



QR Code for Young People

Lifeline: 131114 **Ararat Police:** 5355 1500 **Sexual Assault Crisis line:** 1800 806 292

Counselling service: Relationships Australia – 1800 052 674

Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Towards Healing – 1800 099 340

Giving Tree

A 'Giving Tree' has once again been placed in the Church. On the Giving Tree will be decorations with gift ideas. Families are invited to take a decoration and purchase a gift for those in need in our district. Please place gifts under the tree (*unwrapped*) and members from St Vincent de Paul will collect and distribute. We ask that all donated gifts be placed under the tree by **Wednesday Dec 16th** in order to give the volunteers time to sort, wrap and distribute the hampers/gifts before Christmas. Many thanks.



Children and the Toilet – Just a reminder that all children **MUST** be accompanied by an adult when going to the toilets during Mass. This is for the safety of the children.

Saint of the week: St. Lucy, Feast day Dec 13th. Patron of Blindness.

For more information on St. Lucy go to www.catholic.org/saints

Boxing Day: The reason Dec 26th is called Boxing Day is from a tradition when servants and tradesmen would receive their "Christmas Box" of gifts from their employers in United Kingdom and other former British Colonies. In Ireland Dec 26th is called *St. Stephen's Day* and *Second Christmas Day* in Germany and the Netherlands.



3rd Sunday of Advent - Year C

13th December 2015

As we celebrate, we acknowledge the Indigenous owners of the land on which The Church of The Immaculate Conception is built, the Tjapwurong people, and we respect the presence of the spirits of their ancestors among us.

FIRST READING Zep 3:14-18

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Is 12:2-6 R. v.6

(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

1. Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. (R.)
2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name. (R.)
3. Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds,
make them known to all the earth! People of Zion, sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (R.)

SECOND READING Phil 4:4-7

The Lord is near.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Lk 3:10-18

What, then, must we do?

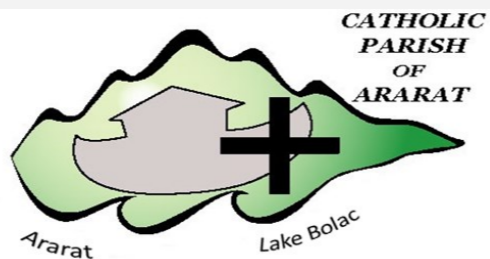
Prayer of Pope Francis for the Year of Mercy

Lord Jesus Christ,
 you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father,
 and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.
 Show us your face and we will be saved.
 Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing,
 so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord,
 and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor,
 proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed,
 and restore sight to the blind.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, ARARAT, ST. BERNARD'S, LAKE BOLAC,
304a Barkly Street, Ararat Vic 3377 , PO Box 92, Ararat Vic 3377
ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Andrew Hayes
PRINCIPAL ST. MARY'S SCHOOL: Mr Tom Hogan
PRINCIPAL MARIAN COLLEGE: Mrs Carmel Barker

ST. MARY'S PARISH OFFICE: Ph: 5352 5460
Fr Andrew Hayes email andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au



Office Hours
Tues/Wed/Fri 9am—2pm

ARARAT MASS PROGRAMME FOR THIS WEEK

TUESDAY 15th	9.15 am	Ararat
WEDNESDAY 16th	9.30 am	Ararat
THURSDAY 17th	7.00 pm	Ararat
FRIDAY 18th	10.30 am	Retirement Village
	6.00 pm	Hopkins Correctional Centre
SATURDAY 19th	6.00 pm	Ararat
SUNDAY 20th	8.30 am	Lake Bolac
	10.30 am	Ararat

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday 24th	6.00pm	Ararat
(Christmas Eve)	8.00pm	Lake Bolac
	Midnight Mass	Ararat
Friday 25th	9.00am	Ararat—Christmas day Mass

A VOCATION VIEW

Have you ever asked: "What ought I do?"
Simply, tell the good news to people.
Nothing else matters.

“How can it be that it is not a news item when an elderly homeless person dies of exposure but it is news when the stock market loses two points?”

