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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!!)

Day & Date	Facilitator	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	Golden Gate Communion	Welcomers	Counter	Collector	Flowers	Cleaning	Computer
Sat Feb 1st	P. McAloon	J. McAloon	L.Horsman & C. McAdie			Office	G. White	A. Joyce	J. Clery	R. North
Sun Feb 2nd	Pat Lardner	G. McKendrick	G. O'Loughlin, N. Billingsley	T. Gemmola	S. Pickering	(as above)	J. Crowe & John Pola	(as above)	(as above)	Sr. Maree
Sat Feb 8th	A. Reynolds	B. Rodger	L.Horsman & C. McAdie			Office	G. White	A. Joyce	?	Sr. Maree
Sun Feb 9th	J. Clery	P. Lardner	C. Bulger, & K. Chamings	E. Shea	S. Pickering	(as above)	J. Crowe & John Pola	(as above)	(as above)	R. North
Lake Bolac	Reader	Prayers	Eucharistic Minister	Cleaner	Lake Bolac	Reader	Prayers	Eucharistic Minister	Cleaner	
Sun Feb 2nd	V. Albert	D. Phillips	R. Smith	Jane Higgins	Sun Feb 9th	NO MASS				



Sunday 02 Feb 2020 The Presentation of the Lord

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 Mal 3:1-4

The Lord whom you seek will come to his temple.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 23:7-10. R. v.10

(R.) Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

- O gates, lift up your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)
- Who is the king of glory? The Lord, the mighty, the valiant, the Lord, the valiant in war. (R.)
- O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)
- Who is he, the king of glory? He, the Lord of armies, he is the king of glory. (R.)

Second Reading Heb 2:14-18

He had to be made like us in all things.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 2:32

Alleluia, alleluia!
This is the light of revelation to the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.
Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 2:22-40

My eyes have seen your saving power.

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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.

1st/2nd February 2020

Recent Deaths:

ANNIVERSARIES:

Mark Hunt, Robert Thistlethwaite, Frank Thomas, Carmela Zammit, Joseph Zammit, Colleen Peacock, Fr John Kelly, Ann Pola, Sr Dorothy Molley, Stanley Hucker, Noel Peck, Glenda Sertori, Cec McOwan, John Kelly, Petronella Van Keulin, Merna Dorothy McMaster, Margaret Tyndall, Thomas Creenaune, Anthony Gordon, Imelda Gordan, Betty Parker, Margaret Traynor, Lloyd McKenzie-McHarg, David McColl, Joyce Speechley, Eunice Downes, Ron Manneke-Jones

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
Other individuals in the parish to the sick at home

Next Week's Readings

Feb 9th 2020

First Reading

[Is 58:7-10](#)

Second Reading

[1 Cor 2:1-5](#)

A VOCATION VIEW

Christ is 'the light to enlighten all nations'. How are you called to help him bring that light to the world? Pray to discern your vocation.

Gospel Lk 2:22-32

My eyes have seen your saving power.

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.'

Gospel Reflection

The gospel writer has merged two different ritual events into one in this passage: a ritual of purification following childbirth and an act of redeeming a first-born son through tribute to the Temple. The ritual of purification referred to would take place forty days after childbirth and today's feast is the fortieth day from Christmas and the celebration of the birth of Jesus. It was a ritual for the mother, not the child. Mary and Joseph took the opportunity of attending the Temple to bring Jesus into the presence of God who, according to tradition, dwelt in the Temple. The tradition associated with this purification of women after childbirth dictated that a lamb and a turtledove or pigeon be sacrificed. However, for the poor, an extra turtledove or pigeon could be substituted for the lamb. The gospel tells us that Mary and Joseph were sacrificing a pair of birds. This fact gives us an indication of the status of Mary and Joseph – they were sufficiently poor that they could not afford to sacrifice a lamb.

The other ritual alluded to in the passage relates to the tradition from Exodus 13:2 and Numbers 18:15 that every first-born son belonged to the Lord and had to be 'bought back' or 'redeemed' by payment to the Temple. The original command of the first-born belonging to the Lord meant that the child was destined to serve in the Temple. However, the child could be 'redeemed' from this service by payment to the Temple.

There is a great contrast between the forceful entry into the Temple by the Lord as foretold by Malachi in today's first reading and the humble entry of the baby Jesus into the Temple. It reinforces the way in which throughout his ministry Jesus confounded many of the expectations about the Messiah.

