

## CHURCH ROSTER

Day & Date	Facilitator	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	Golden Gate Communion	Welcomers	Counter	Collector	Flowers	Cleaning
Sat Sep 16 <sup>th</sup>	P. McAloon	G. North	A. Reynolds, L. Horsman & C. McAdie		Tom Kidd	A&V Joyce	G. White & Tom Kidd		?
Sun Sep 17 <sup>th</sup>		P. Lardner	C. Bulger, & K. Chamings	J. Start	Pat Lardner & S. Pickering	(as above)	Jim Crowe & V. Hooper	(as above)	(as above)
Sat Sep 23 <sup>rd</sup>	G. White	P. McAloom	T. Gemmola		Marg Joyce, Tom Kidd & N. Billingsley	The Arnold Family, T. Weeks & C. Martin	V. Hooper & Tom Kidd	M. Dempsey & M. Jerram	Jo Donnan & K. Scherger
Sun Sep 24 <sup>th</sup>	J. Brennan	R. Cooper	M. Cunningham, Sr. John & C. Reid	H&A Collins	Blessie Stone-man	(as above)	John Pola	(as above)	(as above)

### Two 90 Year Old men

When it's clear that Joe is dying, Mike visits him every day. One day Mike says, "Joe, we both loved football all our lives, and we played football on Saturdays together for so many years. Please do me one favour, when you get to Heaven, somehow you must let me know if there's football there."

Joe looks up at Mike from his death bed, "Mike, you've been my best friend for many years. If it's at all possible, I'll do this favour for you."

Shortly after that, Joe passes on.

At midnight a couple of nights later, Mike is awakened from a sound sleep by a blinding flash of white light and a voice calling out to him, "Mike--Mike." "Who is it?" asks Mike sitting up suddenly. "Who is it?"

"Mike--it's me, Joe."

"You're not Joe. Joe just died."

"I'm telling you, it's me, Joe," insists the voice.

"Joe! Where are you?"

"In heaven", replies Joe. "I have some really good news and a little bad news."

"Tell me the good news first," says Mike.

"The good news," Joe says, "is that there's football in heaven.

Better yet, all of our old friends who died before us are here, too.

Better than that, we're all young again. Better still, it's always spring time and it never rains or snows. And best of all, we can play football all we want, and we never get tired."

That's fantastic," says Mike. "It's beyond my wildest dreams! So what's the bad news?"

"You're on the team for this Saturday's match!"

*We would like to heartily congratulate **Norma and Terry Lannen** because this week they celebrated their **60th wedding anniversary**. Over these sixty years they have demonstrated great love for, dedication to, and care of each other. All that, along with their steadfast and unshakeable faith have been an enduring inspiration to their six children. We salute them, we honour them and we thank them.*

*Trish Lannen*

## Child Safe Church

Here at the Church of the Immaculate Conception we follow the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian Government and we also implement procedures and standards as directed by the Ballarat Diocesan Office.

Our Safe Guarding Officer is Emma Coburn and you can download our Code of Conduct and Child Safety Policy from the Parish website.

If you have any concerns whatsoever—please contact the Parish Office, a member of the Clergy or the Safe Guarding Officer on [ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au)



## Sunday, 17 Sep 2017 Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

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** Sir 27:30 – 28:7

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 102:1-4. 9-12. R. v.8  
(R.) **The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.**

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. His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever.

He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults (R.)

4. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. (R.)

**Second Reading** Rom 14:7-9

**Gospel Acclamation** Jn 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

**Gospel** Mt 18:21-35

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**16th/17th September 2017**

### RECENT DEATHS:

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Thomas O'Connor, Alice Parker, John Parker, Cyril Tour, Alice Harrington, William Sea, Mona Hoane, George Brady, Fr Peter Claridge, Jim Sanders, Joseph Nunan, Enid Froggatt, James Hogan, David Sweeney, Nell Smith, Nicholas Dempsey, Marc Watson, Mary Brick

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Frank Dempsey, Bernie Sorsogon (Manilla), Natasha Martens.

If you would like a sick person prayed for, ask for their permission. Names will be included for the duration of ONE MONTH after which family or friends can request more time.

**Please pray for the intentions of:**

### PARISH PRAYER

Loving God, Good Shepherd of us all,

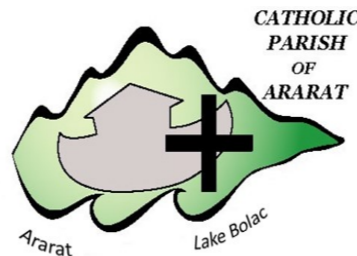
gather us and form us into a welcoming Parish family.

