



Project Compassion Sunday 28th Feb
Second Sunday of Lent

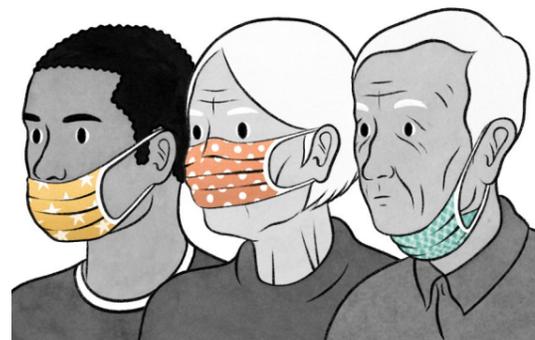


Margret, 39, is a teacher at a vocational school for deaf students in the Solomon Islands. She was born deaf, so she knows the challenges it poses to education and employment. The school faced water shortages that often left staff and students without safe water for drinking, cooking, washing and growing vegetables. Then Tropical Cyclone Harold damaged the school and its vegetable garden as the threat of COVID-19 loomed. With Caritas Australia's support, the school installed water tanks, provided cyclone-proof building materials, and helped to implement COVID-19 prevention measures. Margret's school now has enough water for its students and the capacity to cater for more, and is now planning to boost food security through increased agricultural production.



Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and help people living with disabilities in the Solomon Islands gain access to education and clean water, empowering them with skills to protect our common home.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.



You need to take care in putting on and removing your mask to minimise your risk of any exposure to COVID-19. That means washing your hands before putting a mask on and straight after taking it off. It means making sure it **covers your mouth and your nose** – don't let it hang around your neck. If your mask is wet it won't be effective so you need to change it if it's a disposable mask, or wash it if it is a cloth reusable mask. And please make sure you don't touch the front of your mask either whilst wearing it, or taking it on or off. Wearing a mask can help stop someone who has COVID-19 – and doesn't know it – from passing it on. It can also help prevent you getting COVID-19. www.health.gov.au

The above image is how **NOT** to wear your mask



This is how to wear your mask **PROPERLY!**

Thank you for your co-operation

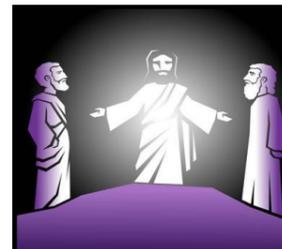
STAWELL NOTICES

Stations of the Cross during Lent. The CWL will be praying the Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent at 10.30am after the 10am Mass. Everyone welcome.

Parish St Patrick's Day Lunch. The CWL is hosting a parish St Patrick's Day lunch on Wednesday 17th March in Lillies and Lattes, Main St, at 12.30. Everyone welcome to lunch or just a cuppa and cake and a chat. If you have something green, wear it. RSVP by Sunday 14th March to Mary Rita -0438 836 180 or gmrtn@netspace.net.au

Saint of the Week Sr Katherine Drexel, **Feastday:** March 3 **Patron:** of racial justice and philanthropists
Birth: November 26, 1858 Death: March 3, 1955

St. Katharine Drexel is the second American-born saint to be canonized by the Catholic Church. This amazing woman was an heiress to a large bequest who became a religious sister and a brilliant educator. www.catholic.org



St. Mary's Catholic Parish of Ararat Sunday 28 February 2021

Second Sunday of Lent Ordinary Time B

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 Gen 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham,' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.' When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 115:10. 15-19. R. 114:9

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

1. I trusted, even when I said: 'I am sorely afflicted.' O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful. **(R.)**
2. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds. A thanksgiving sacrifice I make: I will call on the Lord's name. **(R.)**
3. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil, before all his people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. **(R.)**

Second Reading Rom 8:31-34

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Gospel Acclamation See Mt 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Mk 9:2-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

Readings Mar 7th 2021

First Reading [Ex 20:1-17](#)

Second Reading [1 Cor 1:22-25](#)

Pope Francis—Twitter

During the Season of **#Lent**, the Holy Spirit drives us too, like Jesus, into the desert (Mk 1:12-15). It is not a physical place, but rather an existential dimension in which we can be silent and listen to the word of God, so that a true conversion might be effected in us.

