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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 everyone can grow.

### FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – 10 May 2020 – Year A

**Deaths:** Gwenneth Winchcomb (nee Finnigan, formerly Hamilton), Lesley Olive Sheedy.

**Anniversaries:** Margaret Mary Tuck, Pauline Versaevel, Fr Denis McCarthy, Margaret Sherman, Our Deceased Mother and Grandmothers.

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#### GOD DOES NOT SEND PLAGUES TO TEACH US THINGS, THOUGH WE CAN LEARN FROM THEM

BY FR. RICHARD LEONARD S.J.

*“Everything in the Old Testament should be interpreted through the revelation of God in Jesus Christ.*

*This matters when we come to understand the meaning of plagues and other natural disasters. For the peoples of the ancient world, if there was a flood, plague or pestilence then God was saying something through it. But in the Gospels Jesus never sends a plague, a natural disaster or turns anyone into a pillar of salt. If Jesus isn't into murderous retribution, nor, if we take him at his repeated word, is God the Father. Jesus is the incarnate correction to false views of how God works in the world.*

*So, even though Covid-19's origins are yet to be finally established, they have a natural explanation, and the way the virus has spread has been in measure the result of poor human decisions. God has not sent the pandemic upon us”.*



#### Media Statement of Bishop Paul Bird 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020

*‘The Diocese is pleased that the sections of the final report of the Royal Commission released today are now publicly available and we will consider particularly the findings, which relate to Cardinal Pell's time as a priest and consultor of the Diocese of Ballarat. I acknowledge the past failings in governance in the Diocese that allowed the terrible abuse of so many children who were entitled to feel safe in their interactions with the church. The Diocese also acknowledges the tragic consequences of that abuse to those abused and their families. The Diocese responds to all allegations of abuse and concerns about the welfare of children by reporting the allegations and concerns to the authorities. The Diocese is also continuing to meet its legal and pastoral responsibilities to the victims of sexual abuse’.*

Paul Bird - **Bishop of Ballarat**

#### Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – now open for new participants

Low-cost online study and formation for lay workers in parish and other ministries - employed or volunteers. Sacraments, Scripture, Youth Ministry, Liturgy, Leadership and more. Study over 5 weeks per subject. Study Cycle 4 begins May 24. Registrations open now. More information at [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) 0407 523 424.

**Heart to Heart e-Seminars** Archbishop Chris Prowse, Canberra-Goulburn Diocese, is presenting these 30 minute e-seminars over four weeks, leading you into a deeper relationship with Christ during this time of isolation  
<https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/hearttoheart/>

#### POPES INTENTION FOR MAY

**For Deacons** - We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church

**Worth Watching View ABCI Compass View ABCI 11am Sundays. “Songs of Praise” Sundays 11.30am on ABC1.**

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**\*Easter Water: Available at St Mary's Church Doors!**

**\*\*Flowers – per kindness of Mary Testa & Grand-daughter: Bouquet of flowers available at the Church Doors for our Mothers: living or deceased.**

#### Taking Place this Week . . .

- May is traditionally known as the Month of Our Lady

**Strong Recommendation:** If Parishioners (Individual/Families) have members planning hospitalizations and seek any other sacramental ministry contact Parish Office Ph: 5231 2177, prior to admission to facilities.

#### Continued Appreciation to Parishioners for Sensitivity and Generosity in ongoing support of the Parish/ Presbytery Accounts.

##### ‘Diocesan Commitments This Week’

- @ Voluntary Workers Insurance Professional Indemnity & Statutory Liability \$946.00
- @ Motor Vehicle insurance \$803.00

**‘Sunday Mass’ On Television: 6am – Channel 10**  
 Catholic Mass online: <http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand> or  
 - St Joseph's Parish Warrnambool: can be viewed via: YouTube - [www.tiny.cc/joe3280](http://www.tiny.cc/joe3280) or Facebook Or <https://www.facebook.com/stjosephswarrnambool>  
 - Sacred Heart Parish Mildura: Sunday Masses available on: <http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIHcYtCTuk5DivKLWYIbvag>  
 - St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat: Mass livestreamed daily at 11.30am can be viewed on Patrick's Cathedral Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/patrick'scathedral19>