



Our Lady Star of the Sea Apollo Bay
 Our Lady of Fatima Lorne
 St Mary's Colac
 St Peter's Birregurra
 St Joseph's Cressy



Parish Priest: Fr Michael O'Toole
 Assist Priest: Apollo Bay Fr John Pothiyittel
 Phone: 03 52312177
 Fax: 03 52312189
 Email: colac@ballarat.catholic.org.au
 Secretary Hrs: Mon to Fri 8.30am-12.30pm

Colac and Apollo Bay Parishes are a community of believers, who strive to bring Christ's good news to all people in the district. Through service, caring and love we aim to create an environment of respect and understanding in which everyone can grow. We acknowledge the First nations Peoples of these lands, seas and waterway on which we gather. The First Nations peoples of these places were the first to dance stories and remember times of healing and hurt. We acknowledge the elders past and present, and future.

Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time – 29th January 2023 –Year A

Responsorial Psalm

'Blessed are the poor in spirit:
 for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.'

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
 Rejoice and be glad:
 Your reward will be great in heaven.
 Alleluia!

This Week's Readings

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

Zep 2:3; 3:12-13, Corinthians 1:26-31 Matthew 5:1-12

Next Week's Readings

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

Isaiah 58:7-10, St Paul 2:1-5, Matt:5:13-16

Deaths: Michael James (Jimmy) Thomas (C'down), Dayle Brown, Sr. Marie-Louise Foley, R.S.M., (B'rat).
Anniversaries: James Morrissy, Veronica Garner, Robert Davies, Ann & Bevan Davies, John Cass Snr. Claire Pollard.

MASS TIMES - COLAC, CRESSY, BIRREGURRA.		
Tuesday	5.00pm	St Mary's- Colac St John Bosco
Wednesday	10.00am	St Mary's- Colac
Thursday	10.00am	St Mary's- Colac
Friday	10.00am	St Mary's- Colac
Saturday	6.00pm	St Mary' Church
Sunday	9am & 11am	St Mary' Church
Reconciliation: Each Friday after 10am Mass. Anytime by Appointment.		

MASS TIMES OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA – APOLLO BAY	
Tuesday	5.30pm
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday	10.00am
Sunday	11.00am
OUR LADY OF FATIMA - LORNE	
Sunday	9.00am

FEAST OF PRESENTATION OF THE LORD: (CANDLEMAS DAY). THURSDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2023

*Mass in Colac & Apollo Bay at 10am – Blessing of Candles:
 Those to be used in our Churches during the year; those
 parishioners use in home a private devotion.*

Diocesan Levies Paid this Month:

(Quarter: Oct/Nov/Dec.)

- **Apollo Bay Parish Account \$1571.00**
- **St Mary's Parish Account**
 Diocesan Administration: \$ 6666.00
 Christmas Appeal: \$ 1753.50
 BCSF \$ 90.00
Total: \$ 8,509.50
- **St Mary's & Apollo Bay**
Presbytery Account \$ 7,083.00

Thanks to our regular generous Contributors our commitments can be met.

2023: Best Wishes to Principals, Staff, Teachers, Parents & Students as the commencement of the School Year approaches. God's Blessing on all for a happy, fruitful and successful year.

Many Teachers & Staff who have carried a heavy burden through the years of the pandemic and who feel the burden of administration and often unreasonable expectation of the community, be refreshed by the recent holiday break). May World Teachers Day with its theme, the transformation of education begins with teachers, honour their noble vocation to cultivate in others a love for learning, a search for truth, a respect for their peers and all people. Lord hear us.

Convocation on Synodality – why we should care

Archbishop Timothy Costelloe, President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference will introduce a virtual Convocation on Synodality, "The Synod on Synodality: Why we should care", at 7.30pm AEDT on Thursday, February 2, 2023. Speakers, including Susan Pascoe, Francis Sullivan and Patricia Gemmell, will discuss the "Document for the Continental Stage of the Synod" and current work on the imminent Bishops' response. Sponsored by Australasian Catholic Coalition for Church Reform, Garratt Publishing and YU-University of Divinity. **(We- will Register as a Parish & host the gathering this Thursday, Feb 2nd in the St Mary's Gathering Space – All Welcome).**



CONGRATULATIONS: To Simon: Our Sth. Sudanese friend celebrating with joy and pride his being accepted as an Australian Citizen – last Thursday at the Colac Otway Shire Ceremony. Well, Done Simon, it has been a long journey for you!

