

Explore Yoga Co.

Uali Ahmat

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Classes held in Parish Centre every 2nd Thursday .
Next Class 30th Jan 2020 6pm-7pm

Emma

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St. Mary's Parish Board Room

Hire our boardroom for a very attractive fee. Nespresso Coffee on offer and convenient facilities. Ring the parish office to book – 5352 5460.

Hire costs start @ \$80 per day (includes Nespresso Coffee!!)



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Day & Date	Facilitator	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	Golden Gate Communion	Welcomers	Counter	Collector	Flowers	Cleaning	Computer
Sat Jan 11th	A. Reynolds	T. Reynolds	L. Horsman, M. Mason & C. McAdie		?	Office	V. Hooper	M. Cunningham	J. Clery	?
Sun Jan 12th	J. Brennan	P. Lardner	C. Bulger, Sr. John & K. Chamings	J & J Crowe	K. Leggett	(as above)	John Pola	(as above)	(as above)	R. North
Sat Jan 18th	P. Gemmola	G. McKendrick	N. Billingsley & A. Collins		Marg Joyce	E. Coburn & J. Jackson	V. Hooper	A. Joyce	Jo Donnan	Sr. Maree
Sun Jan 19th	Peter Brady	Imogen Tonks	M. Cunningham, C. Reid	A & H Collins	Blessie Stoneman	(as above)	John Pola	(as above)	(as above)	Sr Maree
Lake Bolac Sun Jan 12th	Reader NO MASS	Prayers	Eucharistic Minister	Cleaner L. Breen	Lake Bolac Sun Jan 19th	Reader R. Smith	Prayers R. Liston	Eucharistic Minister M. Phillips	Cleaner J. Aldous	



Sunday 12 Jan 2020 The Baptism of the Lord A

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 Is 42:1-4. 6-7

Here is my servant, my chosen one in whom I am well pleased.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 28:1-4. 9-10. R. v.11

(R.) The Lord will bless his people with peace.

- O give the Lord you sons of God, give the Lord glory and power; give the Lord the glory of his name. Adore the Lord in his holy court. **(R.)**
- The Lord's voice resounding on the waters, the Lord on the immensity of waters; the voice of the Lord, full of power, the voice of the Lord, full of splendour. **(R.)**
- The God of glory thunders. In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!' The Lord sat enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits as king for ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading Acts 10:34-38

God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power.

Gospel Acclamation See Mk 9:8

Alleluia, alleluia!
The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 3:13-17

When Jesus was baptised, the heavens were opened and the Spirit of God came upon him.

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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.

11/12 January 2020

Recent Deaths:

ANNIVERSARIES:

6th-12th Jan Michael Campion, Don Rickard, Margaret Haslett, Fr Jim Green CSsR, Fr Frank Honan CSsR, Anthony Gordon, Geoffrey Lewis, Peg Clark, Jack Flynn, Michael Joyce, Fr Brian James, Stephen Barry, Bartolo Mercovich, Jack Donovan, Linda Hughes-Soden, Clara Thomas, Peter Pola, Evie Moloney, Brian O'Donnell, Kathleen Canty, Peter Arandt, Imelda Gordan, Adorative McPhee, Bill Moloney & Bill Coster

13th-19th Jan Evelyn O'Neill, Brendan Moran, Rita Higgins, Stan Matthews, Fr John Kirby, Ian Pearce, John Shield, Mary Shield, Kathleen Lees, Percival Bushick, Fr. Frank Sexton CSsR, Francis Jaench, Stasia Matters, Norma Wilson, Mons. John Hoyne, Fr John Coughlan, Fr William Cain, Elizabeth Nicolaci, Maria Nicolaci, Pasquale Nicolaci, Maria Francesca Y Nicolaci, Concetta Nicolaci Y Tolomeo, Maria Franco Pedro Franco, Romeo Raffaele, Riso Maria Jioseffa Y Romeo, Marcelo Franco, Gerard Brown, Margaret Winnell, Bridget Cashin, John Downes, Lois Gordon, Rex Billingsley & Lorna McPherson

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Barbara Tobin, Sally-Anne Horsley

Anyone in hospital wishing to have communion, please contact the office on 53525460

Ministry to the Sick:

Mary Cunningham—Retirement Home

E. Shea, T. Gemmola, D&M Lister, H&A Collins, J&J Crowe—Golden Gate

Sr. John—Lowe Street & Garden View Court

Next Week's Readings

Jan 19th 2020

First Reading
Is 49:3. 5-6

Second Reading

I Cor 1:1-3

A VOCATION VIEW

Baptism is the starting point; union with God is our goal. How we serve others in between is our Vocation.

Gospel Mt 3:13-17

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus was baptised, the heavens were opened and the Spirit of God came upon him.

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. 'It is I who need baptism from you,' he said 'and yet you come to me!' But Jesus replied, 'Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.' At this, John gave in to him.

As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. A voice spoke from heaven, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.'