Masses this Week

Stawell: Tues to Fri 10am

Ararat: Tues 2nd 1.35pm (school students only due to Covid)

Wed 3rd 9.05am (school students only due to Covid)

Thurs 4th 11am (Mass for Sr Elizabeth followed by lunch)

Thurs 4th 3.30pm Hopkins

Landsborough: 6pm Sat Vigil of the 2nd, 4th Sun

Lake Bolac: 6.30pm Sat Vigil of the 1st, 3rd, 5th Sun

Glenthompson: 8.30am Mass on the 2nd & 4th Sun

Stawell: 10.30am Sundays

Ararat: 8.30am Sundays

Fr Andrew

I wish to share a bit of our recent weeks in the parish offices. We had our lock-down week. In Ararat we've also had a week of no internet. We are having the NBN installed, so have had no internet and therefore no printer and no phone. It has been driving us mad, but is hopefully nearly done. I have been on retreat this week. The retreat has been excellent, but that's now three weeks of not much happening, between Covid, the NBN and the retreat. In Stawell, Fr John has also been away. Maybe it's been a good start to Lent for the parish staff, a Covid/NBN enforced time to stop and reflect.

Bishop Eugene Hurley (retired Bishop of Darwin) has been leading our retreat and I consider him one of the prophets. Among other things he shared his stories of being the bishop for the aborigines of the Northern Territory and how decisions are made for the 1st nations people by people who don't listen to them. That session was a profound one for me. You might hear about it in the coming weeks.

With the aged care homes coming back online post-Covid, now Hopkins is also coming back online. That's great news. Busy news. This week we'll be happy just to get the internet back on, and phone back on, and the printer working. Thanks to Joyce, Emma and Joan for their patience this week!

A VOCATION VIEW:

If you need an example of a person responding to a vocational call, look at Abraham - called in old age to leave his country, father a child, then asked to sacrifice the child. What faith! Vocation is a risky response to a unique call from God.

Caritas Prayer

God of all peoples and nations as you accompany us on our Lenten journey,

May our fasting strengthen our commitment to live in solidarity,

Our almsgiving be an act of justice, and our prayers anchor us in love and compassion.

Through living simply and loving generously, may we care for our global family and our common home, As we aspire not to have more but to be more. We ask this in Jesus' name, Amen

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Fr. Hugh Thomas CSsR, Eloise Foo and Benjamin Wolfson, Julie Neale and Margaret Hassall

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:

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 5358 1119 Stawell (Thursdays)

ANNIVERSARIES: Mar 1st—7th

Julie O'Brien, Brian Toner, Bill Campigli, William Kneebone, Gwen Clark, Teresa Cairns, Fr. Matt McGloin, Jason Bond, Francis Vernon (Frank) Francis Vernon (Frank) Tom Hennessy, Fr. Gerard Gasper CSsR, Margaret Sinnott, Fr. Wladyslali Ziolkos, Pat Kenny

Ararat QR Code



Location Code A5W FTY

You will need to have downloaded the APP onto your phone. It will not work if you just take a "photo" of the image above. There will be someone to help. But we would urge you to come 10 minutes earlier to Mass if you are unsure of what to do.

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

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) & Anna Collins (Secretary)

St. Vincent de Paul Society:

Vinnies Shop 03 5352 5560

President: Peter Brady

Manager: Kathleen Leggett

PRINCIPAL ST. MARY'S SCHOOL: Roxanne Leed

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

Other Important Numbers

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

Vinnies Ararat Welfare Phone: 0459 163 461

Vinnies Stawell Welfare phone 0437 344 323

Salvation Army Australia — 13 SALVOS

Stawell Inter Church Council Welfare Cottage

– 0408 038 949

Fred Crouch & Sons (Stawell) 03 5358 1043

John Dunn Funerals 03 5352 1047

jdff@westnet.com.au

Ballarat Cathedral Office 03 5331 2933

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Finances

If you would like to donate to a parish, please see the details below. Many thanks

Details for Ararat Parish:

Parish Account "Main Church Account"

Westpac Bank **BSB** 033 201 // Acc 810035

Presbytery Account "Presbytery Account"

Westpac Bank **BSB** 033 201 //Acc 810043

Details for Stawell Parish

Parish Account **BSB** 013 815 **Acc:** 286326347

Presbytery Account **BSB** 013 815 **Acc:** 286326355