



### **Christmas Mass Times**

Note that Christmas Day is a **Sunday** this year. These are **not** the usual Sunday Mass times. There are special times for Christmas.

### **Sat Dec 24th**

**6pm** Ararat **Midnight** Ararat

**7.45pm** Lake Bolac **9.15pm** Glenthompson

### **Sun Dec 25th**

**9am** Ararat

### **Reconciliation for Christmas**

Lake Bolac Sunday December 4 8.30am

Ararat 2<sup>nd</sup> Rite Reconciliation Thursday December 22 7pm. Please bring supper to share.

### **Carols**

Willaura Anglican Church December 4 7.30pm

Ararat Anglican Church December 18 7.30pm

### **Christian Christmas Cards**

Vinnies have Christian Christmas cards available at \$2.50 per pack. Let's do our bit to maintain Christmas as a celebration of the birth of Christ!

### **St. Anne's Grandmothers' group—Kris Kindle \$10 per person**

Christmas Break-up at Chalambar Golf Club, Dec 2nd (Friday) at 12.15pm. RSVP Mary 53522060 or Marg 53523815

### **Golden Gate Lodge Christmas Party**

Tuesday December 6, 4.30pm Parish Centre

### **Christmas Hamper**

Thank you to Catholic Church Insurance who have donated a beautiful hamper. This has been given to Vinnies for a local family at Christmas.

### **Making a Scene at Christmas**

A display of Christmas Nativity scenes will be held in St Patrick's Hall, Ballarat from Wednesday evening December 14 – Sunday, December 18. On display there will be in excess of 300 nativities from over 40 countries. Opening hours are Wednesday 6.00pm – 8.00pm, Thursday and Friday 10.00am – 5.00pm; Saturday 10.00am – 8.00pm and Sunday 9.00am – 7.00pm. The organising committee would like to hear from anyone who is willing to loan a nativity scene for display, in particular cribs from other cultures, previous eras or which 'have a story' would be most welcome. Security is guaranteed. If you are able to assist please leave your name at the Cathedral office, ph. 5331 2933.



## Sunday, 27 Nov 2016 First Sunday of Advent - Year A

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** *Is 2:1-5*

### **Responsorial Psalm** *Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9. R. see v.1.*

*(R.)* Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.' And now our feet are standing within your gates, O [Jerusalem](#). *(R.)*

2. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. For [Israel's](#) law it is, there to praise the Lord's name.

There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David. *(R.)*

3. For the peace of [Jerusalem](#) pray: 'Peace be to your homes! May peace reign in your walls, in your palaces, peace!' *(R.)*

4. For love of my brethren and friends I say: 'Peace upon you!' For love of the house of the Lord, I will ask for your good. *(R.)*

### **Second Reading** *Rom 13:11-14*

### **Gospel Acclamation** *Ps 84:8*

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.  
Alleluia!

### **Gospel** *Mt 24:37-44*

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### **26th/27th November 2016**

### **RECENT DEATHS:**

Tim Joyce

### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

Kathleen Smith, George Cunningham, Donald Dalglish, Les Hunt, James Sertori, Terry Phillips, Ireneo Torrecampo, William Davies, Eddie Walls, John Presser, Sr Elizabeth McGovern CSB, Mary Rix, Mons. Bill McCunnie, Matt Brennan, Phyllis Brown, Ellen Mullins, Patrick Mullins, Maura Brown, Nel Wagener, Bernard Joyce, Penny Lang, Agnes Joyce, Fr. John Martin

### **SICK:**

Barry Wilson, Margaret Kidd, Wendy Shea, Shirley Billet, Natasha Martens.

(thank you for your continued prayers)

**Hospital:** *If you are in hospital and would like to receive Communion, could a family member please contact the office.*

### **Please Pray for the Intentions of:**

### **Advent Prayer**

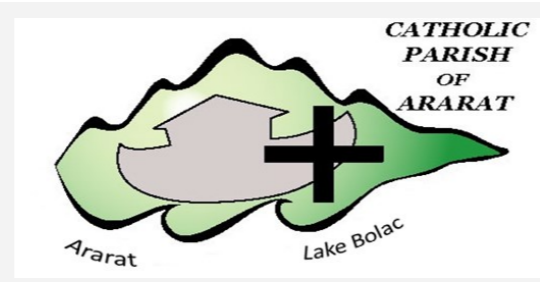
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ever faithful to your promises and ever close to your Church: the earth rejoices in hope of the Savior's coming and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts and remove the sadness that hinders us from feeling the joy and hope which his presence will bestow, for he is Lord for ever and ever.

Amen.

