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(03) 5352 5460. Competitive rates available. Introductory offer of \$150 for 12 months advertising rather than \$240.

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 8th	A. Reynolds	B. Rodger	L.Horsman & C. McAdie			Office	G. White	A. Joyce	Jo Donnan	Sr. Maree
Sun Feb 9th	J. Clery	P. Lardner	C. Bulger, & K. Chamings	E. Shea	S. Picking	(as above)	J. Crowe & John Pola	(as above)	(as above)	R. North
Sat Feb 15th	P. Gemmola	A. Reynolds	N. Billingsley & ?		Marg Joyce	E. Coburn & J. Jackson	V. Hooper	A. Joyce	J. Clery	Sr. Maree
Sun Feb 16th	?	Imogen Tonks	M. Cunningham, H&A Collins	J&J Crowe	Blessie Stoneman	(as above)	John Pola	(as above)	(as above)	R. North
Lake Bolac	Reader	Prayers	Eucharistic Minister	Cleaner	Lake Bolac	Reader	Prayers	Eucharistic Minister	Cleaner	
Sun Feb 9th	NO MASS				Sun Feb 16th	H. Smith	M. Phillips	Jane Higgins	L. Breen	

Sunday 09 Feb 2020

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 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 58:7-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Your light will shine like the dawn.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 111:4-9. R. v.4

(R.) A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

1. He is a light in the darkness for the upright: he is generous, merciful and just. The good man takes pity and lends, he conducts his affairs with honour. (R.)

2. The just man will never waver: he will be remembered for ever. He has no fear of evil news; with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. (R.)

3. With a steadfast heart he will not fear; open-handed, he gives to the poor; his justice stands firm for ever. His head will be raised in glory. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 2:1-5

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

I came to you to proclaim Christ crucified.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 8:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows me will have the light of life.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 5:13-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

You are the light of the world.

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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.

8th/9th February 2020

Recent Deaths:

ANNIVERSARIES:

Teresa Glass, Peg Dacey, Mary Shea, Alice Bulger, William Smith, Fr Timothy Lynch, Jane Renouf, Elsie Fradd, Jean Vernon, Honora Pola, Bernard Dowler, Matilda Donovan, Molly Pola, Vera Ruzic, Win Boyd, Stephen McColl, Debra Shea, Eileen Menzies, Dorothy Shalders, Tom Hourigan, Maria Deiningner, Edna Colwell, Ron Baxter, Dawn Emerson

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Please contact the office if you would like your name to be on the sick list. Names are kept on this list for one month—and be put on again.

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

Plenary Council 2020

The next topic for discussion is "Prayerful and Eucharistic." All parishioners are invited to this discussion to take place in the Parish Centre on Sunday February 23 from 2-4pm.



Next Week's Readings

Feb 16th 2020

First Reading

Sir 15:15-20

Second Reading

1 Cor 2:6-10

A VOCATION VIEW

Jesus speaks on Vocations: "You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world. Your light must shine before people so that they may see your goodness in your acts, giving praise to your heavenly Father."

Gospel Mt 5:13-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
You are the light of the world.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

Gospel Reflection

Today, when we describe a person as being the 'salt of the earth' it's generally meant in a way that says the person is hard working, straight talking and pretty down to earth. It's usually meant as a compliment but sometimes can come across as a bit condescending when used inappropriately. When Jesus tells the disciples that they are salt of the earth and the light of the world he is really saying 'You are to be the salt of the earth; you are to be the light of the world.' It is more of a directive than an affirmation of them.

Today's first reading from Isaiah helps to shed light on Jesus' meaning in the gospel passage: 'Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, clothe the man you see to be naked and turn not from your own kin. Then will your light shine like the dawn.' It sounds a lot like the message from the last judgment in Matthew 25 when the king says 'whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.' It's a message of justice and right relationship not only with God but with one another also.

To be salt of the earth and light of the world means to be the one who puts their hand up and steps forward to speak for, work for and act for those who are the least in this world. To have the potential and resources to be a force for good in the world and not act on it is to be like salt that's used for salting the streets or a lamp that's under a tub.

@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

Tues 11th 9.30am

Wed 12th 9.30am

Thurs 13th 3.30pm Hopkins

Fri 14th 9.10am School (note the time)

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)

Pope Francis @Pontifex.com 2020

"There is a poverty that we must accept, that of our own being, and a poverty that we must seek instead - a concrete one - from the things of this world, in order to be free and to be able to love."

Saint of the Week

St. Valentine

Feastday: February 14

Patron: of Love, Young People, Happy Marriages

Death: 269

Relics of St. Valentine can be found all over the world. A flower-crowned skull of St. Valentine can be found in the Basilica of Santa Maria in Cosmedin, Rome. In 1836, other relics were exhumed from the catacombs of Saint Hippolytus on the Via Tiburtina and were identified as Valentine's. These were transported for a special Mass dedicated to those young and in love.

From Fr. Andrew:

Corona Virus

We have been advised by the Australian Catholic Bishops that, despite significant concern regarding the spread of the Corona virus, it is to be "business as usual" with regards to holy communion. This might however be a good time to remind people of the usual practices with regard to managing infections. Please do not use the chalice for communion if you have a cold, flu or cold sore etc. For Ministers of the Eucharist, please remember to wipe the chalice well after each communicant, to rotate the chalice and to find a dry part of the purifier for each wipe. These will help to keep the germs away.

Child Safety for the Children of the Parish

On Sunday March 22, during Mass, we will be inviting all children of the parish to the Parish Centre for a "child-safety" discussion. This session will be led by Christine Bulger (Deputy Principal of St Mary's School, Ararat) and Jo-Anne Bond (Principal of Emmaus Catholic Primary School, Mt Clear.) We intend that there will be a separate session at the same time for secondary students.

Lenten Discussion Groups

All parishioners are invited to join a Lenten Discussion group for 2020. Books have been despatched to Lake Bolac. I expect Ararat's group will meet on Tuesday or Wednesdays after Mass. All welcome. If parishioners would like to form a evening group, please phone/email the office on 53525460.

Assembly instead of Mass in Ararat on March 7

On the long weekend in March Ararat will have Mass on Sunday at 10.30 as usual. The Saturday night Mass time, for one week only, will be a Lay Led Sunday Assembly.

Funeral of Thelma Murphy

Parishioners will note the previous message regarding a Sunday Assembly in place of Mass during March. With this in mind I wish to thank Harry and Sioux for their leading of Thelma Murphy's funeral recently. Thankyou you too to Kath Leggett and family for giving us the opportunity to have a funeral in this way. With fewer and fewer priests this has long been the reality for many in our diocese.

Year of the Bridge

This year as we build a bridge into the amazing world of Aboriginal sacredness and ritual – any suggestions for a way forward?

World Day of Prayer Friday 6th March

Details for Lake Bolac: St. Bernard's Catholic Church 11a.m. Shared lunch to follow. Speaker Mrs. Jenny Beales.

Details for Ararat: Hosted by Holy Trinity Anglican Church – details to follow

Grand Mother's Club—St. Anne's Club

Note the time change please for the next St. Anne's club meeting. It will now be held on Wednesday, Feb 19th, convent, 2pm.

CWL Ararat

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

Fire Appeal

Thank you again to everyone for their contributions. We raised \$1444 which Joyce banked on Wednesday Feb 5th directly into the Vinnies CBA account. The ref was #BF20araratvic3377

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.