

St Joseph's ~ Cressy
St Peter's ~ Birregurra



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St Mary's Noticesheet

St Mary's Colac is a community of believers, who strive to bring Christ's good news to the people of Colac and district. Through service, caring and love we aim to create an environment of respect and understanding in which every one can grow. We acknowledge the Gulidjan, people, the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.

5th Sunday of Ordinary Time - Sunday 9th February 2020 -Year A

Responsorial Psalm

A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, say the Lord;
the man who follows me will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

This Week's Readings

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

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

Next Week's Readings

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

Eccl: 15:15-20 Cor: 2:6-10 Matt: 5:17-37

Deaths: Des Baker (Rice Village), Kathleen McGillivray (nee Kearns).

Anniversaries: Bob Lo Ricco, Jim & Chrissie Lord (Birregurra), Fr Frank O'Farrell, Greg McKew.

MASS TIMES:

Tuesday 11 th February	5.00pm	St Mary's <i>Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes: World Day of the Sick (Anointing Mass).</i>
Wednesday	10.00am	St Mary's
Thursday	10.00am	St Mary's
Friday	8.00am	St Mary's
Friday	9.30am	Trinity College Opening Mass. St Mary's
Friday	6.30pm	St Joseph's -Cressy
Saturday	6.00pm	St Mary's
Sunday	9.00am 11.00am	St Mary's St Mary's

SACRAMENTAL OF RECONCILIATION

Anytime by Appointment *Each Friday after Mass

8 February, World Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action Against Human Trafficking.

Pope Francis designated 8 February, the Feast of St Josephine Bakhita, as the World Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action Against Human Trafficking. Josephine Bakhita was born in Southern Sudan in 1869, and during her life experienced kidnapping and slavery in both Sudan and Italy. After gaining her freedom Josephine Bakhita dedicated her life to sharing her story and to supporting the poor and suffering. She eventually became a Canossian Sister and was canonised in 2000.

MEMORIAL MASS: Today: St Peter's Birregurra for Prof. Brian Galligan recently buried from Newman College Chapel Melbourne. Brian and his wife Roslyn are property owners in Birregurra and they have attended Mass and participated in Ministry at the Mass in Birregurra over recent years. Memorial Mass today. St Peter's at 9am (Roslyn and family have invited members of the Birregurra community to join them for a B.B.Q. Luncheon at the farm after Mass).

WEDNESDAY: 12TH: Leadership Team: 7.30pm

THURSDAY 13TH: Finance committee Meeting: 5.30pm.

'Thankyou:' Australian Bishop's Special 'Bush Fire' Collection: 'Congratulations' and 'Thanks' for generous support to the National Appeal recommended by the Australian Bishops Conference, taken up at every Mass celebrated in Australia last weekend: 'Colac' Contribution: \$3,610.00 Outstanding!!

Congratulations To:

Tini & Ron Smith celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary this weekend.

R.C.I.A. (Rite for the Christian Initiation of Adults)

Enquiry Session: Tuesday 11th February 3.30pm. We again support our candidate for Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist – this Easter with our group meeting.

(At the Presbytery)!!

CENTACARE (Family Counselling)

St Mary's Presbytery – Colac. Wendy 5559 3006

GLEESON FAMILY GROUP: First activity for 2020. A Special Occasion High Tea on Thursday 20th February 5.30pm at Pat and Brian's. RSVP is necessary. Contact Gleeson's 5231 2362.

SYMPATHY TO: Mary & Alan Carew on the death of Mary's sister (Kathleen McGillivray) this week.

Diocesan Levies (Oct/Nov/Dec.)

Parish Account Diocesan Administration: \$ 6,239.00 Christmas Appeal: \$ 2,908.00 BCSF \$ 532.00 Mission \$ 2,555.00 Pope Collection \$75.00 **Total: \$12,409.00**

Presbytery Account \$ 4,520.00

ASH WEDNESDAY: February 26th. We have ordered: Lenten Scripture Books (QLD): These "Be Opened." Books @ \$10 each. For private and /or group reflections. For your copy contact Parish Office.