Touch our hearts with your love so that we, in turn, may reach out in love to one another, in a neighbourly community. We ask this through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Andrew Hayes [andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
 Download Church Bulletin - [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Parish Secretary:** Joyce Clery [ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
**Safe Guarding Officer:** Emma Coburn [ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
**Contact:** 03 53525460 PO BOX 92, Ararat, VIC 3377  
**Office Hours:** Wed/Thurs/Fri 10am-3pm



**PRINCIPAL ST. MARY'S SCHOOL:** Mr Tom Hogan  
 Download newsletter—[www.smararat.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smararat.catholic.edu.au)  
**PRINCIPAL MARIAN COLLEGE:** Mrs Carmel Barker  
 Download newsletter—[www.mcararat.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mcararat.catholic.edu.au)

**MASS TIMES**

	<u>Ararat</u>	<u>Lake Bolac</u>
	(Immaculate Conception)	(St. Bernard's)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>8.30am</b>
<b>2nd Sunday of Every Month</b>		<b>8.30am</b> (Lay Assembly)

**Masses This Week**

<b>Tues 19<sup>th</sup></b>	Convent	9.30am
<b>Wed 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Convent	9.30am
<b>Thurs 21<sup>st</sup></b>	Lowe St	11am
<b>Fri 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	Hopkins	6pm

**LAKE BOLAC— MASS Sept 17<sup>th</sup>**

**READER:** Jane Higgins  
**PRAYERS:** L. Breen  
**EUCCHARISTIC**  
**MINISTER:** R. Smith  
**Cleaning:** H. Smith

**LAKE BOLAC— MASS Sept 24<sup>th</sup>**

**READER:** T. Higgins  
**PRAYERS:** J. Aldous  
**EUCCHARISTIC**  
**MINISTER:** R. Liston  
**Cleaning:** L. Breen

**Pope Francis @Pontifex.com 2017**

“Love makes us similar, it creates equality, it breaks down walls and eliminates distances. God did this with us. “

**A VOCATION VIEW**

“Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.”  
 Make a stand for mercy, empathy, forgiveness and selflessness!

**Lifeline:** 131114 **Ararat Police:** 5355 1500  
**Counselling service: Relationships Australia** – 1800 052 674  
**Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Towards Healing** – 1800 099 340  
**Sexual Assault Crisis line:** 1800 806 292

**Embrace the Shepherds**



In bible times the shepherds were considered outcasts, less worthy of a place in civil society. Here at St Mary's we're making a concerted effort to "embrace the shepherds." We welcome every person who is unwelcome.

**Saint of the Week:** St. Joseph of Cupertino, [Feastday:](#) September 18  
**Patron** of Aviators, Flying, Studying, and those suffering mental handicaps  
 Birth: 1603  
 Death: 1663, St. Joseph was born in 1603 at Cupertino, in the diocese of Nardo in the Kingdom of Naples. After spending his childhood and adolescence in simplicity and innocence, he finally joined the Franciscan Friars Minor Conventual. After his ordination to the holy priesthood, he gave himself up entirely to a life of devotion to the Lord and his church.

Read more on [www.catholic.org/saints](http://www.catholic.org/saints)



**St. Vincent de Paul Society of Australia** supports the latest **#LetThemStay** campaign. Please see the foyer notice board for details.

**Postal Survey**

Attached to today's bulletin are three letters which may help parishioners in preparing to vote in the postal survey.

1. Bishop Paul Bird reflects on a number of writings from Pope Francis. The letter beautifully outlines the treasure that is traditional or sacramental marriage. It is well worth a read in affirming the "no" vote. Interestingly, neither Pope Francis nor Bishop Paul say very much about same sex attracted people who are the intended recipients of the proposed change.
2. Fr Andrew has his own take on the issues.
3. Bishop Vincent Long from Parramatta takes a more affirming approach to same sex attracted couples.

Hopefully these three very different articles will help parishioners with your postal votes.

**Fr Brendan Davey Bequest**

Fr Brendan has left a bequest to allow us to continue with the renovations of the presbytery. We will have more information when it is available, but for now we intend to put a bathroom in the storeroom area of the parish offices and to continue with the much needed painting on the outside of the presbytery. Some of the timber is now very bare. Thank you Fr Brendan.

**St. Anne's Group**

The next Grand Mother's Group meeting will be at 2pm on Wednesday September 20th (note date change) at Bernadette Harrington's house—4 Hewitt Street, Ararat. All welcome.

**Summary: Social Justice Statement 2017–2018**

**Everybody's Business: Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy**

Pope Francis has called for an economic system that places men and women at the very centre – one that meets the needs of all people and is just and sustainable. He denounces economic structures that take a purely utilitarian view of human beings, treating them as mere elements of production, to be thrown away if they are not seen as useful or productive. The Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement for 2017–18 is titled 'Everyone's Business: Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy'. The Bishops call for an economy that is founded on justice and offers dignity and inclusion to every person. The Bishops' Statement is built around the Gospel for Social Justice Sunday, 24 September 2017. Jesus tells the parable of the workers in the vineyard, where all are active contributors and are recognised for their human dignity. Australia has experienced a quarter of a century of continuous economic growth, but the benefits of this good fortune have not been distributed equally. In our workplaces, conditions and security of employment have been eroded, while those who are unemployed subsist on incomes well below poverty levels. Australia is experiencing a housing crisis. And our Indigenous brothers and sisters struggle with economic and social burdens that most Australians cannot imagine. In the light of these challenges, the Statement calls us to build an economy founded on true solidarity with those who are most vulnerable. Such a society will reject an 'ideology of the market' that forgets the principles of justice and equity. Justice must be built into the very foundations of our community, and business can work for everybody's benefit, not just for shareholders. The excluded and vulnerable must have a voice in decision-making. God is calling us to use his bounty wisely, for the good of all and of our planet. For more information go to ([www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)) or call (02) 8306 3499.

We have printed a Statement and put it on the foyer board for you to read.

**Catholic Mission, "Include a Charity Week"**

"Include a Charity Week" aims to raise awareness of the impact of bequests, which constitute a large share of the income of most charities. More information on the diocesan website

[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-and-agencies](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-and-agencies)

**Church Toilets**

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