gospel Acclamation Jn 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.
Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 10:27-30

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16th/17th April 2016

RECENT DEATHS:

ANNIVERSARIES:

Frances PolaVin Smith, Margaret Clark, Emanuel Jotn Penza-Vella, Ellen Hennessy, Edward Bulger, George Shea, Eric Carter, Jim Brennan, Colin Gleeson, Albert Stainsby, Jim Lavery, Ian Kirkham, Sr Catherine O'Halloraran, Alex Murray, May Richards
Cosmos Fernando

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:

Tom Rees, Libby Shea and Audrey Brown

Baptisms: Welcome to the World!

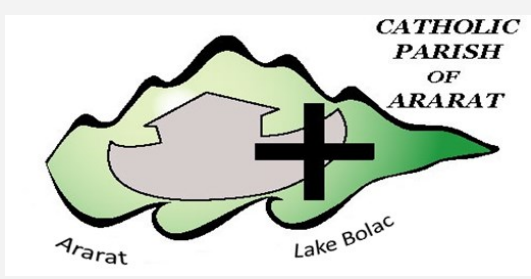
Prayer of Pope Francis for the Year of Mercy

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

CONTACT US

PHONE: 03 5352 5460
EMAIL: ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au
WEBSITE: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au



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

Masses this Week

Tues 19th	9.30am	Ararat
Wed 20th	9.00am	Ararat (note time change)
Thurs 21st	9.30am	Ararat
Fri 22nd	10.30am 6.00pm	Retirement Village Hopkins

A VOCATION VIEW

On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, pray for yourself. Pray to know if God is calling YOU to be a Priest, Sister or Brother. Pray!

“Women in the Church are more important than bishops or priests.”

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

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, Collector or Flower Arranger**—please let Joyce know at the office.

CARITAS

Just a friendly reminder to drop in any remaining CARITAS envelopes or boxes into the Parish Office please. Remember to give the appropriate information if you need a Tax Receipt.

Liturgy Formation 2016 – Date Claimer

The Diocesan Liturgical Commission will be presenting Liturgy Formation sessions in the following parishes: Birchip – July 24; **Ararat - August 7**; Hamilton – August 21. Bishop Paul will launch the renewed and revised Diocesan Sacraments of Initiation Catechetical Resource, “Let the Children Come” and workshops will be Funeral Ministry and Formation for Lectors. Flyer in on the Notice Board

Code for young people



Day & Date	Facilitator	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	Golden Gate Communion	Welcomers	Counter	Collector	Flowers	Cleaning
Sat Apr 16th	C. Brennan	Nicole Potter	H&A Collins & M. Mason	N/A	Sr. Maree & M. Ryan	The Arnold Family, T. Weeks & C. Martin	Geoff White	M. Stapleton	P. Weeks
Sun Apr 17th	J. Clery	Kathy Leggett	M. Cunningham, C. Reid & Sr. J. Spurr	Margaret Olle	Kathy Leggett & S. Pickering	(as above)	John Pola	(as above)	(as above)
Sat Apr 23rd	Rachel Cooper	Pat McAloon	B. Slatter, D&M Lister	N/A	M&R Jerram	G. Carmichael, B. Holland & P. McAloon	?	J. North & Anne Joyce	?
Sun Apr 24th	Pat Lardner	Jan Crowe	P. Brady, Sr. Maree & J. Start	J&J Crowe	Marg Joyce	(as above)	Jim Crowe & V. Hooper	(as above)	(as above)

LAKE BOLAC—MASS

This Week

READER: D. Haslett
PRAYERS: D. Haslett
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: R. Smith
Lay Assembly: I. Meek

LAKE BOLAC—MASS

Next Week

READER: D. Phillips
PRAYERS: R. Phillips
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: L. Breen
CLEANING: T. Higgins

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Worthy Causes: Fr Andrew has found some worthy causes for those who haven't run out of money yet.

Sunbury Men's Survivors Group
This is a group of survivors of clergy and other abuse, similar to the survivors group in Ballarat that we have seen in the media. This group is getting established. Donations can be made at <https://www.gofundme.com/hstvwxjw> The Sunbury Men's Survivors Group can also be found on Facebook. Our Muslim friends are asking for contributions towards their new mosque. Contributions can be made at the Bendigo Bank (or online) BSB: 633 000 Account no: 12544 2632 Account Name: Ararat Islamic Welfare Association Inc.

Organ and French Horn Recital
Easter Joy at St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne on Tuesday, April 19, 2016, 6-7pm

Sacraments
A date for Sacraments preparation will be decided upon next week so keep your eye on the bulletin. Let Joyce know at the parish Office if you have a child ready to do their Confirmation/Communion.

Ararat Brass band— WINDS OF THE WEST
2.30pm Saturday 23rd April here at St. Mary's Church in Ararat. Come along and enjoy some fine music—FREE ADMISSION.



CWL

The Catholic Women's League meet on the **second** Tuesday of every month.
Next meeting : May 10th Venue TBC



Grandmother's Club

The GM Club meet on the **second** Wednesday of every month.
Next meeting: May 11th Venue TBC



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

The St. Vincent de Paul Society meet on the **first** Tuesday of every month at the Centre, 264 Barkly St, Ararat at 7pm