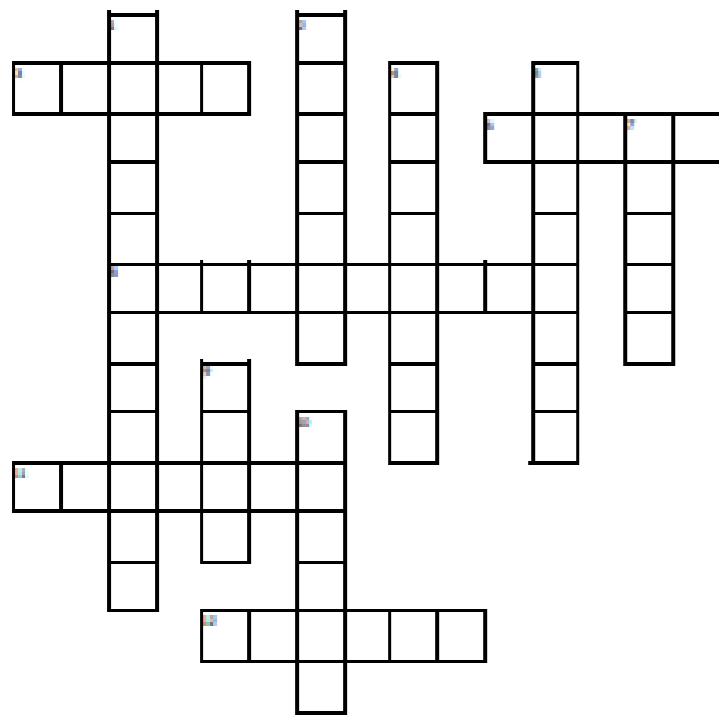




## CROSSWORD

### Clear a path for the Lord

St Mary's  
Parish  
Ballarat



#### Across

- 3: what we say when we apologise
- 6: what you hear when someone speaks
- 8: John told the people God would baptise them with the H\_\_\_\_\_ S\_\_\_\_\_ (two words)
- 11: to get ready
- 12: John the Baptist baptised people in this river

#### Down

- 1: John ate these insects
- 2: John the \_\_\_\_\_ baptised people in the Jordan River
- 4: the opposite of crooked
- 5: a very high piece of land
- 7: a large group of people
- 9: a pathway used by vehicles
- 10: a hot and sandy place

## SENIOR WORDSEARCH

### Make a straight path for the Lord

St Mary's

A C F W N W B U H N S S X W D E K  
 Z A K E D G U I G O D H N M R H B  
 C Z B I R Y S Y R T F W D L F Q U  
 D L Q R K E T R X J T S A Z P F D  
 C A M E L N Y T S H E Y L A D B L  
 G W E R F O G B J Z H V R P W G W  
 S G W T E H Z V Y M P W M L O H E  
 R R A R R T P G E D O S T C N O Z  
 N Z M C V Y A H Q Y R O N H H L V  
 E X X M O W X W J M P P V I F Y T  
 P B U O H M P D B Q T Y U X S S Z  
 J G R A S S H O P P E R S N I P C  
 T U X Z M E H E K T D M A T G I R  
 E Y D B X S E O T Y R D P S Z R O  
 X Z Z E G S O C X A R A C Z X I W  
 B J E L A I D X W O B Z O L T T D  
 I W I B K N H N J B A U W G Z P W

Try to find these words:

- Baptist
- camel
- crowd
- grasshoppers
- Holy Spirit
- honey
- Jordan
- Judea
- prophet
- sins
- sorry
- water

Robinvale and Manangatang Catholic Communities are committed to ensure the safety of all children and vulnerable people in our care.  
 Child Safety Officers: Arthur Cassidy (Robinvale) 0437 576 730 and Noreen Morris (Manangatang)

Please remember these people in our prayers



#### Anniversaries:

Peter Carr; Giselda Callegari; Guiseppina Zara; Maureen Ryan; Herb Rinaldi; John James; Jack Rhoden; Giovanni Romeo; Leslie Jankowski; Fay Nolan; Christopher Nolen; Alice Kelly;

#### Sick:

Sam Giampaolo; Therese Cummins; Rosa Santos; Kristin Sparto; Debbie Nolen; Basilio Alcodia; Valeliano 'Ahovelo (Leo); Jeremy Dickson; Carmela Garreffa; Sister Basil; Peter MacIntosh; Gai Thi Tran