**CHURCHES -** Immaculate Conception, Ararat  
St. Bernard's, Lake Bolac

**CONTACT US**

**PHONE:** 03 5352 5460  
**EMAIL:** ararat@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
**WEBSITE:** www.ballarat.catholic.org.au



**PRIEST:**  
Fr Andrew Hayes andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au

**Office Hours**  
Tues/Wed/Fri 9am—2pm

**WEEKEND MASS TIMES**

	<u>Ararat</u>	<u>Lake Bolac</u>
<b>Saturday</b>	6.00pm	
<b>Sunday</b>	10.30am	8.30am
<b>2nd Sunday of Every Month</b>		8.30am Lay Assembly
<b>Masses this Week</b>		
<b>Tues 29<sup>th</sup></b>	9.30am Church (Mass for deceased relatives and friends)	
<b>Wed 30<sup>th</sup></b>	9am Convent (Note change of time)	
<b>Thurs 1<sup>st</sup></b>	7pm Church (Mass for deceased relatives and friends)	
<b>Fri 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	6pm Hopkins	

**A VOCATION VIEW**

In our materialistic society, someone must stand up to speak for our spiritual heritage. Could that be you?

**Church Toilets**

All children—Primary school age and under— must be accompanied by an adult. Thank you for your understanding.

You cannot be a conscious Christian without St. Paul. He translated the teachings of Christ into a doctrinal structure that, even with the additions of a vast number of thinkers, theologians and pastors, has resisted and still exists after two thousand years.  
Read more at [more at -Pope Francis @Pontifex 2016](#)

**St. Mary's Parish**  
304a Barkly St. or PO Box 92  
Ararat, 3377 Ararat, 3377

**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr Andrew Hayes  
**PRINCIPAL ST. MARY'S SCHOOL:** Mr Tom Hogan  
Download newsletter—[www.smararat.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smararat.catholic.edu.au)  
**PRINCIPAL MARIAN COLLEGE:** Mrs Carmel Barker  
Download newsletter—[www.mcararat.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mcararat.catholic.edu.au)  
**PARISH SECRETARY:** Ms Joyce Clery



We welcome the Muslims  
The **Parish Council** and the **CWL** have invited the ladies of the Islamic Community to join with us again in friendship.

We have asked if one of them could talk to us about the cultural differences between us, particularly what makes them feel comfortable when we meet and what might make them feel not so relaxed. Our aim is to understand how best to become friends, so please join us. Coffee, tea and light refreshments will be provided.

DATE: December 4<sup>th</sup>  
PLACE: Parish Centre  
TIME: 5.00pm

**Saint of the week:**  
St. Catherine of Alexandria, Feast Day Nov 25th. Patron Saint of Students, Unmarried girls and Apologists. Birth 287, Death 305. The young saint was born around 287 in Alexandria, Egypt. At that time, Alexandria was one of the finest cities in the world, and a centre of learning and culture as well as faith.  
[Read more on www.catholic.org](http://www.catholic.org)

Day & Date	Facilitator	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	Golden Gate Communion	Welcomers	Counter	Collector	Flowers	Cleaning
Sat Nov 26th	P. McAloon	G. North	A. Reynolds, L. Horsman & C. McAdie		D. Dijon & M. Ryan	A&V Joyce	G. White	J. North & M. Cunningham	?
Sun Nov 27th	M. de Jong	P. Lardner	C. Bulger, M. de Jong & K. Chamings	T. Gemmola	Pat Lardner & S. Pickering	(as above)	Jim Crowe & V. Hooper	(as above)	(as above)
Sat Dec 3rd	G. White	P. McAloon	T. Gemmola, G. North & MA McDougall		Marg Joyce & N. Billingsley	The Arnold Family, T. Weeks & C. Martin	V. Hooper	M. Dempsey & M. Jerram	Jo Donnan & K. Scherger
Sun Dec 4th	J. Brennan	R. Rodger	M. Cunningham, Sr. John & C. Reid	AM Joyce	Blessie Stoneman	(as above)	John Pola	(as above)	(as above)

**LAKE BOLAC—MASS**

**MASS**

**READER:** H. Smith  
**PRAYERS:** J. Aldous  
**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:** John Higgins  
**CLEANING:** H. Smith

**LAKE BOLAC—MASS**

**MASS**

**READER:** D. Phillips  
**PRAYERS:** V. Albert  
**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:** D. Haslett  
**CLEANING:** C. Peacock



**Catholic Mission Collection this Weekend**  
Through its partnership with Mercy Works, Catholic Mission supports community leaders like Steven Dude in Papua New Guinea to engage with their communities and be instrument of peace, so they can find consolation, understanding and love, and heal the wounds caused by domestic violence and broken relationships. By supporting the Catholic Mission World Mission Appeal today, or by partnering with us through your monthly gift, you are helping community leaders in Papua New Guinea receive training so they can advocate for their communities and allow them to find peace through mercy.



**Fair Trade Chocolate and Other Products**  
St Mary's Parish abhors the practice of underpaying workers in plantations producing chocolate and other products. We bring to your awareness the Fair Trade logo. Look for the logo when purchasing.

**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