

# Dhiaga

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**St. Mary's Printing Solutions**

A4 Black and White—\$0.05 per page

A4 Colour—\$0.10 per page

A3 Black and White—\$0.50 per page

A3 Colour —\$1.00 per page

Banners (320x1200mm) - \$10.00

A5 Booklets—priced on request

**Support Local Business**

Want to advertise in this space? Then call Joyce in the office on


(03) 5352 5460. Competitive rates available. Introductory offer of \$150 for 12 months advertising rather than \$240.

**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 @ \$80 per day (includes Nespresso Coffee!!)

**PROJECT  
COMPASSION**  
GO FURTHER TOGETHER

**Project Compassion Sunday**  **23<sup>rd</sup> February**

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "Go Further Together".

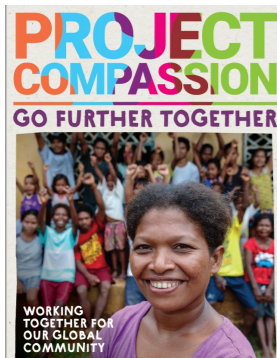
As Teresa of Calcutta said, "Not all of us can do great things.  
But we can do small things, with great love."

You will be helping empower our world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and share their strengths with their communities to lift themselves out of poverty.

When we **Go Further Together** in love and compassion,  
the whole world thrives.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes,  
or by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning

1800 024 413.



PLEASE DONATE TO PROJECT COMPASSION  
www.caritas.org.au 1800 024 413 projectcompassion

**Sunday 23 Feb 2020**

**Seventh 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.

**First Reading Lv 19:1-2. 17-18**

You must love your neighbour, as yourself.

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

**(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.**

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)
3. The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults. (R.)
4. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him. (R.)

**Second Reading 1 Cor 3:16-23**

All things are yours, but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

**Gospel Acclamation 1 Jn 2:5**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Whoever keeps the word of Christ,  
grows perfect in the love of God.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel Mt 5:38-48** Love your enemies.

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**Parish Prayer**

Loving God, Good Shepherd of us all,  
gather us and form us into a welcoming Parish family.  
Touch our hearts with your love so that we,  
In turn, may reach out in love to one another,  
in a neighbourly community.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

**22nd/23rd February 2020**

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

Michael Stapleton, Mary Lugg, Brian Coffey, Hazel Gleeson, Catherine Doery, Matthew Leggett, Brian Walshe, Nell Hooper, Flora Coad, Alison Burmeister, Arthur Spiller, Mary Radley, Bill Lavery, Mons Tom O'Brien, Jim Rix, Mavis Stewart, Marcia Shalders, Fr Thomas O'Brien, Geoff Dohnt, Bernadette Ferguson, Julie O'Brien, Brian Toner, Bill Campigli

**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**

The next topic for discussion is "Joyful, Hopeful & Servant community" (Prayerful and Eucharistic). All parishioners are invited to this discussion to take place in the Parish Centre on Sunday February 23 from 2-4pm.



**Next Week's Readings**

**Mar 1st 2020**

**First Reading**  
[Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7](#)

**Second Reading**  
[Rom 5:12-19](#)

**A VOCATION VIEW**

We read in Leviticus: "You must love your neighbour, as yourself!" Some are being called to love their neighbour as a priest or religious. Pray that many will answer the call to love.

**Gospel Mt 5:38-48****Love your enemies.**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away. 'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

**Gospel Reflection**

The first part of today's gospel passage is perhaps one of the most misunderstood of Jesus' teachings. The notion of turning the other cheek usually brings up notions of non-violence, submission, or even sometimes a victim mentality. It seems an odd teaching to tell someone who is being hit to simply stand there and present the other cheek to also be hit. It's odd because we generally fail to understand the cultural context that is the setting for this teaching.

In the first century, a master would discipline a slave or servant by striking them with the back of his hand. Assuming the master is right handed, a back-handed strike would be delivered to the right cheek of the person he faced. If the servant were to then present his left cheek to the master, it becomes impossible for the master to strike with the back of his hand and forces him into using an open-hand slap or a closed-fist punch to the left cheek. Not much of an improvement, you might think. However, servants were disciplined with the back of the hand and only equals fought in such a way that would deliver blows to the left side. What Jesus is saying to those who are oppressed is to offer no resistance but at the same time stand up for yourself and make your oppressor recognise you and treat you as an equal, not an inferior. It is extremely dangerous advice! Its aim is to shame the oppressor. The other two examples, surrendering your cloak when sued for your tunic and walking two miles when required to walk one are also examples of seeking to shame the one who would use their power and strength against you. That's not being a submissive wimp; that's staring the bully in the eye!

@gregsunter

**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.

**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****Tues 25th** 9.30am followed by

Lenten Discussion

**Wed 26th** 9.30am Ash Wednesday**Thurs 27th** 3.30pm Hopkins**Fri 28th** 9.30am**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)****Saint of the Week**St. Isabel of France [Feastday:](#) February 26

Sister of St. Louis and daughter of King Louis VIII of [France](#) and Blanche of Castile, she refused offers of marriage from several noble suitors to continue her [life](#) of [virginity](#) consecrated to God. She ministered to the sick and the poor, and after the death of her mother, founded the Franciscan Monastery of the [Humility](#) of the Blessed Virgin [Mary](#) at Longchamps in Paris.

Read more on [www.catholic.org](#)**St. Mary's Church Roster**

Work is being carried out on a new roster. Please let the office know if you would like to volunteer. 03 5352 5460

**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

**From Fr. Andrew:****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 Monday Feb. 24th at 10.30a.m. All welcome.

The first Lenten discussion in Ararat will be after Mass on Tuesday February 25, the day before Ash Wednesday.

All welcome

**Plenary Council 2020**

The next topic for discussion is "Prayerful and Eucharistic." All parishioners are invited to this discussion to take place in the Parish Centre on Sunday February 23 from 2-4pm.

**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"**

Joyce Clery and Emma Coburn (Ararat Parishioners) are co-hosting a tour of Ireland from 1-13, September 2020. Itinerary on the notice board. ONLY A FEW PLACES REMAINING! So if you'd like a trip of a lifetime, co-hosted by an Irish native, then look no further! 0419157841 The itinerary has been praised by Irish Tour Company's!

**Tap & Go**

It was decided the Tap & Go machine in the foyer was not financially viable. We are always grateful and in need of pledges to our Planned Giving Program to help maintain the Church and the grounds. The options are the following: Direct Debit, weekly, monthly or yearly cash pledges and credit card donations. Please contact Joyce in the office 03 5352 5460

**Resilience Project coming to Ararat!**

Register now at [www.eventbrite.com.au](#). 7pm to 8.30pm, Feb 24th (Monday) at the Ararat Town Hall.

*The Resilience Project delivers emotionally engaging programs to schools, sports clubs and businesses, providing practical, positive mental health strategies to build resilience and happiness.*

**PROJECT COMPASSION 2020 100 Words 'SHIRLEY' Philippines**

**Shirley, 36, is an indigenous Manide woman living in a remote province in the Philippines. She is a mother of four and the sole breadwinner of the family, as her husband is sick.**

Shirley was struggling to support her family and keep their children in school. She faced regular discrimination and disadvantage, limiting her family's access to food, education, employment and healthcare.

With Caritas Australia's support, Shirley trained to become an indigenous health worker. She has learnt to supplement her income and is able to feed her family. The program has also empowered Shirley to send her children to school.

**Indigenous minorities in the Philippines are amongst the most vulnerable people globally. Today, you can help people like Shirley, and her children gain confidence and respect within their community. Let's Go Further, Together.**