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

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Office Hours: Wed/Thurs/Fri 10am-3pm
(Closed Public Holidays)

Safe Guarding Officer: Emma Coburn
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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

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.

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 (Ararat) 03 5352 1047
ids@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



St. Mary's Catholic Parish of Ararat Sunday 16th May 2021

The Ascension of the Lord

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

First Reading Acts 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is,' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth. 'As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6

**(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

1. All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. **(R.)**
2. God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. **(R.)**
3. God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations God reigns on his holy throne. **(R.)**

Second Reading Eph 1:17-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 28:19. 20

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!
Gospel Mk 16:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The Lord Jesus was taken into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised is saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

Gospel Reflection

This passage makes up the concluding verses of the Gospel of Mark. Actually, literary criticism of the Mark gospel suggests that the original gospel ended at 16:8 with the women fleeing from the empty tomb in fear. Verses 9-20 appear to be a later addition to the gospel. The community in which this gospel was written expected Jesus to return within their lifetime and so the dramatic and suspenseful conclusion of the gospel at the discovery of the empty tomb makes perfect sense. However, it soon became apparent that Jesus' return was not going to come as soon as the believers had hoped and so the post-resurrection appearances and the commissioning to continue on with Jesus' work became much more important.

If we were to read this passage literally, we would believe that to be a Christian one had to be able to perform exorcisms, speak in tongues, handle snakes, drink poison and heal by touch. If this were literally true, I guess there wouldn't be too many Christians around today! Rather, the purpose of the passage is that Jesus sends his followers out 'to the whole world' to continue his ministry. It is the 'whole world' to which they are sent; not just their cosy little corner of the world but the whole world. It's what Christian people for the last 2,000 years have been called to do: continue Jesus' ministry to the whole world. It's what each and every one of us is called to do today: 'proclaim the Good News to all creation'. That doesn't mean standing on street corners with a Bible in our hands but it means proclaiming the Good News through our everyday actions and by being open and honest about our faith. It means treating all people as Jesus would.

MASS TIMES

	<u>Ararat</u>	<u>Stawell</u>	<u>Lake Bolac</u>	<u>Landsborough</u>	<u>Glenthompson</u>
	(Immaculate Conception)	(St. Patrick's)	(St. Bernard's)	(St. Francis)	

Saturday

6.30pm—Sat Vigil

6pm—Sat Vigil

Sunday 8.30am

10.30am

of the 1st, 3rd, 5th Sun

of the 2nd & 4th Sun

8.30am (2nd & 4th Sun)

Masses this Week

Stawell: Tues to Fri 10am

Ararat:
Wed 19th 10.30am Garden View

Thurs 20th 3.30pm Hopkins

Fri 21st 11am Mass and lunch

Caritas Total 2021

Ararat \$4450

Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion 2021. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit www.caritas.org.au to make your donation online.

Readings May 23rd 2021

First Reading

[Acts 2:1-11](#)

Second Reading

[1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13](#)

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: May 17th—23rd

Bert Setori, Veronica O'Connor, Bernard McIntyre, Tom Rees, Mary Vassalla, Eileen Williams, John (Jack) Cavanagh, Joan Minoque, Robert Murphy, Fr Robert Meade, Albert Spiller, Michael Carroll, Lukas Bryant, Mons. Thomas Hussey, Terrance Hussey, Desmond Joyce, Sr Kathleen Desmond, Alma McAdie, Fr Henry Allen OSA, Malcolm McLeod, Reg Palmer, Alice Heenan, Mary Stevens, James Kelly, Cataldo Busittil, Margaret Dowd

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Kate Wilson, Sally Rook, Fr. Hugh Thomas CSsR, Eloise Foo and Benjamin Wolfson, Julie Neale and Margaret Hassall

A VOCATION VIEW

Jesus said to his disciples 'Go into the whole world and proclaim the Good News to all creation.' There are still dark aspects to our world and to our neighbourhood that need the Good News. Answer the call to 'Go and teach all people my Gospel. I am with you always, until the

Pope Francis @Pontifex.com 2021

The Solemnity of the [#Ascension](#) lifts our gaze upwards, beyond earthly things. At the same time, it reminds us of the mission the Lord has entrusted to us here on earth. May the Holy Spirit guide us in the good battle we must wage.