ENCOURAGING A FAITH THAT WELLS FROM WITHIN



Helping people form a mature Catholic faith that will sustain them in years to come is a key challenge of the upcoming Plenary Council, writes Br Mark O'Connor FMS. *People are led and only changed by insights. They must well up from within; they can never be imposed. Yes, we do have a beautiful treasure in our Catholic faith. The Spirit keeps teaching us through the Word of God; our profound Catholic tradition, especially the Sacraments and the "signs of the times". This treasure, however, cannot be just simply imposed by an external authority in a culture such as ours. People must now be encouraged to deepen the insights of the gift of faith. Faith always needs to well up from within. Only then can faith dialogue with the culture around it. That's what is at the heart of the coming Plenary Council and the journey of synodality. Helping people form such a mature adult Catholic faith, that will sustain them in the difficult but joyous decades ahead, is then a key challenge of the coming Plenary Council. For the voice of the laity must be given much greater recognition and legislated for in canon law. Since lay people – especially women – make up the majority of the Church, we urgently need to ensure there are practical structures to make their voices count at every level of our Church."*

***Next Colac Meeting:** Tuesday 25th Feb- after 5pm Mass: Topic "A Church: Missionary & Evangelising."

POPE TURNS 19TH-CENTURY PALACE INTO HOMELESS SHELTER

A 19th-century palace in prime position in the centre of the Vatican has been converted into a homeless shelter on Pope Francis' orders.

Sitting on prime real estate just off St Peter's Square, the building could have generated significant income for the Church as a luxury hotel, but Pope Francis had other intentions. Pope Francis personally directed his almoner, Cardinal Konrad Krajewski (his officer in charge of distributing services to the poor), to convert it into a homeless shelter.

The four-storey building will house around 50 men and women, although the 16-bedroom facility has capacity for more during cold winter temperatures, Cardinal Krajewski said.

The lower levels will be used to provide social support to the occupants, including computing, reading, recreation, and psychological counselling. Volunteers can also use the building to prepare meals for homeless people who were sheltering elsewhere. Andrea Riccardi, founder of Rome-based Catholic association Community of Sant'Egidio, which will run the shelter, said all people should be welcomed by the Vatican. "The important thing is that here we are in front of the Vatican, within the heart of the Pope, the poor have a home in front of the Pope," he said.



I CAN'T HATE HIM, SAYS MOTHER OF CHILDREN KILLED IN CRASH

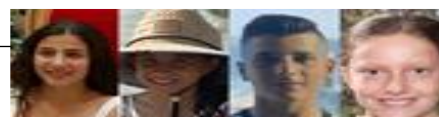
– What an Inspiration to Us All!!

Hundreds of mourners prayed the Rosary at the Oatlands crash site in Sydney's west last night in a massive outpouring of heartbreak and prayer for four children killed by an alleged drunk driver.

Led by a priest, the mourners also prayed the Stations of the Cross along the road where the children were struck. Mourners spilt over onto the street as they sang Christian hymns and recited the Lord's Prayer. Ms Abdallah, a member of the Maronite Church, said she had prayed her whole life to God but did not foresee losing her children.

"To be honest with you, I am sad, I am heartbroken, but I'm at peace because I know my kids are in a better place. My kids are angels. They are right now with us, I can feel them, I've got goosebumps, I can feel them touching me and telling me they are with us."

Ms Abdallah said she could not hate the driver. "I can't hate him, I don't want to see him, I don't hate him ... I think in my heart, I forgive him," she said. "I'm not going to hate him, because that's not who we are and that's not what our religion tells us."



St Vincent De Paul is looking for volunteers for our Colac Shop. Phone (03) 5231 2738

Whether you are looking to meet new people, learn new skills or give back to the Colac community, Vinnies have various volunteer positions urgently needed. Hours and days are flexible with volunteers needed in our donations area as well as driving/jockeying. We are also looking for volunteers in fashion, jewellery, collectables for sorting and pricing as well as working on the shop floor.