



Parish Priest: Fr Michael O'Toole
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 Secretary Hrs: Mon to Fri 9am-1pm

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.

Second Sunday of Lent – 8th March 2020 – Year A

Responsorial Psalm

"Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you."

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and Praise Lord Jesus Christ; Glory and Praise to you.
 From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
 this is my beloved Son, hear him..
 Glory and Praise Lord Jesus Christ; Glory and Praise to you.

This Week's Readings

Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 12:1-4. Timothy 1:8-10. Matthew 17:1-9.

Next Week's Readings

Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 17:3-7. Romans 5:1-2,5-8. John 4:5-42.

Deaths: Cecilia Melican (W'bool); Norma Parker, Jim Hebbard (Bendigo), Brett Edwick, Bill Rodgers (Bendigo).

Anniversaries: Patricia Barrett, Robert McCarthy, Sr. Francis McCarthy, Eileen Mary Danaher, Dorothy Cuolahan, Marita Barrow, Cameron Gerard Riches, Denis Melville.

MASS TIMES:

Tuesday	5.00pm	St Mary's
Wednesday	10.00am	St Mary's
Thursday	10.00am	St Mary's
Friday	10.00am	St Mary's
	6.30pm	St Joseph's Cressy
Saturday	6.00pm	St Mary's
Sunday	9.00am	St Mary's
	11.00am	St Mary's
Reconciliation: Friday after 10am Mass <u>OR</u> Anytime by Appointment.		

CHOIR PRACTICE

Wednesday 11th March at 5.30pm.
 St Mary's Church
 - New members most welcome!!

CENTACARE (Family Counselling)

St Mary's Presbytery Colac.
 For an appointment contact:
 Wendy 5559 3006

Choir for Mass of the Oils 2020

Singers and musicians in the diocese are invited to join the music group which is being formed for the Mass of the Oils on Monday, April 6, 2020. Practice times are Sunday, March 29 and Sunday, April 5 from 6.00pm – 7.00pm (following 5.00pm Mass). Please contact Julie Boyd in the Pastoral Ministry Office to register your interest julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au or 5337 7159

Today: Beac Ecumenical Worship Service: Sunday

March 8th at the Beac Uniting Church. 10.30am.

Tuesday: *Zone Meeting: 10am (O.L.H.C./East W'bool.

*Plenary Council Meeting: 5.30pm Meeting Room.

*C.W.L. Meeting: 1.30pm Meeting Room.

Special Ministers of the Eucharist Commitment

Ceremony: Mass 5pm Tuesday 10th March. – Jenny Scott, Terri Stephens, Anne Baum & Michael Alison.

Wednesday: *St Mary's School A.G.M – 7pm

*Parish Leadership Team Meeting – 7.30pm.

Thursday: Memorial Mass: 12th March for Sr Patsy / her sister Imelda Denetrio's R.I.P.

R.C.I.A. (Rite for the Christian Initiation of Adults) Tricia Hook is joining us in our Lenten Journey of Faith. All Welcome to join her for the Lenten Reflection each Tuesday – 3.30pm at the Presbytery.

Parish Leadership Team: Our Thanks to: Phillip Johnson who has retired from the Leadership Team after many years of service. Philip "Congratulations on your new appointment with Lions Club National as Multiple District Global Leadership Team leader. Phillip will remain as the St Mary's Parish Child Safeguarding Officer: Liaising with Mr Michael Myers the Diocesan Professional Standards Officer. Mr Mark McClelland has kindly accepted a role on the Parish Leadership Team joining other members: Sean James, Helen Jones, Brendan Scanlan, Pauline Morgan, Anne Picard-Drew and Jan Healey (Coordinator).

Next Parish Liturgy Team Meeting

Thursday 19th March at 10.30am (after Mass).

Please Note this is the final Meeting Plenary Council Meeting: Tuesday 10th March - after 5pm Mass:
Topic raised in this subject include: “Joyful, Hope-Filled & Spirit filled Community.” Acknowledge Christ’s presence in the Eucharist • Authentic faith teaching in Catholic schools • Be a witness in society and many more.