'We pray that Educators may be credible teachers – helping the young and vulnerable.'
 Pope Francis.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

The LORD keeps faith forever,
secures justice for the oppressed,
gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets captives free. The LORD gives sight to the blind; the LORD raises up those who were bowed down. The LORD loves the just; the LORD protects strangers. The fatherless and the widow the LORD sustains, but the way of the wicked he thwarts.

The LORD shall reign forever; your God, O Zion,
through all generations.

Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Pope Francis January Intention For Educators

We pray that educators
may be credible witnesses,
teaching Sisterhood
/Brotherhood rather than
competition and helping the
youngest
and most above all
vulnerable.

APOLLO BAY & LORNE

FIRST COLLECTION: BSB: 083585
ACCOUNT: 810967715
SECOND COLLECTION BSB: 033600
ACCOUNT: 230038

GLEESON Family Group. Planning Meeting on Friday 3rd February 7pm at Gleeson's home. ALL WELCOME!!

CHANGING HEARTS AND MINDS: 'GOANNA FRONTMAN - SHANE HOWARD;

After initial reluctance I accepted Shire's offer as Australia Day Ambassador for 2023.

For the first time, the day will commence with reflection and remembrance, with a smoking ceremony – led by Uncle Rob Lowe and Brett Clarke. All are invited. In many places, all over Australia such remembrance events are already happening. It is a difficult day. In the past, I supported the 'Change of Date' campaign. But in 2020, I was invited to perform Solid Rock at the 2020 Australia Day ceremony in Burnie, Tasmania. I politely declined, but council entered into discussions with the Tasmania Aboriginal Centre and reached agreement for me to sing at the Australia Day ceremony in Burnie and later, at the Survival Day ceremony in Devonport. At both events, black and white speakers talked of the need to reach across the divide and work together to move our story forward. I saw people changed that day. I was too. I wondered if changing the date of Australia Day might be less significant than changing what we do on that day, of any other date, if what we do is done with agreement and respect.

- *As sorrowful as January 26th is, it is real, it has power, it marks change for all of us and calls us to face our history honestly and courageously.*
- *In the wake of the success of Goanna and Solid Rock, I was drawn deeper into Aboriginal Australia as we toured the country. I heard, first-hand, stories of dispossession, of massacres, stolen children, repeated racism and neglect of mission systems and all manner of hardships and prohibitions, constantly oppressing Aboriginal people.*
- *Are we courageous enough to face the hard truth of our won history and have the hard conversations to make changes?*
- *Dr Diana James, who has dedicated much of her working life assisting Anangu people of the Western Desert, believes "it's time to sing a new song in this country. It is time to build on the bridges of respect and understanding laid down by those who have led the way, both black and white, over many years of struggle and pain".*
- *I wrote Solid Rock because I dreamt of a better country, respectful of our ancient history honest about our modern history unified by celebrating our diversity. I wanted to be proud of my country.*
- *We've come a long way, but life is still too hard for Aboriginal people in Australia and in our region.*
- *I think Australians are inherently, good-hearted, decent and generous people.*
- *Changes do not divide us; they unify us and we lose nothing. We gain a nation we can all be proud of.*
- *There is much to celebrate in our national story. Australians can be justly proud to have created a great and resilient democracy and one of the most successful multicultural societies in the world. Migrants for war-torn countries are grateful of our peace and stability. Australia has given so many of us opportunities and a new start. Dianna James maintains: "We who are born on this land, or have journeyed a long way to get her, love this country and need to learn to take care of it together. On Australis Day we come together to mourn our losses and celebrate the rich tapestry of First Nations and immigrant languages arts, music, day and song that now weave a blanket of our shared belonging".*
- *Dewayne Everett Smith said, very generously. "This is not about a black history or a white history. Its about our history."*

@James Carew donation website, click here <https://www.gofundme.com/f/hes-always-had-your-back-now-he-needs-your-help>

@ Fr Tao Pham Video link to his story: click on link: [Priesthood triumphs over coma | Fr Tao Pham | Triumph | Shalom World](#)