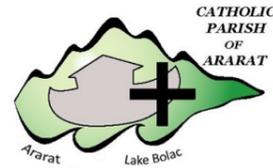


St. Mary's Cafe

St. Mary's Cafe will look a bit different during this second lockdown. We will have handmade meals to a tried a tested recipe from Fresh Food Fast Company #freshfoodfast. These soups and evening meals will be frozen for your convenience and can be pre-ordered and collected on Thursdays and Fridays in the Parish Centre from 10am to 3pm. Phone ahead 03 5352 5460



MENU

Soups \$5

Tuscan Bean Soup or Pea & Mint (GF), Mushroom (GF) or Tomato (GF)

Evening Meals (Serves 2)

Cottage Pie	\$12
Vegetarian Lasagne (GF)	\$12
Chicken Fried Rice	\$12
Tuna, Tomato & Cheese Pasta Bake	\$10

Deserts

Apple Crumble (serves 2)	\$8
Biscuit Dough (8 biscuits)	\$5



Rotary Club of Ararat



Food Donations

Thank you so much for the food donations. We are stocked up on pasta, tinned apple, tinned Tomato, and UHT milk. Thank you for the lemons too :-)

Profit from the Café

We have donated \$1000 to the Emergency Relief Team. This money will be used for meal & fuel vouchers for individuals and families in need. It may also be needed for emergency accommodation

MASKS

Huge thanks again to Jenny (Ararat Rotary) and her team of ladies for the next batch of masks. We have given another 60 to the Emergency Relief Team. These will be distributed to the homeless and those who can't afford a material mask. We are also working closely with Marilyn and the team Vinnies.

Jokes of the Week

A newly married man asked his wife, 'Would you have married me if my father hadn't left me a fortune?'
'Honey,' the woman replied sweetly, 'I'd have married you, NO MATTER WHO LEFT YOU A FORTUNE!'

Let us pray.....
Give me a sense of humour, Lord,
Give me the grace to see a joke,
To get some humour out of life,
And pass it on to other folk
Amen.



Sunday 30th August 2020 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time A



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

Fr. Andrew Hayes

Covid

I do hope that people are keeping well. Lonely maybe? Tired of lockdown? Tempted to cheat on the rules or encourage others to cheat? I can think of two reasons to be very diligent with keeping to the medical advice: I want to get back to normal soon. I don't want more people to get sick or to die. For God's sake wear your masks and wash your grubby hands! And stay home mostly. This Sunday's readings tell of the difficulty of being prophets of God and disciples of Jesus. Discipleship is earthy! Just now our Christian discipleship thing is to do our bit to keep our neighbours healthy, is it not? We're still giving away masks to those who cannot buy or sew their own. We're still supporting the work of the emergency relief people. Consider St Mary's Café. The more money we make the more we can give to where it's needed.

Vaccines

Have you been following the debate surrounding the covid vaccine being developed at Oxford, the one of which Australia has ordered 25M jabs? Did you see that Archbishop Anthony Fisher has asked the prime minister to purchase a different vaccine? Here's a very brief explanation. The vaccine being developed at Oxford is using a cell line that was originally taken from an aborted foetus in the early 70's. This cell line has been used for decades because it's very good (I'm not a scientist.) Other vaccines also use cells from aborted fetuses. This gets us into a dicey moral space. We're using aborted babies to develop our vaccines. A few thoughts from my reading: Using the cell lines extracted in the early 70's and developed ever since is so far removed from the original child that there's a limited moral issue fifty years later. There's a question of proportion. If the Oxford vaccine goes on to save a million lives from Covid, then the outcome far outweighs the dubious beginning. The Vatican stated some years ago (this moral dilemma has been on the table for many years) that while a vaccine from a non-aborted embryo source would be preferable, the public health outcomes can be enormous. Until a less dubious vaccine is found we have a moral responsibility to receive the various vaccines available to us eg. Flu shots and Covid shots. When Archbishop Fisher asked the prime minister to source a different vaccine he was quite in line with the Vatican. We'll use this vaccine, but can we get another one not so morally line-ball?

Mass Online

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au has a number of helpful resources Some of the links are listed here:

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat: Mass livestreamed daily from the Cathedral at 10.00am can be viewed here or on facebook.

St Mary Mackillop Parish, Western Border: Mass celebrated on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays can be viewed here. Follow their facebook page

St Joseph's Parish, Warrnambool: Sunday Masses at 8.30am can be viewed here or follow the link on facebook.

St Patrick's Parish, Camperdown: Sunday Mass at 10.30am livestreamed here.

Phone Lines

Victorian Coronavirus Hotline — 1800 675 398

If you suspect you may have the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) call the dedicated hotline – open 24 hours, seven days.

Older persons COVID-19 Support line — 1800 171 866

Translations for Victorian Government coronavirus website - www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/translations

1800RESPECT

Confidential information, counselling and support service for people affected by or experiencing sexual assault, domestic or family violence and abuse.