MINING TOWNS CELEBRATES GOOD SAMs

The West Australian gold-mine towns of Mt Magnet, Meekatharra and Cue might be small, but there was a strong turnout from across the community recently to celebrate the presence of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan. The community gathered to farewell Sister Geraldine (Gerri) Boylan, who has been the pastoral leader of the parish covering the three towns for the past 20 years.

Sister Geraldine, who was awarded the Senior Citizen of the Year in Mt Magnet recently, said she saw her pastoral role as one of friendship. “Every day I would go down the street and greet people,” she said. “After some time, you know who’s new in town and you say hello. I look on that as my street ministry. You can be neighbour to people just through being friendly. It’s amazing how people open up when you say hello.” “It was beautiful,” she said. “The people are beautiful and it’s a very simple lifestyle. Everybody is also extremely generous, and they volunteer for things that need doing. When you live in an isolated place everyone needs each other and supports each other. “I know I’m going to miss it a lot.” Sister Geraldine was treated to three farewells – one in Mt Magnet, one in Meekatharra and one in Cue. “It was lovely that so many people came to wish me well,” Gerri said. “I was surprised, because in each place, it wasn’t just parishioners who came, but people from right across the town. It was a simple, but beautiful farewell.”



PERFECT DAY TO THANK WOMEN LEADERS IN THE CHURCH

Archbishop Christopher Prowse, who leads the Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry, said March 8 will be a day to particularly recognise the irreplaceable role of women in the Church. “We know that across the Church, almost 80 per cent of those employed are women in important areas like education, social services, parish ministry and health and aged care,” he said. “What we are seeing more evidently today than a couple of decades ago is women at the top echelons of the Church’s ministries. The Bishops Conference’s largest agencies are Caritas, the National Catholic Education Commission and Catholic Social Services Australia – and all three are led by women. “The key full-time advisors to the episcopal commissions, the Conference’s executive secretaries, are all women. More women than men are on the bishops’ various advisory councils. Many of our school systems and most of our schools are led by women, not to mention women’s leadership in health and social services. “Frankly, without women steering the Church in those and many more areas, we would be in an enormous amount of difficulty.” Debra Sayce, the executive director of Catholic Education Western Australia said. “Compared with a number of other parts of our community, the trust that is placed in women leaders within the Church would be the envy of many organisations.” Dr Sayce added: “There is still a journey to continue in seeking to ensure that women are at the agenda-setting and decision-making table across Church organisations.” Archbishop Prowse said the many International Women’s Day events within Church settings across the country would be a good way to honour the increasing role and voice of Catholic women. “This clearly shouldn’t be something that only happens on March 8 each year, but I encourage the faithful to use International Women’s Day to thank the women around us for what they bring to the Catholic community in Australia,” he said.

FRIENDS OF FAITH AND LIGHT GEELONG Faith and Light is worldwide community. It began in Lourdes in 1971. It restarted in Geelong Prayer and sharing for people with Disability and families and carers. This month will be a Lenten theme. All invited March 14th 1.30-4pm. Venue St Mary’s Pioneer Room Hall upstairs 150 Yarra St queries Tricia 0414672267.

PASTORAL STATEMENT FROM THE VICAR GENERAL (MARCH 5TH 2020).

RE: CORONAVIRUS AND RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION.

Statement available-Hard copy on Gathering Space Table Red Paper.

*** Communion only by Host; *Celebrant only to drink from the chalice *Sign of Peace – Smile or Bow**

***All Ministers to Use Hand Sanitizers *Holy Water Fonts to be emptied.**

*** Preferable Communion in the hand and not on tongue.**

GLEESON FAMILY GROUP: Next activity is a day trip to Port Fairy on 8th March Meeting at the Church at 9.30am.
CRAWFORD FAMILY GROUP: Lunch at Forest Brewery on Wednesday 11th March Please meet at St Mary’s Car Park at 11.45am Ring 0427 311 546. If attending.