



Christmas Mass Times

Note that Christmas Day is a **Sunday** this year. These are **not** the usual Sunday Mass times. There are special times for Christmas.

Sat Dec 24th

6pm Ararat **Midnight** Ararat

7.45pm Lake Bolac **9.15pm** Glenthompson

Sun Dec 25th

9am Ararat

Reconciliation for Christmas

Lake Bolac Sunday December 4 8.30am

Ararat 2nd Rite Reconciliation Thursday December 22nd 7pm. Please bring supper to share.

Carols

Willaura Anglican Church December 4 7.30pm

Ararat Anglican Church December 18 7.30pm

Christian Christmas Cards

Vinnies have Christian Christmas cards available at \$2.50 per pack. Let's do our bit to maintain Christmas as a celebration of the birth of Christ!

Golden Gate Lodge Christmas Party

Tuesday December 6, 4.30pm Parish Centre

Christmas Hamper

Thank you to Catholic Church Insurance who have donated a beautiful hamper. This has been given to Vinnies for a local family at Christmas.

Making a Scene at Christmas

A display of Christmas Nativity scenes will be held in St Patrick's Hall, Ballarat from Wednesday evening December 14 – Sunday, December 18. On display there will be in excess of 300 nativities from over 40 countries. Opening hours are Thursday and Friday 10.00am – 5.00pm; Saturday 10.00am – 8.00pm and Sunday 9.00am – 7.00pm.

Office Christmas Opening Hours

Dec 5th—16th Normal Hours

Dec 20th Tues 9am-1pm

Dec 21st Wed **CLOSED**

Dec 23rd Fri 10am-1pm

Dec 27th/28th Tues/Wed **CLOSED**

Dec 30th Fri 10am-1pm



Sunday, 4 Dec 2016: Second Sunday of Advent - Year A

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 **Is 11:1-10**

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17. R. cf. v.7**

(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. (R.)

2. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to the earth's bounds. (R.)

3. For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. (R.)

4. May his name be blessed for ever and endure like the sun. Every tribe shall be blessed in him, all nations bless his name. (R.)

Second Reading **Rom 15:4-9**

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 **Mt 3:1-12**

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3rd/4th November 2016

RECENT DEATHS:

ANNIVERSARIES:

Fr. Syd Morey, Athol Howman, Fr. Martin Gleeson, Rudolf Schwab, Osmond Smith, Eric Hogan, Herman Krawczynski, Graeme Pora, Victims of Pearl Harbour Bombings 1941, Fr. John Monaghan, Josephine Neilson, Edmund Moran, Bishop Henry Cleary, Clare Rieniets, Florence Heenan, Daniel Ryan, Joan Boyle, Joan Ryan, Rodney Harvey, Margaret Mary Smith & Glenys Balchin

SICK:

Barry Wilson, Margaret Kidd, Wendy Shea, Shirley Billet, Natasha Martens.

(thank you for your continued prayers)

Hospital: *If you are in hospital and would like to receive Communion, could a family member please contact the office.*

Please Pray for the Intentions of:

Advent Prayer

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ever faithful to your promises and ever close to your Church: the earth rejoices in hope of the Savior's coming and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts and remove the sadness that hinders us from feeling the joy and hope which his presence will bestow, for he is Lord for ever and ever.

Amen.

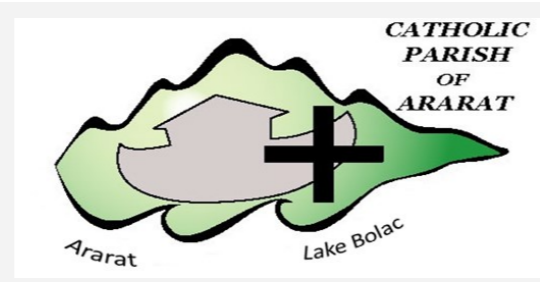
CHURCHES - Immaculate Conception, Ararat
St. Bernard's, Lake Bolac

CONTACT US

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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 | | |
| Mon 5th | 9.30am | Church (with St Mary's) |
| Tues 6th | 9.15am | Church (with Marian College) |

Fr Andrew Away
Fr Andrew will be away from the parish from Tuesday 6th until Tuesday 20th December presenting the Making a Scene at Christmas Exhibition. During this time the phone will still be monitored daily.