@gregsunter

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 5th Marian College Yr 12

Retreat Cave Hill Creek

Thurs 6th 3.30pm Hopkins

Fri 7th 9.30am Church

Parish Priest: Fr. Andrew Hayes

andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Download Church Bulletin—www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Secretary: Joyce Clery

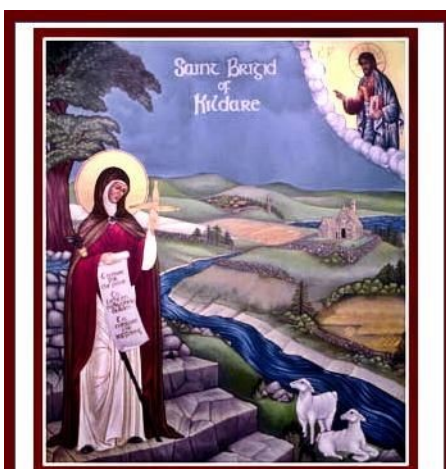
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Parish Office: 03 53525460

PO BOX 92, Ararat, VIC 3377

Office Hours: Wed/Thurs/Fri 10am-3pm

(Closed Public Holidays)



St. Brigid of Ireland
(453-523)

*I would like an abundance of
peace. I would like full vessels of
charity. I would like rich
treasures of mercy. I would like
cheerfulness to preside over all.*

St. Brigid
Feastday: Feb 1st
Patron: of Ireland,
dairymaids, cattle,
midwives, Irish nuns,
and newborn babies
Birth: 451
Death: 525

CWL Ararat

The Ararat branch of the CWL will meet on Tuesday February 11th in the Parish Centre at 1.30pm. All welcome

Catholic Women's League meeting - change of date for February

The CWL Cathedral Branch will meet at the Nazareth House Parlour on Tuesday, February 4, 2019 at 1.30pm. This will be a social afternoon and all ladies from surrounding parishes are invited to attend. Anna Krohn will give an update of Branch events for the year, along with the diocesan events and the installation of the Catholic Women's League of Australia at the inaugural Mass at St Patricks Cathedral, Melbourne on February 9. You are asked to bring a friend and new members and inquiries are welcome. Members please bring afternoon tea to share. Inquiries ph. 0401175045

Fire Appeal

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has provided information and resources to support those affected by the bushfires and this is available from the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or www.catholic.org.au/bushfires. The diocesan website also has media releases from Catholic Mission and Caritas regarding ways they are supporting those in bushfire affected areas. The Bishops of Victoria have prepared a special video message of support to acknowledge the heartache of all those families and local communities affected by this tragedy (download from <http://bit.ly/bushfiremessagevic>). This message was to support the Vinnies bushfire appeal held over the weekend. Donations for this appeal can still be made at www.donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-nsw/vinnies-nsw-bushfire-appeal-nsw. Please be assured that all donations from Victoria will be directed to Victorians..

Last weekend we raised \$1444 which goes directly to Vinnies. Many thanks to all.

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.

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!

Marriage Matters

A message from Bishop Michael Kennedy, Bishop of Armidale: On the notice board is a copy of "Marriage Matters" for each Sunday of the Year for the Year A Liturgical Year for people to read. They are very brief reflections on marriage based on the Readings for the Sunday. They have been produced by Marriage Encounter in England and Wales and are being shared with the rest of the English speaking Church.

Ireland Group Tour, "Eat Pray Love"

Joyce Clery and Emma Coburn (Ararat Parishioners) are co-hosting a tour of Ireland from 1-13, September 2020.

Itinerary on the notice board.

Welcome back to school to all staff and students!

Pope Francis

"If we lose our memory, we destroy our future. May the anniversary of the Holocaust, the unspeakable cruelty that humanity learned of 75 years ago, serve as a summons to pause, to be still and to remember. We need to do this, lest we become indifferent."

Joke of the Day

A doctor put one of his overweight patients on a diet. "I want you to eat regularly for two days, then skip a day, and repeat this procedure for two weeks. The next time I see you, you should have lost at least 3 kgs." When the patient returned, he shocked the doctor by having lost nearly 25kg. "That's amazing!", the doctor said. "Did you follow my instructions?"

He nodded, but added: "I'll tell you, I thought I was going to drop dead on the third day"> "From the hunger you mean?" asked the doctor. "No, from the flaming' skipping."