

Ararat and Lake Bolac CHURCH ROSTER

Day & Date	Facilitator	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	Golden Gate Communion	Welcomers	Counter	Collector	Flowers	Cleaning
Sat Dec 15th	P. McAloon	J. McAloon	L. Horsman & C. McAdie		Tom Kidd	Office	G. White & Tom Kidd	None during Advent	Bri Grayling
Sun Dec 16th	J. Clery	P. Lardner	C. Bulger, & K. Cham-mings	H&A Collins	Pat Lardner & S. Pickering	(as above)	V. Hooper & John Pola	(as above)	(as above)
Sat Dec 22nd		Beck Rodger	N. Billingsley		Marg Joyce & Tom Kidd	Office	V. Hooper & J. Crowe	As above	Jo Donnan & K. Scherger
Sun Dec 23rd	J. Brennan		M. Cunningham, Sr. John & C. Reid	J&J Crowe	Blessie Stoneman	(as above)	John Pola	As above	(as above)
Lake Bolac Sun Dec 16th	Reader L. Breen	Prayers Jane Higgins	Eucharistic Minister D. Haslett	Cleaner Jane Higgins	Lake Bolac Sun Dec 23rd	Reader D. Haslett	Prayers R. Liston	Eucharistic Minister L. Breen	Cleaner M-A Otto

Saint of the Week St. Stephen Feastday: December 26 Patron of Deacons, altar Servers, bricklayers, casket makers, & Stonemasons
 Death: 34 Saint Stephen was one of the first ordained deacons of the Church. He was also the first Christian martyr. The Greek word from which we derive the English word martyr literally means witness. In that sense, every Christian is called to bear witness to Jesus Christ, in both their words and their actions. Not all are asked to shed their blood. Those who do shed their blood for the faith are the greatest of witnesses. They have been especially honored since the very beginning of Christianity. Stephen was so conformed to Jesus in his holy life that his martyrdom was both a natural and supernatural sign of his love for the Lord. It also inspired the early believers as they faced the first round of brutal persecution. Read more on www.catholic.org

Child Safe Church

Here at the Church of the Immaculate Conception & St. Bernard's, 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, Fr. Andrew or the Safe Guarding Officer on

ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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



Church Toilets

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



Sunday, 16 Dec 2018
Third Sunday of Advent - Year C

As we celebrate, we acknowledge the Indigenous owners of the land on which our Churches are built, the Tjapwurong people, and we respect the presence of the spirits of their ancestors among us.

First Reading Zep 3:14-18
With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Responsorial Psalm Is 12:2-6 R. v.6
(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

1. Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear.
 For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour.
 With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. (R.)
2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
 Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
 Declare the greatness of his name. (R.)
3. Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds, make them known to all the earth!
 People of Zion, sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (R.)

Second Reading Phil 4:4-7
The Lord is near.

Gospel Acclamation Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
 Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 3:10-18
What, then, must we do? copyright One License Used with permission

15th/16th December 2018

RECENT DEATHS:

ANNIVERSARIES:

Laurence Cashin, Fr. John Connellan, Fr. Billie Close, Fr. Pat O'Dowd, Joan Dadswell, Damien Gordon, Joan Fogarty, Christina O'Brien, Roslyn Lillis, Ellen Byrne, Alex Haslett, William Casanova, Fr. Stephen O'Rourke, Stephan Sugden, Oliver Schwab, Norman Joseph Rowe, Rita Lardner, Rose Hogan, Fr Michael Glennen, Jack Brennan, Vera Cox, Kevin Richards, Carl Spies

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Naomi Phillips, Mark Eastick, Robin Wright, (Jenny Wright's son), Sr. Geraldine Stapleton, Carmel Brennan,

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.

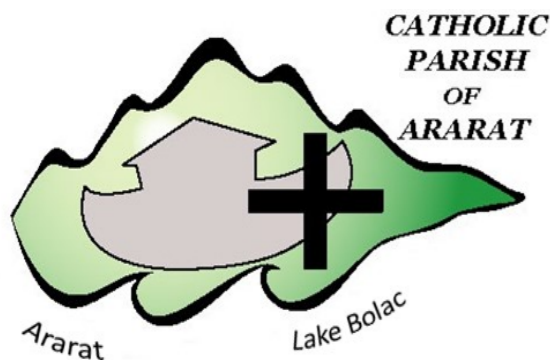
Please pray for the intentions of :

Mary Howard, Libby Shea, Joyce Clery

Mary Gellie would like to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers

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

Download Church Bulletin -

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Secretary: Joyce Clery

ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Office: 03 53525460

PO BOX 92, Ararat, VIC 3377

Office Hours: Wed/Thurs/Fri 10am-3pm
(Closed Public Holidays)

Safe Guarding Officer: Emma Coburn

ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Our Diocesan Community

The ODC magazine is now available in the church foyer

Parish Council Chairperson:

Charlie Reid

Finance Committee Chairperson:

Peter Gemmola

Funeral Ministry:

Joan Fitzpatrick, Sr. Maree, Harry Collins & Sioux Reid

Catholic Women's League:

Jan Crowe (President) & Maureen Brady (Secretary)

St. Vincent de Paul Society:

Vinnies Shop/Centre 03 5352 5560

President: Peter Brady

Manager: Kathleen Leggett

PRINCIPAL ST. MARY'S SCHOOL: Mr Bill Hill

Download newsletter: www.smararat.catholic.edu.au

Ph: 03 5352 1796

PRINCIPAL MARIAN COLLEGE: Mrs Carmel Barker

Download newsletter:

www.mcararat.catholic.edu.au

Ph: 03 5352 3861

Parish Centre

Our Parish Centre is used for various activities—from Graduate Teacher Professional Development Days, Family Celebrations, Formal Meetings to a gathering place after a funeral.

