

Vote For The Voiceless

THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF AUSTRALIA ON THE ELECTION

Australians are again going to the polls. We do so thankful that the electoral process will be free of the violence found elsewhere. Our political system may have its problems but we have a stable democracy, which is not to be taken for granted. Nor is the quality of those who put themselves forward for election to the Federal parliament. We are in their debt for their willingness to serve.

This leads to what the Pope has called the throwaway culture - a culture of over-consumption where all kinds of things are thrown away, wasted, even human beings. The voices of the thrown-away people will not be heard in the long and rowdy campaign. Their faces will not be seen in all the advertising. Yet unless their voices are somehow heard and their faces seen, we will not have a truly human society in which economic management serves human beings rather than the other way round.

That is why we bishops want to speak a word as part of this campaign - not in order to push an ideological line or simply to defend the Church's interests but to give a voice to the voice-less and make their faces seen, however briefly in a statement such as this.

Among the people discarded in this throwaway culture are these:

- Refugees and asylum seekers who are often seen as a problem to be solved rather than as human beings in need of our help.
- Indigenous peoples whose cry for recognition has barely been heard and who suffer in-justice at the hands of our justice system.
- The survivors of sexual abuse who have emerged from the shadows and whose voice is now being heard, crying out for redress and healing.
- Those who suffer family violence who are often unseen and unheard, behind closed doors with nowhere to go and no-one to turn to.
- Those in the womb who are among the most defenceless, at risk of being deprived of the most basic of all human rights, the right to live.
- The elderly who are seen at times as an economic burden now that they are unable to "produce" or consume in the way the economy demands.
- Those suffering mental illness who seem not to fit in with accepted patterns of social behaviour and are often presumed to contribute nothing to society, thus ending up in the too-hard basket.
- Those suffering addiction who can see no way out of the destructive grasp of alcohol or other drugs, gambling or pornography.
- Those entrapped in new forms of slavery who are the victims of sexual or workplace enslavement.
- The desperately poor beyond our shores who look to wealthy Australia for the help they need - often simply to survive - but find our nation less and less generous.

...But it is not just individual people who are thrown away. The same can happen to the environment, both social and natural.

Joke of the week

Pupil (on phone): My son has a bad cold and won't be able to come to school today. School secretary: Who is this? Pupil: This is my father speaking!

Heating Strategy!

The heaters in the Church will be turned on every Friday Morning and need to be switched off after Mass on Sunday Morning. The parish office will look after Friday mornings but we would like to ask some parishioners to make sure they are switched off on Sunday after the 10.30am Mass. We shall also aim to turn on the fans in the Choir Loft so that the warm air circulates.

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, 26 Jun 2016: Thirteenth 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 Tjapwurong people, and we respect the presence of the spirits of their ancestors among us.

First Reading 1 Kgs 19:16. 19-21

Responsorial Psalm Ps 15:1-2. 5. 7-11. R. cf. v.5

(R.) You are my inheritance, O Lord.

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.

I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.'

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize. (R.)

2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,
who even at night directs my heart.

I keep the Lord ever in my sight: since he is at my
right hand, I shall stand firm. (R.)

3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.

For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay. (R.)

4. You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness for ever. (R.)

Second Reading Gal 5:1. 13-18

Gospel Acclamation 1 Sm 3:9; Jn 6:68

Alleluia, alleluia!

Speak, O Lord, your servant is listening;
you have the words of everlasting life.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 9:51-62

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25th/26th June 2016

RECENT DEATHS:

ANNIVERSARIES:

Meryl Jacobs Don Edwards, Dorothy Fox, Tanya Tobin, Nicole Holloway, Flo Flanagan, Norman Hoare, Jack Todd, Fr Don Gobbi, Tommy Eastick, Gerard Lillis, Elias Alimasag, Mary Lea, Doreen Stephans, Bern Donovan, Robert Rutter Ian Phillips, David Breen, Josef Neulist, John Phillips, Rene McOwan

SICK:

Fr. Mick Fitzpatrick, Wendy Shea, Fr. Brendan Davey, Frank Dempsey, Maurice Rutter, Shirley Billet, Kerrie Mulcahy, Natasha Martens.

Hospital: *If you would like to receive Communion and you are in hospital—can your family member please contact the office and leave a message.*

Please Pray for the Intentions of:

Libby Shea

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

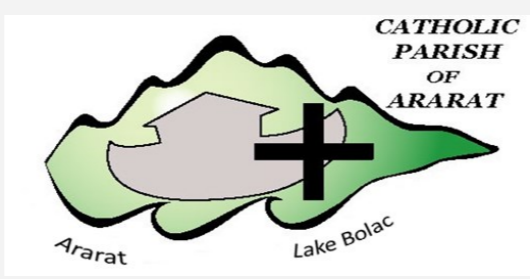
CHURCHES - Immaculate Conception, Ararat
St. Bernard's, Lake Bolac

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Office Hours
Tues/Wed/Fri 9am—2pm

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

	<u>Ararat</u>	<u>Lake Bola</u>
Saturday	6.00pm	
Sunday	10.30am	8.30am
2nd Sunday of Every Month		8.30am Lay Assembly
Communion Service in the Convent		9.30am Tues June 28th

Fr Andrew's Holidays

Fr Andrew will be away from the parish from Friday June 17 until Saturday July 22. While he is away Fr Peter Wood will be in the parish from Friday night until Monday morning each week. He will be available for funerals when necessary. All contacts will still be made through the parish office in the usual manner.

