

## The Parishes of Apollo Bay, Cororooke and Colac

Our communities are located on Gulidjan and Gadubanud land and waterways. We acknowledge the traditional owners and pay our respects to their ancestors, saints of God who were the first people in this place to wonder about their creator and their place in the great cosmos. We pay our respects to their elders today. We commit to partnering with our first nations people in a true spirit of reconciliation.

### Apollo Bay

Star of the Sea Apollo Bay  
Our Lady of Fatima Lorne



Priest in residence: Fr Michael O'Toole  
Email: michael.otoole@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
Apollo Bay Phone: 03 5237 6782  
Email: apollobay@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
Leadership Team: John Higgins, Kevin Diviny,  
Sr Margaret McGrath, Damian Carney, Sylvia Rennick  
Parish Office: As for Colac  
Child Safety Officer: Roula Andreadakis

### Cororooke

St Brendan's Coragulac  
St Joseph's Pirron Yallock



727 Corangamite Lake Road Coragulac, VIC 3249  
Email: cororooke@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
Moderator: Lucy Darcy  
Leadership Team: Pat O'Shea, Jill O'Dowd, Marg Allan,  
Michelle Gorwell, Bronwyn Hickman & Delia Melville  
Supervising Priest: Fr Andrew Hayes  
andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
Child Safety Officer: Gerard Douglas  
St Brendan's Primary School Coragulac  
Principal: Gerard Douglas 52331464  
www.sbcoragulac.catholic.edu.au

### Colac

St Mary's Colac  
St Peter's Birregurra



Parish Office: 3 Gellibrand St Colac Vic 3250  
Hours: Mon to Fri 8.30am – 12.30pm  
Phone: 03 52312177  
Mail: PO Box 310 Colac Vic 3250  
Email: colac@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
Parish Priest: Fr Andrew Hayes  
andrew.hayes@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
Admin Officer: Mandy Parker  
colac@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
Leadership Team: Michael Bergin, Brendan Scanlan,  
Anne Picard-Drew, Essen Kent, Kevin Robarts,  
Maryanne McGannon, Jan Healey, Ronnie Adisor  
Child Safety Officer: Mandy Parker

St Mary's Catholic Primary School  
Sacred Heart Primary School  
Trinity College  
Saints College  
St Brendan's Catholic Primary School

www.smcolac.catholic.edu.au  
www.shcolac.catholic.edu.au  
www.tcc.vic.edu.au  
saintscollege.vic.edu.au/colac  
www.sbcoragulac.catholic.edu.au

# The Baptism of the Lord ~YEAR A

## First Reading

Isaiah 42:1-4. 6-7

### A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord:

Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom my soul delights. I have endowed him with my spirit that he may bring true justice to the nations. He does not cry out or shout aloud, or make his voice heard in the streets.

He does not break the crushed reed, nor quench the wavering flame. Faithfully he brings true justice; he will neither waver, nor be crushed until true justice is established on earth, for the islands are awaiting his law. I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right; I have taken you by the hand and formed you; I have appointed you as covenant of the people and light of the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to free captives from prison, and those who live in darkness from the dungeon.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 28:1-4. 9-10. R. v.11

### (R.) The Lord will bless his people with peace.

1. O give the Lord you sons of God,  
give the Lord glory and power.  
give the Lord the glory of his name.  
Adore the Lord in his holy court. (R.)
2. The Lord's voice resounding on the waters,  
the Lord on the immensity of waters;  
the voice of the Lord, full of power,  
the voice of the Lord, full of splendour. (R.)
3. The God of glory thunders.  
In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!'  
The Lord sat enthroned over the flood;  
the Lord sits as king for ever. (R.)

## Second Reading

Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38

### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him. 'It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.'

## Gospel Acclamation

See Mark 9:8

### Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard:

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

### Alleluia!

## Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. 'It is I who need baptism from you,' he said 'and yet you come to me!' But Jesus replied, 'Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.' At this, John gave in to him.

As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. A voice spoke from heaven, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.'



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### Next Week's Readings

#### Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

Isaiah 49:3.5-6. Corinthians 1:1-3. John 1:29-34

### Following Week Readings

#### Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

Isaiah 8:23-9:3. Corinthians 1:10-13.17. Matthew 4:12-23.

## Sunday Mass & Liturgy Times

<b>Colac</b>	6pm Saturday Vigil Mass 11am Sunday Mass
<b>Birregurra</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday only 9am Mass
<b>Apollo Bay</b>	11am Sunday Mass
<b>Lorne</b>	9am Sunday Mass
<b>Pirron Yallock</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday only 9.00am Mass
<b>Coragulac</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday 10.30am – Lay-led Assembly 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday 9.30am – Lay-led Assembly 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday 9.00am – Mass

**Recent Deaths:** Kevin Horne, Sister Therese Lechte CJ; Leslie Machado (Mumbai/ India), Veronica Ferrari, Beatrice Neale.

**Anniversaries:** Edward Carmody, Patrick Donovan, Betty Monaghan, Rodney Langdon, Margaret Catlin, Monica Thompson, Jack Parker, Bill O'Dowd, Dorothea Ramm, Glynis Baulch/Rafaniello, Ursula Carew, Carl Paatsch, Noel Paatsch.

