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St. Mary's Parish Board Room

Hire our boardroom for a very attractive fee. Nespresso Coffee on offer and convenient facilities. Ring the parish office to book – 5352 5460.

Hire costs start @ \$50 per day (includes Nespresso Coffee!!)



Twenty-seven-year-old Phany, lives in a village in western Cambodia. Struggling to earn a living as a farmer, she was forced to leave her daughter behind in the village, to take up construction work in the city.

In 2016, Phany joined the [Upholding Community Dignity Together program](#), where she learnt new farming techniques, such as a drip irrigation system, which enabled her to get a better yield from her vegetable crops and to conserve water in her drought stricken region. Phany's community also took part in training in health, nutrition, hygiene and disaster preparedness, arming them with better strategies to cope with environmental changes. With your help, mothers like Phany can continue to uplift their communities, and provide food for their families. A brighter future for women, men and their families can start today. Let's Go Further, Together.



Farewell and thankyou to

Mary Cunningham!!

After serving the priests of Ararat in the presbytery for ever, Mary is having a very well-earned long-service leave break. On behalf of a myriad of priests, Mary, thank you! Mary will now be able to enjoy coming for a cuppa and leaving the place in a royal mess! Mary is shown here being marched out the door (we let her back in for a cuppa.)

Fr. Andrew

From Fr. Andrew:

Special Treat April 19

On Sunday April 19 at 10.30am Mass we will have a special treat! The Royal High Jinx will be providing the music. Sarah (Violin), Silas (Piano, Drums), Jen (Guitars) and Terry (Mandolin) will be in Ararat for a cultural celebration (more info to come) and Fr Andrew has invited them to play at Mass

while they are here. Their songs and tunes are inspired by European traditions, peppered with Gypsy Jazz, Latin, Balkan & Swing grooves with a pinch of Folk... In 2018 TRHJ excited and ignited European audiences on their 18 shows in 24 days "Gone Gone Gone" Germany Tour...



Planned Giving ENVELOPES

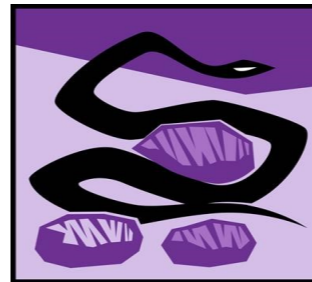
The last bundle of envelopes are now in the foyer to collect. We will have some changes next financial year as we are using old stock to save money!!

CWL March Meeting

Please note that the March CWL meeting has changed from the 10th to the 17th. It is now at 1.30pm on St. Patrick's Day, March 17th in the Parish Centre



Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 and help mothers like Phany continue to uplift their communities, and provide food for their families. Let's Go Further, Together. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.



Sunday 01 Mar 2020

First Sunday of Lent A

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

First Reading Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Creation of our first parents, and sin.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. see v.3

(R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. **(R.)**
2. My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done. **(R.)**
3. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **(R.)**
4. Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise. **(R.)**

Second Reading Rom 5:12-19

Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel Mt 4:1-11

Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

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Lenten 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. Awaken our hearts and minds that we may be one human family As we all go further together. We ask this in Jesus' name, **AMEN**

29th February/1st March 2020

RECENT DEATHS

Ernie Dunmore, Lorraine Walls

ANNIVERSARIES:

William Kneebone, Gwen Clark, Teresa Cairns, Fr. Matt McGloin, Jason Bond, Francis Vernon (Frank), Tom Hennessy, Fr. Gerard Gasper CSsR, Margaret Sinnott, Fr. Wladyslali Ziolkos, Pat Kenny, Zita Thomas, Phyllis Sertori, Leo Heenan, George Edwards

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

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:

Mary Cunningham—Retirement Home

E. Shea, T. Gemmola, D&M Lister, H&A Collins, J&J Crowe—Golden Gate

Sr. John—Lowe Street & Garden View Court

Other individuals in the parish to the sick at home

Plenary Council 2020

Thank you to all those who attended Sunday's session of the Plenary Council. Please read further information overleaf.

Next Week's Readings

Mar 8th 2020

First Reading

[Gen 12:1-4](#)

Second Reading

[2 Tm 1:8-10](#)

A VOCATION VIEW

Lent is a season of renewal, of spiritual growth. These forty penitential days invite us to strive for our true calling.

Gospel Mt 4:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

Gospel Reflection

Sin and temptation are the dominant themes of the readings for this first week of Lent. Indeed, they are regular themes in the season of Lent. However, the scripture passages throughout this season allow us the opportunity to think again about these themes and perhaps reconsider some traditional understandings of them.

Today's first reading and gospel give us two different takes on the notion of temptation. In the passage from Genesis, humanity is tempted to ignore the will of God and, when they succumb, they lose their innocence and become embarrassed by their nakedness. The temptation they are offered is to believe themselves above and beyond the will of God; to believe that they can judge as well as God; and to rise to an equal level of power and authority with God. Their action breaks the trusting, loving relationship between themselves and God. In the Gospel, Jesus too is confronted with similar temptations. Ultimately, the temptation that faces Jesus relates to his purpose and ministry – will he trust to God's vision of the suffering servant who will bring about a change of heart in the people, or will he be the sort of Messiah that the people hoped for: a triumphant, glorious victor over all who stood in his way. He is tempted to break his self-imposed fasting, to test God's promise of nurture and security, and to seek glory and personal power. Whilst Adam and Eve surrender to temptation, Jesus holds fast to God's vision.

