

St. Mary's Café & Community

Yesterday, Teresa and I made 35 pies with the churches newly acquired pie makers. I was so tickled pink with the outcome that I feel my boys may be getting pies for lunch and dinner for the rest of the year! We sold 26, so if these sales keep going, we are hoping to have donated up to \$2000 to the Ararat Emergency Relief Team. Marilyn organised for us to have a separate account with the Team. This way, we can really see how our donations are working and being used for good within the Ararat Community. During this pandemic, it seems we are reaching more in our community than ever—how ironic.

- We post the bulletin to 14 parishioners, email to over 100 and deliver to over 80 every Friday with a team of 8 volunteers.
- Billy from One National has been donating the most wonderful magazines, Mick—the baker—from Bakers Delight has been donating loaves and rolls, Jenny Beales and the team from Rotary have been busy donating hand-made masks and parishioners have been donating groceries to get our café up and running.
- We have given temporary employment to 4 people.
- Marilyn and some of the Emergency Team have used St. Mary's donated funds to buy meal vouchers from the Ararat RSL, Blue Duck Hotel and other business vouchers to drop into the needy. Funds have also been put aside for emergency accommodation.
- All of this under the guidance and blessing of Fr Andrew! Lots of brainstorming going on in the office.
- Keep buying our pies—Please!! ;-)

“On behalf of a great many people who, for various reasons, have had a bit of a hard time just lately, I would like to express my gratitude to the group of generous parishioners who have made such an effort to reach out to us in many ways. Having had a few health issues throughout this lock-down, I have been made to feel that I matter, just through the Friday visits to bring the bulletin and a few treats to cheer me up. It has been a delight to be visited by Jo and Lily and Sr. Maree. As for Joyce, Teresa and Kellie and others, I'm sure, who have cooked such delicious scones, slices and biscuits I can only say a sincere 'thank you'. At the risk of plagiarising Monty Python, I think we could add a few more Beatitudes. How about "Blessed are the scone-makers" (and slice, quiche, pie and biscuit-makers)? In the end, it all adds up to being Church - a vibrant and living Christianity. Pat L.”

MENU

Pie & Salad	\$12
Quiche & Salad	\$10
Apple Crumble (For 2)	\$8
Evening Meal (For 2)	\$10-15 (phone for our weekly specials)

Free Delivery to all schools—between 12 noon and 1.30pm every Thursday during Term 4!

Want to donate or pay for your meal via EFT—deposit into our charity account:

Westpac Bank Boundless Plains BSB 033-201 Acc: 208810

Finances

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 Parish, Ararat

Parish Priest: Fr Andrew Hayes.

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Address: PO Box 92, Ararat VIC 3377

Secretary: Joyce Clery

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18th October 2020

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time A

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.

Fr. Andrew Hayes

Give to Caesar what Belongs to Caesar

It would be nice to be allowed back into the churches. The bishops have put our case respectfully and constructively. We wait. People are without jobs and missing family. Maybe the restrictions will be eased this weekend. That will be a blessing! In the meantime I watch snippets of the premier's daily briefings and marvel at how well we've stayed out of trouble. The hotel quarantine and aged-care outcomes have been absolutely terrible, and businesses are suffering, but we're still faring better than most. I think somebody in the government (doctors and policy makers) deserves an award for keeping Australia's case numbers somewhere near the lowest in the world. As frustrated as I am at not being allowed into the churches, and as much as I see and hear people hurting, it's been the government's job this year to keep us alive and they have done that brilliantly. I know people with Covid, but I haven't had to bury any. A lot of priests in the world can't say that. Credit where's its due!

“Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar.”

Sunday Mass

We're watching the weather and deciding mid-week whether outdoor Masses are on each weekend. Most weeks it won't be. We're not having Mass in wind and rain. Nice day? We'll phone ten people.

Phone Messages

I was asked recently about how to contact me when I'm out or away. When parishioners phone the parish offices in Stawell or Ararat you can be confident that I receive your message instantly regardless of where I am. Please leave your name and number and an indication of the reason for the call. It lets me prioritise. Some calls will wait until the staff are in the office.

Friday October 25th—Change to Deliveries

Dear All, as Friday Oct 25th is a Public Holiday, our volunteers will be having a break. The bulletin will still be emailed but if we normally deliver to you—you will now need to pick up your bulleting from the church foyer. Please do not hesitate to contact the office on 5352 5460 if you need to.

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

October 18 is Mission Sunday - The joy of the Lord is our Strength! Nehemiah 8:10

World Mission Sunday will be celebrated on October 18 - a special day, called by Pope Francis, when we are called to pray and offer material support to the work of mission around the world. This year we are invited to partner with the Church in Cambodia, which is reaching out to those who have been affected by disability and giving them hope and practical support to live a fulfilling life. You can support online at www.catholicmission.org.au/Cambodia or by texting GIVE to 0488 854 436. Thank you for your prayerful support and generosity.