## Colac this Week

Tuesday	13 <sup>th</sup>	10am Funeral Mass Veronica Ferrari 5pm Mass
Wednesday	14 <sup>th</sup>	10am Mass
Thursday	15 <sup>th</sup>	10am Mass
Friday	16 <sup>th</sup>	10am Mass

## Apollo Bay this Week

Tuesday	13 <sup>th</sup>	5.30pm Mass
Wednesday	14 <sup>th</sup>	10am Mass
Thursday	15 <sup>th</sup>	10am Mass
Friday	16 <sup>th</sup>	10am Mass

## Cororooke News

### Roster 18th Jan: St Brendan's: Lay Led @ 9.30am

**Communion Minister:** L McGuane, **Commentator:** K McKay, **Reader:** A McCarthy, **Leaders:** J Miller/ V Roache  
**St Joseph's – Mass @ 9.00am – Family: Whytcross**

### Altar & Sacristy Duties – January

**St Brendan's:** Community Clean

We keep in our thoughts and prayers all those who seek healing and wellness. May they feel valued and supported especially... Kathleen O'Donnell, Kerryn Williams, Claire Ryan, Doreen Brumby.

**Thought and banners for JANUARY:** "Education in environmental responsibility can encourage ways of acting which directly and significantly affect the world around us, such as avoiding the use of plastic and paper, reducing water consumption, separating refuse, cooking only what can reasonably be consumed, showing care for other living beings, using public transport or car-pooling, planting trees, turning off unnecessary lights, or any number of other practices." (LS n 211)

### Incorporate ecological awareness and action:

- Practice conservation: Encourage daily actions like reducing plastic and paper use, conserving water, and turning off unnecessary lights.
- Reduce waste: Promote practices like separating refuse, avoiding single-use plastics, and supporting programs like Containers for Change.
- Embrace sustainable transport: Promote the use of public transport, carpooling, and biking.
- Adjust consumption: Encourage mindful consumption by supporting local and sustainable products, reducing meat consumption, and cooking only what can be eaten.

## Apollo Bay News

### Star of the Sea Guest House, Apollo Bay

The Star of the Sea Guest House, Apollo Bay, Victoria, Australia is available for retreats, conferences, school camps and family groups. To learn more, visit the website at [www.staroftheseaapollobay.org.au](http://www.staroftheseaapollobay.org.au) Contact details Margaret McGrath rsm Manager 61 Noel Street Apollo Bay VIC 3233 Phone: 03 52376729 Email: [apollobay@mcauleyministries.org.au](mailto:apollobay@mcauleyministries.org.au)

## Colac News

**Croft Family Group Planning Day Sunday January 18 at RSL for lunch.** (Please note change of date).

Ever wondered about joining Family Group? Come along to our planning day and see what is in store for the year ahead. RSVP for lunch booking Linda 0448 314774 - Please just leave a message.

**Piety Stall** Columban Calendars are still available for \$10.

### **St Mary's Church - Catering for Funerals.**

At St Mary's Church Foyer: For more information, please contact Parish Office 5231 2177

Tea Ladies are looking for new members. If interested, please see Margaret LoRicco. 0468702002

### **Praying with The Holy Father**

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement and each month the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. "The Pope Video" forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network [www.thepopevideo.org](http://www.thepopevideo.org).

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### **New Bishop for Diocese of Ballarat**

We received news this week that Fr Mark Freeman has been appointed to be the next bishop of Ballarat. Fr Mark is currently Parish Priest of Bellerive, Tasmania. He will be ordained as Bishop of Ballarat within the next three months, probably in March.

Bishop Paul wrote, "As I share this news, I look back over the years since my ordination as bishop in 2012. I offer thanks to God for the many blessings of these years, and I offer thanks to you all for your support in the care of our diocesan community. I also invite you to join me in prayer for Father Mark as he prepares to take up this service as our bishop."



### **Sisters of Mercy to celebrate 180 years in Australia**

On 8 January 2026, the Sisters of Mercy marked a remarkable milestone — 180 years since their arrival in Australia.

Since their foundation, the Sisters have made a profound and lasting impact across the nation in education, healthcare, social justice, and pastoral care, always guided by the core values of hospitality, compassion, and justice.

The journey began in 1846 on the ship Elizabeth, when Ursula Frayne, a close companion of foundress Catherine McAuley, led the first group of Sisters to Fremantle, Western Australia. There, they established a school and began their ministry of service to the community.

Following this pioneering foundation, other groups of Sisters from Ireland, England, and Argentina expanded the mission, establishing communities in Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane, Sydney, and beyond.

Mercy Partners gratefully acknowledges the dedication, courage, and enduring commitment of the Sisters of Mercy, whose legacy continues to shape and enrich communities across Australia.

*We are deeply thankful to the Sisters for entrusting the ongoing sponsorship of their aged care, community and disability services, education, healthcare, social enterprise and social justice ministries to Mercy Partners, allowing us to carry forward the mission with integrity and compassion. Amen.*



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