



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

Second Sunday of Advent – 10th December 2023 – Year B



Responsorial Psalm

Lord, let us see your kindness,
 and grant us your salvation.

Gospel Acclamation

How Beautiful....

Deaths: Brendan Soraghan,

Anniversaries: David Widdicombe, Darryl Scott, Col & Elizabeth McKay, Leonard & Catherine Murnane, Jack Mulheron, Marie Trask, Thomas Prior, Rudy Phillips, John Lucas.

This Week's Readings

Second Sunday of Advent – Year B.

Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11 St Peter 3:8-14 Mark 1:1-8

Next Week's Readings

Third Sunday of Advent – Year B.

Isaiah 61:1-2.10-11. Thessalonians 5:16-24. John 1:6-8.19-28.

Today- 2nd Sunday of Advent (Year B).

We will celebrate our "Rite of Reconciliation" as the Penitential Rite during Masses

*Birregurra: - Dec 10th at 9am

*Lorne & Apollo Bay: – Dec 17th (9am & 11am).

*Cressy: Friday 8th December at 6.30pm.

This Weeks

*Wednesday 13th Dec: Mercy Place: Ecumenical Christmas Service lead by Minister Association 1.30pm.

*Thursday 14th Dec: Committee Meeting Apollo Bay & Lorne Communities.

BAPTISM We welcome into our Parish Community this weekend.

'Beau Brown & Phoenix Brown.

Adult Initiation: Tuesday 5pm Mass. Year 9 Trinity College Student Charles Gaylard, Janice Van Engelen, Allison Wedding, Claire Osborn, Chloe Dunstan.

CHRISTMAS CHOIR PRACTICE TO COMMENCE ON WEDNESDAY 13TH DEC. AT 5.45PM.

~ ST MARY'S CHURCH ~

WELCOME To: Zaheer's wife Culsum, Family (Shazia-20; Aliagha-18; Alizada-16; Fereshta-14) who joined him this week. Appreciation to Vinnies, Trinity College, Numerous Parishioners (after 9am & 11am Masses) last Sunday for prompt & generous 'hospitality: Trinity College will welcome the 3 youngest in 2024. Picture: 4 with Sacred Heart Grade 6 Students who for 10 Years have produced another 'Welcome to Australia' Book, Zaheer has worked at A.L.C. for 7 Years.



MASS TIMES - COLAC, CRESSY, BIRREGURRA.		
Tuesday	5.00pm	St Mary's
Wednesday	10.00am	St Mary's
Thursday	*8.00am	St Mary's
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
RECONCILIATION: Each Friday after 10am Mass. Or Anytime by Appointment.		
St Mary's: Holy Hour- 1 st Tuesday of the month: 4-5pm		
Rosary - each Friday: 9.30am St Mary's Church		
Masses - Apollo Bay		
Tuesday	5.30pm	
Wed, Thurs, Friday	10.00am	
OUR LADY OF FATIMA - LORNE		
Sunday	9.00am	

Crawford Family Group Christmas lunch
 At City Bowls Club Gravesend St. Wed 13th
 At 12.30pm Ph: Mary 52312107~ for numbers.

REFLECTION:

Ever-inviting God,

your voice speaks to us across all ages
 engaging us in your promise of freedom and joy.

Grace these Advent days

that we may hear your Word with new insight,
 and follow the Way which opens before us.

For we long for Christ's coming with hope
 and await your enlightening Spirit.

Amen

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation..

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
A voice that speaks of peace.
His help is near for those who fear him
And his glory will dwell in our land.
Mercy and faithfulness have met;
Justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice
look down from heaven
The Lord will make us prosper and
our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him and
peace shall follow his steps.

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

***Columbian Calendar 2024**

St Mary's Piety Store

\$10 each.

***Christmas Cards also...**

APOLLO BAY & LORNE

FIRST COLLECTION

BSB: 083585 Acc: 810967715

SECOND COLLECTION

BSB: 033600 ACCOUNT: 230038

Parish Account Colac

* For Direct Giving Details:

BSB: 083 585

Account: 811051426

Planned Giving: REF:

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS DAILY

REFLECTION: booklets:

\$7.00 ea.

POPE INTENTION

DECEMBER 2023

For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Advent 2023 Prepare for Christmas with The Catholic Guy, Bruce Downes

Join me and people all around the world for a free Daily Devotional that will guide you on a life-changing journey through Advent.

Starting 3rd December, you'll receive a short inspirational video each day filled with real life stories and practical ways to help you in your prayer and spiritual journey. I find, "You don't become what you hope to become. You only become what you do." What will you do this Advent?

Register here: <https://BruceDownes.org/Advent/>

For more information, email: info@brucedownes.org

PARISHES IN THE BALLARAT REGION – Email from Bishop Paul 6.12.2023

Over the past few months, our Diocesan Pastoral Planning Panel has met with priests and parishioners of parishes in the Ballarat region to review the ministry districts proposed in our Looking Forward Pastoral Plan.

The timing of this review is linked with some changes in appointments that we are anticipating in the coming months.

In the light of the recent discussions, I am pleased to announce the following ministry districts, with the new grouping of parishes to take effect after Easter 2024. The new ministry districts will be:

- *Cathedral Parish, Ballarat North Parish and Beaufort Parish
- *Ballarat East Parish, Bungaree Parish and Gordon Parish
- *Redan Parish, Sebastopol Parish and Linton Parish
- *Wendouree Parish, Creswick Parish and Daylesford Parish

Beeac Community Christmas Carols
Featuring Colac City Band
Sunday 10th @7pm December
Venue: Beeac Community Centre

"Colac Chorale" Christmas singing program which will be held on Sunday night 17th Dec at St John's Church 7pm. All Welcome.
Anglican Parish of Colac

The priests who are currently serving in these parishes will continue in their current appointments until April 10, 2024. They have agreed that they will then conclude their appointments to allow new appointments to be made corresponding to the new ministry districts. (*Shorten version – full document copies in Gathering Space*).

St Mary's Parish will again host 'An Open Christmas Dinner'

in St Mary's Gathering Space – 25th Dec. 12.30pm to 2.30pm.

Meals prepared for collection or delivery: 23rd Dec 10am to 12 noon.

Call for volunteers: helpers, supporters, givers, etc.

Volunteer invited for Preparation g: Friday 22nd Dec – 9am in the Gathering Space!!

Any offers/donors etc. - contact Presbytery Office 9am – 12pm phone 5331 2177

(The dinner is 'An Open Invitation' to the wider community). Spread the Word!!