First Reading Is 45:1.4-6

I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance.

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more: It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7

(R.) Give the Lord glory and honour.

- O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth. Tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples. (R.)
- The Lord is great and worthy of praise, to be feared above all gods; the gods of the heathens are naught. It was the Lord who made the heavens. (R.)
- Give the Lord, you families of peoples, give the Lord glory and power, give the Lord the glory of his name. Bring an offering and enter his courts. (R.)
- Worship the Lord in his temple. O earth, tremble before him. Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.' He will judge the peoples in fairness. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Thes 1:1-5

We are mindful of your faith, hope, and love.

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

Gospel Acclamation Phil 2:15. 16

Alleluia, alleluia!
Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 22:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

Gospel Reflection

The gospel writer presents this episode as a deliberate attempt by the Pharisees to trap Jesus and turn the people against him. Their plan was a good one, with no apparent 'safe' answer: is it permissible (within Jewish tradition) to pay taxes to Caesar or not? If Jesus were to answer that it is not permissible to pay taxes then he would be identified as a rebel and a threat to Roman authority – leaving himself open to severe punishment. If he were to answer that it was permissible to pay the taxes he would have alienated a lot of his audience who resented the taxes imposed by Rome.

Instead of falling into the trap set by the Pharisees, Jesus approaches the question in a completely different way. He asks them to show him the money with which they pay the tax. Immediately, he has turned the tables on them. He doesn't appear to carry any of the coin in question and yet the Pharisees' disciples carry them as a matter of habit. They are asking if it is permissible to pay the tax and yet freely carry the coin with which the tax is paid. Jesus shows up the hypocrisy of their question by forcing them to reveal their own position in the simple action of producing one of the Roman coins. Jesus then closes the dispute by instructing them to render (give) to Caesar what belongs to Caesar but, more importantly, render to God what belongs to God. In a very simple way Jesus has shown up the Pharisees' disciples as being collaborators with the Roman authority and placing that authority above the authority of God. He reminds the listeners that regardless of earthly authority, the first duty is owed to God.

ANNIVERSARIES: Oct 19th—Oct 25th

Honorah Price Rene Guinan Belinda Heard
Rene Walsh Frank Walsh
Chris Carter Margaret (Peg) Price Simon Ring
Christopher Reid, Tony Pevitt Sr Grace Wensley RSM
Norm Reid John Hennessy Jnr. Dot Hurley
Judy Waring Molly Rutter Mons. Frank McKenzie,
Betty Bulger John Hennessy Bill Gleeson
and Alfraid Hooper

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Sally Rook 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)

Pope Francis—Twitter

Education bears within itself a seed of hope: the hope of peace and justice; the hope of beauty and goodness; the hope of social harmony. [#GlobalCompactOnEducation](https://twitter.com/GlobalCompactOnEducation) <http://vatican.va/>

Prayer for the Moment

We Bring Your Love. *Loving God, Help us to focus on what we have not on what is removed or changed. Strengthen us when we feel discouraged or overwhelmed. Embrace us so that we know your loving presence within us and among us. Walk with us as we bring your love, and carry your light, into our world. Amen.* Sandra Lucas, MDiv., BCC

Readings Oct 25th 2020

First Reading [Ex 22:20-26](#)

Second Reading [1 Thes 1:5-10](#)

TRUTH AND TRUSTWORTHINESS MUST BE GUARANTEED—

from Ten Steps Towards Genuine Human Relationships in our Digital World

Honesty and trust are fundamental to the operation of our social, economic and political institutions. Half-truths, lies and slander gone viral can harm the solidarity of a people, particularly during important periods like election campaigns. Our right to truthful information and trustworthy broadcasting requires greater regulation of digital platforms, with sanctions for the spread of fake, divisive and offensive content. • Call on leaders in the news industry and our governments to support robust and independent journalism. • Write to your local member about the responsibility of the Federal Government to support and promote the role of the public broadcaster. • Counter half-truths and misinformation by providing accurate information from reputable sources.

“This year’s World Mental Health Day, on 10 October, comes at a time when our daily lives have changed considerably as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The past months have brought many challenges: for health-care workers, providing care in difficult circumstances, going to work fearful of bringing COVID-19 home with them; for students, adapting to taking classes from home, with little contact with teachers and friends, and anxious about their futures; for workers whose livelihoods are threatened; for the vast number of people caught in poverty or in fragile humanitarian settings with extremely limited protection from COVID-19; and for people with mental health conditions, many experiencing even greater social isolation than before. And this is to say nothing of managing the grief of losing a loved one, sometimes without being able to say goodbye.”

World Health Organisation, Mental Health Day 2020

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.