Relationships Australia — 1300 364 277

Support services for individuals, families and communities.

Australian Red Cross — 1800 RED CROSS

Vinnies Ararat Phone: (03) 5352 5560

Salvation Army Australia — 13 SALVOS

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

First Reading Jer 20:7-9

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me. You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more. Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. **(R.)**
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. **(R.)**
3. So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. **(R.)**
4. For you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. **(R.)**

Second Reading Rom 12:1-2

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice. Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Gospel Acclamation See Eph 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 16:21-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.
Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'
Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life? 'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

Gospel Reflection

This week's gospel is the first of three predictions of Jesus' death and resurrection in Matthew's gospel (see also Mark and Luke). Despite Peter's confession of faith that immediately precedes this passage (see last week's gospel), the disciples still do not have a very solid understanding of Jesus' purpose. They may regard him as the Messiah, but still do not fully understand what that means. In this passage, Jesus is beginning to prepare them for the events of the passion – his death and resurrection. He is trying to lead them to a greater understanding of his mission and message. But Peter abruptly 'rebukes' Jesus and tells him not to speak like that. One can almost hear Peter saying, 'Look, Jesus, you've got a good thing going here, don't spoil it by talking about dying!' However, Jesus responds to Peter very sharply, suggesting that his lack of understanding is inspired by evil and reflects human thought, not divine wisdom.

The passage then leads in to a description of the challenge of discipleship. To be a follower of Jesus means to 'deny' oneself, take up one's cross and follow Jesus. In the context of this passage, to 'deny' oneself means to not be concerned about 'I' but to be concerned about 'You' – to put others before self. To be a follower of Jesus means to be selfless, not self-centred. In the ultimate example of this, Jesus tells his disciples that whoever wishes to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for Jesus' sake will find it. To 'save' your life is to hold back from giving yourself fully to the message of Jesus – to be 'half-hearted' in your faith. But to 'lose' yourself in the message of Jesus is to fully give yourself over to living the reign of God and through 'losing' yourself in this way, Jesus tells us, is how to truly find life.

ANNIVERSARIES: Aug 31st—Sept 6th

Harriet O'Boyle, Vincent Kennedy, Belinda Hearn, Mary Canty, Daniel (Mick) Roche, Martin Downes, Karen Vann, Gayle Harris, Patrick Harrington, Lisa Van Der Spank, Anthony McMaster, Amy Dempsey, Arthur Clark, Frank Fitzpatrick, Kathleen Mulcahy, Norman Leggett, Neil Byrne, Kath Walker, Annie McNamara, John McMillan, Rose Kennedy, Kevin Cronin, Eileen Brown, John Goulter, Freda Ferguson, Rita Fernando, David Lardner, Jess O'Neill, Ken Robson, Barry Mulvihill, Herbert Mannix

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.

Margaret Hassall, Sally Rook, Geraldine Mckendrick

We also pray for those affected by Covid 19.

Ministry to the Sick:

Please email Fr. Andrew during these difficult times to discuss Ministry to the sick on

andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Or phone the office on 5352 5460

A VOCATION VIEW:

Don't run away from what you are called to be. Christians take the less travelled road. "What does it profit us if we gain the whole world but ruin ourselves in the process?"

Readings Sept 6th 2020

First Reading [Ez 33:7-9](#)

Second Reading [Rom 13:8-10](#)

Pope Francis—Twitter

If we take care of the goods that the Creator gives us, if we put what we possess in common in such a way that no one would be lacking, then we would truly inspire hope to regenerate a more healthy and equal world. [#GeneralAudience](#)

Arrangements during Stage 3 Restrictions

Masses and Funerals

All public Masses have been cancelled for now. The churches are closed. Funerals in our parishes will be at the cemeteries with a maximum of 10 people

Prayers

Fr Andrew and Srs Maree and John will continue to pray for the intentions of parishioners

The Sunday readings and prayers of the faithful will be on the bulletins

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au has a number of helpful resources

Mass on Television Mass for You at Home

6am Sunday on Channel 10

Bulletins Bulletins will be prepared weekly

Some bulletins will be hand delivered

Bulletins will be emailed to those who have given us your addresses. Bulletins can be found on the parish websites

If you miss out on all of those options, bulletins can be collected from the doors of the parish offices.

Prayers for the Pandemic

When this is over, may we never again take for granted
A handshake with a stranger,
Full shelves at the shops, Conversations with neighbours,
A crowded theatre. Friday night out,
The sharing of Eucharist, A routine check-up,
The school rush each morning. The roar of the G,
Each deep breath, A boring Tuesday, Life itself.
And when this ends,
May we find that we have become more like the people
We wanted to be,
We were called to be, We hoped to be.
And may we stay that way –
Better for each other because of the worst.
- Laura Kelly Fanucci

Pope Francis' Prayer for Protection from Coronavirus

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.
At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need.
We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.