A VOCATION VIEW

Isaiah says: "The earth shall be filled with knowledge of the Lord." Who taught you knowledge of the Lord, and who are you teaching today?

Church Toilets

All children—Primary school age and under— must be accompanied by an adult. Thank you for your understanding.

"Despite the slowness, the infidelity, the errors and sins it committed and might still commit against its members, the Church, trust me, has no other meaning and goal but to live and witness Jesus."
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
Download newsletter—www.smararat.catholic.edu.au
PRINCIPAL MARIAN COLLEGE: Mrs Carmel Barker
Download newsletter—www.mcararat.catholic.edu.au
PARISH SECRETARY: Ms Joyce Clery

Saint of the week: St. Francis Xavier
FRANCIS XAVIER, ST. (1506-1552). Born in the family castle of Xavier, near Pamplona in the Basque area of Spanish Navarre on Apr. 7, he was sent to the University of Paris 1525, secured his licentiate in 1528, met Ignatius Loyola and became one of the seven who in 1534, at Montmartre founded the Society of Jesus. In 1536 he left Paris to join Ignatius in Venice, from whence they all intended to go as missionaries to Palestine (a trip which never materialized), was ordained there in 1537, went to Rome in 1538, and in 1540, when the pope formally recognized the Society, was ordered, with Fr. Simon Rodriguez, to the Far East as the first Jesuit missionaries.

Read more on www.catholic.org

Joke of the Week



| Day & Date | Facilitator | Reader | Eucharistic Minister | Golden Gate Communion | Welcomers | Counter | Collector | Flowers | Cleaning |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---|--------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sat Dec 3rd | G. White | P. Mc Aloon | T. Gemmola M McDougall | | Marg Joyce & N. Billingsley | The Arnold Family, T. Weeks & C. Martin | V. Hooper | M. Dempsey & M. J erram | Jo Donnan & K. Scherger |
| Sun Dec 4th | J. Brennan | R. Rodger | M. Cunningham, Sr. John & C. Reid | AM Joyce | Blessie Stoneman | (as above) | John Pola | (as above) | (as above) |
| Sat Dec 10th | C. Brennan | | H&A Collins (N/A) | | D&M Lister | The Reynolds Family & P. McAloon | Geoff. White | M. Cunningham | M. Fe Galoso & A. Galoso |
| Sun Dec 11th | P. Lardner | C. Bulger | G. O'Loughlin, N. Billingsley & S. Reid | Anne-Marie | Pat Lardner & Kathy Leggett | (as above) | V. Hooper | (as above) | (as above) |

LAKE BOLAC—MASS

READER: D. Phillips
PRAYERS: V. Albert
EUCHARISTIC MINISTER: D. Haslett
CLEANING: C. Peacock

LAKE BOLAC—Lay Assembly

READER: Jane Higgins
PRAYERS: P. Meek
EUCHARISTIC MINISTER: R. Liston
Lay Assembly: Peter & Leanne

Mission appeal

Thank you for supporting the Catholic Mission World Mission Appeal—for reaching out to those in need in Papua New Guinea and around the world through your kind gifts and prayers. Your generosity makes it possible for local community leaders like Steven Dude to help their people heal the wounds caused by broken relationships and find peace through mercy. We invite you to consider partnering with us through a regular monthly gift and continue your support of this and other life-giving work of mission and mercy.



Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Our Parish Feast Day is Thursday Dec 8th. Next weekend (Dec 10th/11th) there will be a cuppa after both Masses to mark the occasion. **BRING A PLATE TO SHARE!**



Fair Trade Chocolate and Other Products

St Mary's Parish abhors the practice of underpaying workers in plantations producing chocolate and other products. We bring to your awareness the Fair Trade logo. Look for the logo when purchasing.

CALL OUT!

Is there anyone available to sand & varnish the Presbytery outdoor furniture? If so please phone the office on 5352 5460
THANK YOU!

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