The second reading from Paul ties the Genesis and Gospel readings together and injects the notion of sin into the equation. However, Paul make it perfectly clear that the sin of Adam, though carrying great ramifications, pales in comparison to the extraordinary abundance of God's love that is expressed through Jesus Christ.

@gregsunter

MASS TIMES

Ararat (Immaculate Conception)

Saturday 6.00pm

Sunday 10.30am

Lake Bolac (St. Bernard's)

8.30am 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays

2nd Sundays at Glenthompson at 8.30am

Weekday Masses

Wed 4th 10am Retirement Village

Thurs 5th 3.30pm Hopkins

Fri 6th 9.30am followed by Lenten discussion

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)

Pope Francis @Pontifex.com 2020

Our prayer must not be limited only to our needs, to our necessities: a prayer is truly Christian if it has a universal dimension too.

Saint of the Week

St. Joan of Valois, Feastday: February 4, Birth: 1464, Death: 1505 Joan of Valois, 1464 - 1505, was the second daughter of Louis X1, King of France, and Charlotte of Savoy, She was born on April 23, 1464. At the end of two months she was betrothed to Louis, Duke of Orleans, and the marriage took place in 1476. There is no doubt that it was invalid, for Louis of Orleans married her in fear of his life if he did not comply with the king's orders to do so. Joan was by no means a prepossessing figure: she was hunch-backed, lame and pock-marked. On her husband's succession to the throne he obtained a declaration that the marriage was invalid. Joan, therefore, was not to be queen of France; she was given instead the title of Duchess of Berry.

Read more on www.catholic.org

Rosters

Day & Date	Facilitator	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	Golden Gate Communion	Welcomer	Counter	Collector	Flowers	Cleaning	Computer
Sat Feb 29th	Beck Rodger	P. Brennan	M. Mason, L.Horsman & C. McAdie		Marg Joyce	Office	G. White	A. Joyce	K. Scherger	Sr. Maree
Sun Mar 1st	C. Reid	P. Lardner	K. Chamings, Sr. John, S. Reid	?	V. Hooper	As above	J. Pola & V. Hooper	As above	As above	R. North
Sat Mar 7th	P. Gemmola	Beck Rodger	H&A Collins		D&M Lister		G. White	A. Joyce	J. Donnan	Sr. Maree
Sun Mar 8th	J. Brennan	G. O'Loughlin	C. Bulger, N. Billingsley & S. Reid	E. Shea	K. Leggett	E. Coburn & J. Jackson	J. Pola & V. Hooper	As above	As above	R. North
<u>Lake Bolac</u>	<u>Reader</u>	<u>Prayers</u>	<u>Eucharistic Minister</u>	<u>Cleaner</u>	<u>Lake Bolac</u>	<u>Reader</u>	<u>Prayers</u>	<u>Eucharistic Minister</u>	<u>Cleaner</u>	
Sun Sun 1st	M. Phillips	P. Meek	D. Haslett	R. Liston	Sun 8th Mar	NO MASS				

Corona Virus

We have been advised by the Australian Catholic Bishops that, despite significant concern regarding the spread of the Corona virus, it is to be "business as usual" with regards to holy communion. This might however be a good time to remind people of the usual practices with regard to managing infections. Please do not use the chalice for communion if you have a cold, flu or cold sore etc. For Ministers of the Eucharist, please remember to wipe the chalice well after each communicant, to rotate the chalice and to find a dry part of the purifier for each wipe. These will help to keep the germs away.

Assembly instead of Mass in Ararat on March 7

On the long weekend in March Ararat will have Mass on Sunday at 10.30 as usual. The Saturday night Mass time, for one week only, will be a Lay Led Sunday Assembly.

Lenten Discussion Group Ararat

Lake Bolac will begin their Lenten Discussion Group on Wednesday March 4th at 10.30a.m. All welcome.

The next Lenten discussion in Ararat will be after Mass on Friday March 6th. All welcome

Plenary Council 2020 Topic—JOYFUL, HOPE-FILLED and SERVANT COMMUNITY Check the notice board

This topic challenges us to be joyful, hope-filled in our prayers together so we can go with positive energy to serve others.

Child Safety for the Children of the Parish

On Sunday **March 22**, during Mass, we will be inviting all children of the parish to the Parish Centre for a "child-safety" discussion. This session will be led by Christine Bulger (Deputy Principal of St Mary's School, Ararat) and Jo-Anne Bond (Principal of Emmaus Catholic Primary School, Mt Clear.) We intend that there will be a separate session at the same time for secondary students.

World Day of Prayer Friday 6th March

Details for Lake Bolac: St. Bernard's Catholic Church 11a.m. Shared lunch to follow. Speaker Mrs. Jenny Beales.

Details for Ararat: Hosted by Holy Trinity Anglican Church – 10am in the Church.

Ireland Group Tour, "Eat Pray Love"

Check out the notice board!!