Gospel Reflection

When Jesus approaches John for baptism, John recognises him as the Messiah that John has been preaching about, the one for whom he was preparing the way. Recognising the significance of the moment, John tries to reverse roles and force Jesus into a superior role to himself. But Jesus says let's just do it like this for now and 'do all that righteousness demands'. In the gospel of Matthew, whenever Jesus speaks about fulfilling the demands of righteousness or doing what is righteous, he is speaking about carrying out the will of God; acting in accordance with the covenant relationship between God and the people.

It would have been easy for Jesus to accept John's offer to exchange places. In many ways perhaps he would have liked to do so as a way of acknowledging the great work John had done. But part of the demands of righteousness that Jesus needed to fulfil was to be the sort of Messiah that did not sit within normal expectations. Part of his fulfilment of God's will was to be a servant Messiah rather than a powerful, avenging Messiah for which many of the people hoped and prayed. To have exchanged places with John would have been to say, here I am, I am greater than John and I am here to show you all the way. Rather, by submitting to John's baptism he does indeed show the way – the way of humility and gentleness. We are assured of the rightness of Jesus' actions immediately because, upon his rising from the water, the voice of God affirms favour and approval upon Jesus. In the first test of his will, Jesus has acted in accordance with the will of God.

@gregsunter

Pope Francis @Pontifex.com 2019

If we have no peace in our hearts, how can we think there will be peace in the world? Let's try to remain in the Lord, and the way to do so is to love, and to love in little things.



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

Weekday Masses

Wed 15th 9.30am Church

11am Prayer Lowe St

Thurs 16th 3.30pm Hopkins

Fri 17th 9.30am

Saint of the Week St. Hilary of Poitiers

Feastday: January 13

Patron: against snake bites

Death: 368

"They didn't know who they were." This is how Hilary summed up the problem with the Arian [heretics](#) of the fourth century. Hilary, on the other hand, knew very well who he was -- a child of a loving [God](#) who had inherited eternal [life](#) through [belief](#) in the Son of God. He hadn't been raised as a [Christian](#) but he had felt a wonder at the gift of [life](#) and a desire to find out the meaning of that gift. He first discarded the approach of many people who around him, who believed the purpose of [life](#) was only to satisfy desires. He knew he wasn't a beast grazing in a pasture. [Read more www.catholic.org.com](#)

Parish Priest: Fr. Andrew Hayes

andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr So'n Nguyen CSsR

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)

Well Done

Thanks and well done to everyone who prepared Peter Carthew's funeral last Monday. There was more catering for the larger crowd. The parish staff and the funeral team got organised even though the office was closed. It was a wonderful combined effort by lots of people. I have said before that I think we're at our best when helping people through the death of loved ones. Well done everyone.

Fire Appeal

The Australian Bishops have announced that an appeal / collection will take place on the Australia Day weekend.

Australia Day Ecumenical Prayer

Our usual Australia Day prayer will not take place this year, Australia Day being a Sunday. I also wish to share my unease at celebrating Australia Day on a day that is so hurtful to Australia's first people. We will discuss further during the year what we will do next year and beyond. **Fr. Andrew Hayes**

Anniversaries

I will be updating the Anniversary book next week, so if anyone knows of a name to add or edit, please let me know. Many thanks—Joyce

Vinnies, Ararat

Ararat St Vinnies will be having a \$5 movie day for kids on Wednesday 15th of January.

"**Spies in Disguise**" is the movie at it will be shown at 12.50, so all welcome to come and enjoy a great movie for less than half price.

Plenary Council Delegates from the Diocese of Ballarat

Bishop Paul is inviting us to nominate delegates from our diocese for the sessions of the Australian Plenary Council to be held in 2020 and 2021. Copies of Bishop Paul's letter are available through parishes, through the diocesan website at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au and are also attached. Nominations need to reach Bishop Paul by Friday, February 7, 2020.

Catholic Social Services 2020 Conference – Early Bird Registration

Early bird registrations have been extended for the CSSV Conference, "Serving Communities with Courage and Compassion" to be held from February 26-28, 2020 in Melbourne. For more information and to register go to <https://www.css.org.au/Serving-Communities>.

Joke of the week

An Englishman was bringing monkeys to the zoo. On his way to the zoo his van breaks down. The monkeys really needed to get to the zoo so the Englishman calls his Irish friend Paddy.

Englishman: 'Paddy, I'll give you £50 if you take these monkeys to the zoo for me'

Paddy: 'Aye not a problem lad, I'll be right there'

So Paddy collects the monkeys and takes them to the zoo.

2 hours later and the Englishman is still waiting on the breakdown service, when suddenly, Paddy and the monkeys drive by on the motorway! So he calls Paddy again...

Englishman: 'Oi! I thought I gave you £50 to take the monkeys to the zoo!'

Paddy: 'Aye and I did! But I had some money left over so I'm taking them to the cinema now'

Calling all volunteers!! We continually need to renew our list—we are down to a skeleton ministry! PLEASE POP YOUR NAME DOWN IF YOU CAN or email the office on ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au or phone Joyce on 03 5352 5460

Please write your name (and email) on the sheet of paper on the notice board—huge thanks!