-Pope Francis @Pontiflex 2015

www.kairos.com.au
The latest issue of Kairos is now available at the back of the church. \$2 each.
KAIROS
Featuring “
CATHOLIC JOURNAL

12th/13th December 2015

RECENT DEATHS:

Fr. Justin Woodford

ANNIVERSARIES:

Victims of Pearl harbour bombings 1941, Rudolf Schwab, Osmond Smith, Eric Hogan, Herman Krawczynski, Graeme Pora, Josephine Neilson, Fr. John Monaghan, Edmund Moran, Bishop Henry Cleary, Clare Rieniets, Florence Heenan, Daniel Ryan, Joan Boyle, Rodney Harvey, Noel McOwan, John Thomas, Fr. Gerald Payne, Grace Harrison, Florentina Uda de Torrecarpo, Janice Porter and Norman Rowe.

SICK:

Pat Davis, Shirley Billet, Hilary Doveton and Arthur Spiller

THIS WEEK 12th/13th

FACILITATOR

SAT: Angela Reynolds SUN: Charlie Reid

READERS

SAT: Mardi McOwan SUN: Pat Lardner

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

SAT: A.M Joyce, H. Collins, A. Collins

SUN : C. Bulger, M. Olle

COUNTERS

P&M Brady, P. Gemmola

GOLDEN GATE COMMUNION

Jewell

FLOWERS Mary Cunningham

CHURCH CLEANING

Christmas Cleaning Volunteers Please

WELCOMERS

SAT: Margaret Ryan

SUN: Brian & Margaret Joyce

LAKE BOLAC –Assembly of the Word and Communion

READER: H. Smith

PRAYERS: R. Smith

EUCHARISTIC MINISTER: L. Breen

CLEANING:

NEXT WEEK 19th/20th

FACILITATOR

SAT: Harry Collins SUN: Greg Carroll

READERS

SAT: Anna Collins SUN: Terry Arnold

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

SAT: A. Reynolds, R. Jerram, Sr. Maree

SUN : K. Chamings, M. de Jong

COUNTERS

V. Hooper, C. Brennan, G. White

GOLDEN GATE COMMUNION

Teresa

FLOWERS Mary Cunningham

CHURCH CLEANING

Christmas Cleaning Volunteers Please

WELCOMERS

SAT: Duane & Mary Stapleton

SUN: Lupe & David Anderson

LAKE BOLAC

READER: Jane Higgins

PRAYERS: T. Higgins

EUCHARISTIC MINISTER: R. Liston

CLEANING: R. Liston

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Reconciliation

Ararat 2nd Rite Wednesday Dec 16th 7.00pm

Lake Bolac 2nd Rite Sunday Dec 20th—during 8.30am Mass

Making a Scene at Christmas

As mentioned in last week's Notice Sheet, there will be an amazing display of Nativity Scenes in the Parish Centre over the December weekend of the 19th and 20th. For this exhibition to go ahead without a hitch— we are calling on some volunteers to help set up and pack up. Setting up will take place at **1.00pm** on Friday Dec 18th and packing up from 4pm on Sunday Dec 20th. Please email Fr. Andrew or call the Parish Office.

Memorial Mass Thursday Dec 17th at 7.00pm

This memorial mass is held to remember all those who passed away this year. Everyone is welcome.

Hot Weather

Don't forget to bring your bottle of water to Church on these hot days!

Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed on Friday Dec. 18th at **1pm** to help unpack boxes that contain a variety of Nativity scenes. And then again on Sun Dec 20th at **4pm** to pack up the display. Mature hands are needed as some of the items are rather delicate and need a little bit more care—many thanks!

December Office Hours

Tues Dec 15th	9.00am-2pm
Wed Dec 16th	9.00am-2pm
Fri Dec 18th	9.00am-2pm
Tues Dec 22nd	9.00am-11.45am
Wed Dec 23rd	9.00am-2pm
Fri Dec 25th	CLOSED
Tues Dec 29th	CLOSED
Wed Dec 30th	9.00am-2pm
Fri Jan 1st	CLOSED