Friendly Reminder— many thanks

If you are going in to the Presbytery for any reason when the office is unattended, please could you make sure all the lights are switched **OFF and the front door is LOCKED**. With Fr. Andrew being away and Fr. Peter Wood only in residence during the weekend—the lights may not be attended to until Tuesday by Joyce. Many thanks!

Statue of Lady

Our Statue of Our Lady has been located and is now back in circulation within the parish! If you would like to have it in your home, please write your name on the roster pinned to the notice board in the Church Foyer. Thank you!!

Calling some Varnishing Volunteers

Is there anyone with a couple of hours spare time to varnish the Presbytery outdoor furniture setting over the next few weeks? If so please call the Parish Office and leave a message/number. Many thanks.

A VOCATION VIEW

Treating others with compassion is a mark of a follower of Jesus, whether known as The Good Samaritan, Mother, Priest, Sister, Deacon or Brother.

“Wretched are those who are vindictive and spiteful”
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

Lay Pastoral Ministry Program

This program offers the opportunity for lay workers (paid or volunteer) to study individual subject/s or to undertake a six subject Certification course. The first teaching cycle starts July 10th and fees can be subsidised by the Parish. Please see the Leaflet on the Church notice board.

Berry Street—Ballarat

“Charity begins at home” - please take a moment to read the Berry St leaflet on the notice board. The centre is a refuge for women and children fleeing family abuse and domestic violence in the Ballarat and surrounding regions. The centre has been actively helping children, young people and families recover from the devastating effects of violence, abuse and neglect since 1877. Your donation is greatly appreciated.

Parish Office Hours in July

Fri July 1st	9am-4pm *
Tues July 5th	CLOSED
Wed July 6th	CLOSED
Fri July 8th	10am-12pm
Tues July 12th	9am-2pm
Wed July 13th	9am-3pm *
Fri July 15th	9am-2pm
Mon July 18th	9am-3pm *
Tues July 19th	9am-5pm*
Wed July 20th	CLOSED
Fri July 22nd	9am-12pm

* note change of time or day
Back to normal hours from Tues July 26th

Day & Date	Facilitator	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	Golden Gate Communion	Welcomers	Counter	Collector	Flowers	Cleaning
Sat Jun 25 th	C. Brennan	Rachel Cooper	?	N/A	Marg Joyce & M. Ryan	The Reynolds Family & C. Brennan	C. Brennan & V. Hooper	?	?
Sun Jun 26 th	Pat Lardner	Kathy Leggett	P. Brady, Sr. Maree & J. Start	Margaret Olle	Kathy Leggett & S. Pickering	(as above)	V. Hooper	(as above)	(as above)
Sat Jul 2 nd	J. Start	Jenny McAloon	?	N/A	M. Ryan	Rebecca Rodger & Jo Jackson	Geoff White	M. Stapleton	Jo Donnan & K. Scherger
Sun Jul 3 rd	Pat Lardner	Jan Crowe	M. Cunningham, C. Reid & Sr J. Spurr	J&J Crowe	L&D Anderson	(as above)	Jim Crowe	(as above)	(as above)

LAKE BOLAC—MASS

This Week

READER: V. Albert
PRAYERS: R. Phillips
EUCCHARISTIC
MINISTER: L. Breen
CLEANING: J. Upton

LAKE BOLAC—MASS

Next Week

READER: D. Haslett
PRAYERS: V. Albert
EUCCHARISTIC :
MINISTER: R. Liston
CLEANING: J. Higgins

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Planned Giving Envelope Numbers

Numbers 20 and 149 have been snapped up so get in quick if your favourite number is below! Time has flown and the next lot of Planned Giving Envelopes are in the Church Foyer ready for collection. Let Joyce know in the office if you would like a receipt. As the envelopes are quite heavy, it is just too expensive to post them out so if you could collect them—that would be great. Many thanks! We have the following envelopes without a Planned Giver so if your favourite number is below and you'd like to pick one and go on the program—see Joyce in the office 35, 55, 78, 85, 121, 137, 139, 146, 147, 150.

Liturgy Formation 2016 / Launch of Let the Children Come

The Diocesan Liturgical Commission will be presenting Liturgy Formation sessions in the diocese in 2016 on *Funeral Ministry, Formation for Lectors* and the launch of the sacramental program, “Let the Children Come” - July 24 at Birchip Parish, August 7 at Ararat Parish and August 21 at Hamilton Parish. As this day includes the launch of “Let the Children Come”, all parishioners are strongly encouraged to attend and **especially all readers**. More information is available from the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au. Registration form on foyer

Church Toilets

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

East Timor Appeal

On **Sat July 2nd and Sun July 3rd** we welcome Noel Gregory who is fundraising on behalf of **Sr. Helen Nolen** (Mercy Sister originally from Chinkapook) selling hand-made ties by local women in East Timor. Sr. Helen has been working tirelessly for the past ten years helping set up preschools, buying hand-made ties from the local women so they can pay for the school fees and then on-selling the ties to folks in Australia. Sr. Helen is retiring from her post and is on her way home so this fundraiser is a “Closing down Sale” so to speak. Noel is prepared to haggle but the small ties go for as little as \$5! He will be available to barter in the Church Foyer after the evening Mass on Saturday and morning Masses in Lake Bolac and Ararat. We thank you for your support and I are mindful of the numerous requests for donations, so we are very grateful.