#### Parish Office

Ph. 50263068  
19 Watkin St

Parish Administrator  
Fr Anthony Nagothu

#### Parish Contact

Mary Knight  
0438627920  
robinvale@ballarat.catholic.org.au

## MANANGATANG MINISTRIES

Date	06-12-2020 11:00am	13-12-2020
Readers	Joan Ryan	Lisa Zanker
Prayer of the Faithful	Kevin Templeton	Gerard Mackay
Offertory	Dianne Pook	Anne Arentz

#### FINANCES

Presbytery: \$ 686.00  
Parish: \$1423.00



#### St Mary's Church -

Cleaning & Lawns

December

Molluso Families

Natale Families

Scarcella Families



#### Parish News~

~We have commenced the second week of Advent.  
 Christmas is just a few weeks away.

In all our 'busyness' let's not forget the true meaning of Christmas.

~Father Anthony was extra pleased to celebrate Mass last Saturday evening.

Parishioners filled the church after number restrictions were changed.

This was the first 'taste of normal' since Father arrived in May.

~A warm welcome is extended to Cay Xuan Trihn, a seminarian.

Cay has just completed his third year of training.

He is visiting here for the month of December.

Please introduce yourself to him.

- ◆ MASS TIMES FOR CHRISTMAS
- ◆ Manangatang: 5pm
- ◆ Thursday 24th Dec (Christmas Vigil)
- ◆ Robinvale: 8pm
- ◆ Thursday 24th Dec (Christmas Vigil)
- ◆ Robinvale: 11am
- ◆ Friday 25th Dec (Christmas Day)

## First Reading

Is 40:1-5. 9-11

### A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*Prepare the way for the Lord.*

'Console my people, console them' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.' A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

**This is the word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God**

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8 (R.)

**Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.**

I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land.

**Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.**

Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven.

**Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.**

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps.

**Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.**

### Second Reading

Pt 3:8-14

**A reading from the second letter of St Peter**

*We wait for new heavens and a new earth.*

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can

mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up. Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

**This is the word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God**

### Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel** Mk 1:1-8

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**

*Make straight the paths of the Lord.*

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit

**The Gospel of the Lord**

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

## Gospel Reflection

by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

Waiting for Christmas is hard. It is hard to wait for anything. But it is especially frustrating to wait for something when you don't know how long it will take or what is holding it up - for example, driving along on a busy highway and coming upon a traffic jam that cannot be explained. As far as you can see there is no accident, no construction, no reason for all four lanes to be at a standstill. But if you have been in such a situation long enough, you might have seen what sometimes happens. Sooner or later people start trickling out of their cars to talk to one another. They start getting acquainted and cracking jokes. Suddenly the waiting doesn't seem like such torture. Why? Because people begin to comfort one another.

How does attitude affect waiting and even pain? How does comfort affect attitude?

When have you been comforted by a friend or a family member? What words helped? What actions helped? What did he or she try to do for you? Have you ever been able to be of comfort to another? What have you done or said? What happened?

### Baptism:

We welcome into our parish community this weekend, Vincent Marc.

Vincent will be accompanied by his parents, Michael and Angelina Galioto (Infantino), together with his godparents, Rocco & Khelly Infantino.

Please keep them all in your prayers as Vincent begins his Sacramental life in the church.



## School News



This week our students started their learning around the meaning of Advent. Many of our classes have been producing colourful work on this important event in our Catholic community.

Last week we held our final Kindergarten transition session for 2020. Year 7 students finally met their Kinder buddy. Year 7 students made playdough, a Christmas card, then stayed for a short while to have a play. This also provided the opportunity for all the children to get to know each other a little better.



Light the Advent candle, two: Think of humble shepherds, who filled with wonder at the sight of the child of Christmas night.



### COVID SAFE PLAN:

**St Mary's Robinvale & St Patrick Manangatang**

- ◆ 1.5m social distancing at one time.
- ◆ Please wear mask.
- ◆ Record your details in the book.
- ◆ Sanitise your hands and sanitise your contact surface.
- ◆ Please avoid interactions in the indoor space before or after the service.
- ◆ If you are sick or unwell, do not attend, get tested & please contact Parish Office or Mary Knight 0438 627 920

**COVIDSAFE**  
church