It is a space that can accommodate up to 100 people comfortably and has an industrial kitchen. If you would like more information—please contact the office (Joyce) on 03 5352 5460

MASS TIMES

Ararat (Immaculate Conception)

Saturday 6.00pm

Sunday 10.30am

Lake Bolac (St. Bernard's)

8.30am 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays

2nd Sundays at Glenthompson at 8.30am

Masses this Week

Tues 18th 9.30am Church

Wed 19th 9.30am Church

Thurs 20th 3pm Hopkins

Fri 21st 11am Lowe St

Christmas Reconciliation

Ararat 2nd Rite

Tues Dec 18th 7pm (please bring a plate to share)

Lake Bolac 2nd Rite

during 8.30am Mass Sunday December 23

Christmas Eve Masses

Ararat 6pm

Lake Bolac 7.45pm

Glenthompson 7.30pm (Fr Ted)

Ararat 11pm

Christmas Day

Ararat 9am

A VOCATION VIEW

"As your models in suffering hardships and in patience, friend, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord." (James5:10) A vocation is responding to the call of God."

Pope Francis @Pontifex.com 2017

"Even when we pray alone, we pray together with all the people of God."

Next Week's Readings: Dec 23rd 2018

First Reading [Mi 5:1-4](#)

Second Reading Heb 10:5-10

Parish Office Hours

Fri Dec 21st 9am-11am

Wed Dec 26th Closed (Boxing Day)

Thurs Dec 27th Closed

Fri Dec 28th 10am-12 noon

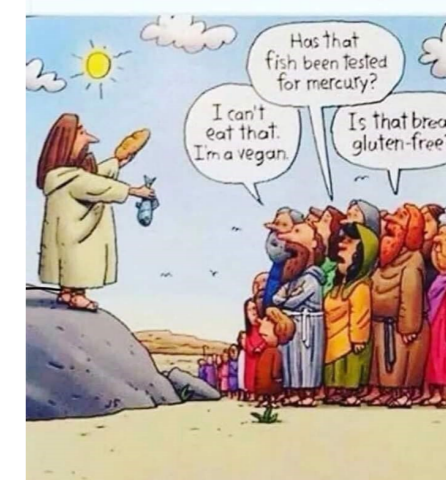
Wed Jan 2nd Closed

Thurs Jan 3rd Closed

Fri Jan 4th 10am-12 noon

Wed Jan 9th Back to normal hours

If Jesus tried to feed the 5000 today... :)



St Mary's and Vinnies Christmas Giving Tree

PLEASE NOTE THE CUT OFF DATE FOR THE GIFTS—THANKS

Please pop a gift under the Christmas Tree (which is in the main part of the church this year) for a child least fortunate. Vinnies will be collecting these gifts by Wednesday December 19th. Vinnies shop is now closed until January 7th.

Communion for those in Hospital

A reminder to all to contact the office if you know of someone in hospital who would like to receive communion.

Advent—the 4 weeks leading up to Christmas day

"Remember Advent isn't about shopping, stressing, planning or buying! It's about expecting, waiting, hoping and praying! Do Advent correctly by volunteering at a hospital or soup kitchen, spend some extra time in prayer, be patient with your family, count down the days with an advent calendar, speak kindly to strangers, go to church and share hope with those who need it most." (taken from resources shared by C. Bulger—many thanks)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eC0FGQLBp7w>

Calling all singers!

Anyone who would like to sing at the 6pm Christmas Eve Mass—please contact Joyce at the office.

Brigidine Sisters

Jacinta, John and Maree would like to thank everybody who came along to celebrate their 130th anniversary. Merry Christmas to all!

Bringing the Catholic Voice to COP24

The Global Catholic Climate Movement team is currently in Katowice, Poland, to call for a strong response to climate change and unite with others in representing the Catholic Church's commitment to care for creation. Following are some ways you can support this work at the COP:

- On December 9 all 10,000 parishes in Poland will be praying for Our Common Home. You are invited to pray with them.
- The Climate Pilgrims will be arriving on December 8. Those at COP are invited to join all in welcoming them, and those around the world are invited to send prayers to the pilgrims on their journey.

For additional prayer resources, check out our full Advent Guide.

All the events, and how to participate even if you are not at the COP, are found at www.catholicclimatemovement.global/cop24/

Catholic Man Breakfast Series

Men of all ages are invited to a Catholic Man Breakfast to be held on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at Craig's Royal Hotel in Ballarat. The Breakfast will be hosted by Bishop Paul Bird CSsR and will feature former leading Radio Executive, Shane Healy, as guest speaker. Shane has walked a fascinating path to the top of the highly competitive radio industry in Australia and has connected with high profile performers such as Brian Taylor, Neil Mitchell and Rex Hunt. Further information from Chris Liston, ph. 0437 318 or email 251/chris.listo2@gmail.com or Vincent Sully, ph. 0407 310 115 or email vcjdh.sully@gmail.com.