



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



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 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 Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.

Easter Sunday – 9th April 2022 – Year A



Responsorial Psalm

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia Alleluia

**Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
 let us feast with joy in the Lord.**

Alleluia Alleluia

This Week's Readings

Easter Sunday

10:34.37-43. Colossians 3:1-4. John 20:1-9

Next Week's Readings

Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47. Peter 1:3-9. John 20:19-31.

**Reminder to return your Project Compassion boxes.*

Deaths: Mary Hickey, (nee Kavenagh: C'down), Ronald Hare, Michael Parer

Anniversaries: Kevin James Scanlan, John Croft, Bill Smith, Helen Boyd Smith, Christine Somerville, Carmine Guarracino, John Hammett, Phil Sly, Josip Cvetkovic & Jela Novosel, Bernard McGrath, Margaret & John Delahunty.

MASS TIMES - COLAC, CRESSY, BIRREGURRA.

Tuesday	5.00pm	St Mary's- Colac
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's- Colac
Sunday	9.00am 11.00am	St Mary's- Colac St Mary's- Colac

SACRAMENTAL OF RECONCILIATION

*Each Friday after 10am Mass **Anytime by appointment

MASS TIMES

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA – APOLLO BAY

Wednesday Thursday Friday	10.00am
Sunday	11.00am

OUR LADY OF FATIMA - LORNE

Sunday	9.00am
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WELCOME: THANK YOU: Our Lady of Fatima Community: Lorne to Fr Lawrence O'Toole celebrating the Easter Triduum in Lorne.

EASTER CEREMONIES:

Thank You to all who have participated in the Easter Ceremonies also 'Thanks' to all who have prepared/cleaned our Churches, Organists, Choirs, Ministries of Readers etc.

Reminder: 'Easter Water' available to be taken home to bless our homes, properties, farms, etc.

We welcome to St Mary's Parish this weekend through the Sacrament of Baptism:

'Mitchell John Kilah, Cooper & Hallie Embrey.'

"Baptism and you have the task to make it grow"

- Pope Francis.

60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Heather & Don Holland

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

28th – 30th April 2023 Melbourne
 Contact Mercy & James 0409183676

Gleeson Family Group - Our next gathering is lunch at the Gellibrand River Hotel on 16th April, at 12.30pm. Please meet in the car park after 11am Mass for carpooling. Please RSVP to Winsome and Jos on 5235 3203 or 0427353203.

Crawford Family Group – Lunch 19th April at 12 noon. "On The Lane" RSVP Catherine 0499022644

NOTES ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION (5 APRIL 2023). *I have consulted. I have also received advice.*

These consultations have highlighted the fact that Covid infections are still a serious concern. I have concluded that it is not yet time to reintroduce the sharing of the chalice. So, even when we simply receive the host, we are receiving the whole Christ. In regard to the way of receiving the host, recognising the continuing risks of the pandemic, and out of consideration for the health of all parishioners, I recommend reverent reception of the host in the hand rather than reception on the tongue. God bless you all.



Bishop Paul Bird CSsR

PS : Local addition: Suggestion – Those desiring still to receive 'on the tongue'- come last to Communion & to the Priest.

APOLLO BAY & LORNE

FIRST COLLECTION:

BSB: 083585 ACCOUNT: 810967715

APOLLO BAY & LORNE

SECOND COLLECTION

BSB: 033600 ACCOUNT: 230038

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Meeting on Tuesday 11th April 1.30pm
 in Meeting Room at St. Marys.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

***This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.***

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end'. **Response.**

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.

I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds. **Response.**

The stone which the builders
rejected has become the corner
stone. This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes. **Response**

CHRISM MASS 2023

The Mass of the Oils or Chrism Mass is our annual celebration of the local Diocesan Church of Ballarat. We gather and celebrate the priesthood of Jesus, the one anointed by the Spirit. The priesthood of Jesus is shared by the baptised and the ordained. His priesthood is exercised in the sacraments, especially the sacraments most closely associated with the Eucharist: The sacraments of initiation and of orders, as well as the sacrament of the sick.

We, the priestly people of God in the church of Ballarat, gathered with our bishop, are not just blessing oils and consecrating chrim but we are praying for everyone and everything they will anoint in the coming year. The Oils blessed – Oil of the Sick, Oil of Baptism and the Holy Chrism will reach:

*** Every Catholic in our diocese who becomes sick and is anointed.**

*** Every baby and young child in our diocese who is baptised;**

*** Every young person and adult in our diocese who are fully initiated into the community of the Church;**

*** A new priest in our diocese who is ordained.**

Let us recommit ourselves to be a Christened people in the year ahead.



*Presentation of the Gifts: Timothy & Mary
Greene – St Mary's Parish, Colac.*



The Bishop's Easter Message 2023

I write these words on March 30, 2023, exactly a year before we celebrate a special jubilee, the 150th anniversary of our Diocese of Ballarat. It was on March 30, 1874, that Pope Pius IX issued a decree establishing the western part of Victoria as a distinct diocese, with the Murray River as the northern boundary and the sea as the southern boundary. We continue to echo the Pope's decree in our diocesan vision statement, beginning with the words "We are a community of communities from the Murray to the sea." Our 150th anniversary next year will be an opportunity for each community throughout our diocese to remember those who have gone before us, those who have laid the foundations of our parish and school communities and the social services and health care in our diocese today. The anniversary will also be an opportunity to review our history, acknowledging both strengths and weaknesses, celebrating the achievements and recognising the failures to live our Christian faith to the full. It will be a chance to take stock of where we are now and look ahead to how we can live as a truly Christian community, sharing the good news of Christ, in the years to come. Since my last Easter message, the Australian Plenary Council has met to consider a wide range of issues of concern to our Catholic community throughout Australia. The Council encouraged us to find ways in which all the members of the Church might be engaged in the life of the community and share in the mission to spread the gospel. In a similar vein, Pope Francis has called us to develop a "synodal" way of living in which the whole community walks together. He has highlighted the value of listening to one another as we all seek to discern what the Holy Spirit wishes us to do in response to the many challenges facing the world in our time. In line with the calls of the Plenary Council and Pope Francis, I propose some steps for us as a diocese in the next few years. First of all, I ask each parish to make 2023 a year when you focus on the leadership in the local community, through forming or developing further a parish pastoral council or leadership team according to your local circumstances. In 2024, as well as celebrating the 150th anniversary of our diocese, we will hold a Diocesan Assembly, bringing together representatives of the leadership teams in our parishes and schools, to consider how we might develop the leadership in our communities in the future.

Following the 2024 Assembly, we could form a Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Council to help us fulfil our mission to share the gospel with the wider community, as well as helping us develop the pastoral services we provide throughout the diocese. Then, in 2025, the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Council would lead the preparations for a Diocesan Synod to be held in 2026-2027. That Diocesan Synod would consider how we are to implement the various decrees of the Australian Plenary Council in our diocese. I hope that all our parishes and schools and all the organisations in our diocese will walk together in these steps over the next few years. As we approach the great feast of Easter, I take confidence in the promise of the Risen Christ, that he will be with us as we gather in his name and as we seek to fulfil the mission, he has entrusted to us. As we look to the 150th anniversary of our diocese, I give thanks that Jesus has guided our communities through the years so far and I pray that he will continue to guide us in the years ahead.

May the peace of Christ be with you always.

Bishop Paul
Bird CSsR