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

There are changes to Victoria's COVIDSafe settings from 11.59pm on May 28, 2021. <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/religion-and-ceremony>. Further information is also available from the diocesan website "news" section www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Ararat Notices

Information Technology (IT) Investment in the Parish

We have recently made some significant investment into the WIFI status in the Church, Parish Centre and Presbytery buildings. This is a much needed service and the current demand is there from schools, conference facilitators, local businesses and the like. We can now provide fast internet access in all three areas of our parish. Name: Guest Wi-Fi Username: AP-Guest Password: PayTV2021

CWL—Note the date change.

The Ararat CWL will meet on Tuesday 18th May in the Parish Centre at 1.30pm All welcome.

Want to see a great play in the Ararat Town Hall? Sat 22nd May Well book **"The Merger"**! Details below

<http://www.ararattownhall.com.au/event/the-merger/>

Fr Andrew Hayes

Paul David Ryan

In recent days parishioners may have become aware that Paul David Ryan is likely to be extradited to the United States to face the courts. Fr Kevin Maloney, our Vicar General, has written to parishioners. I offer my own sympathy and apology to affected people and their families and friends. I give every encouragement for people to speak to the police and to take up offers of support and redress. What follows is the statement from the Vicar General.

Fr Andrew

To all clergy and parishes:

Over the past week a number of media articles have mentioned one of our former clergy and his association with sexual abuse. Once again this brings sorrow to our diocesan community and awakens past hurts and violations for survivors and their families. On such occasions for many, a loss of confidence and trust in church leadership comes to the fore, as does a loss in their confidence in belonging to the church community. In this time of remorse I wish to assure people that the diocese is making every effort to secure a safe passage for all in our future endeavours to live as the People of God.

Kevin Maloney

National Volunteer Week: May 17-23, 2021

National Volunteer Week (NVW) is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteers. From May 17–23, 2021 NVW will celebrate the significant contribution of Australia's almost six million volunteers, which includes people in our parishes and agencies. Each year these volunteers dedicate over 600 million hours to help others. The theme for NVW 2021 is *Recognise. Reconnect. Reimagine.* which acknowledges that it is time to:

RECOGNISE, celebrate and thank volunteers for the vital role they play in our lives.

RECONNECT to what is important by giving our time to help others and ourselves.

REIMAGINE how we better support volunteers and communities they help.

For more information about National Volunteer Week 2021 go to <https://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/get-involved/nvw/>

"Journeying towards the Light"

We have just journeyed through the darkness to the new light and life of the Easter mysteries. We also find ourselves slowly coming out of the worst of the Covid pandemic here in Australia.

Perhaps it is timely that we might find ourselves asking what is the legacy of the pandemic in the things of my life and my family, friends and community and the planet?

What needs to change in response to what we might have experienced and learned?

What is the good news, and how can I contribute towards new life as we move out of the worst of the pandemic?

Session 1	Transformation
Session 2	Where is my life centred?
Session 3	Sailing into deeper water
Session 4	Eyes to see, ears to hear

4 sessions of Centering Prayer with handout guides for inner reflection and silent prayer at home between each session.

These sessions will take place at 2-3pm in the St. Patricks Hall on **Wed. 19 May**

All welcome. Lesley Morgan

AGED CARE SCHEDULE

Eventide

1st Wednesdays 10am—start April 7

Low St

2nd Wednesdays 11am—start April 14

Garden View

3rd Wednesdays 10.30am—start April 21

ARV

4th Wednesday 10am—start April 28

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