



Parish Priest: Fr Michael O'Toole
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 Secretary Hrs: Mon to Fri 8.30am -12.30pm

St Mary's Noticesheet

'Discover A Better Christmas'

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.

First Sunday of Advent – 29TH November 2020 – Year B

Deaths: Bernie O'Shannassy, Nykong Muger (Sudan), Robin Catley, Robert Krally, Graeme Hickey, Alma Watters.

Anniversaries: Wendy Darcy, Anthony Couch, Don Lo Ricco, Tony Lo Ricco, Angelo Cavalieri, Jake Inglis, Fathers McCunnie, Martin, Martin Gleeson, & Woodford, Sister Mary Ellen Ryan, S.G.S.

MASS TIMES - THIS WEEK

Tuesday	5.00pm	St Mary's
Wednesday	10.00am	St Mary's
Thursday	10.00am	St Mary's
Friday	10.00am	St Mary's

RECONCILIATION: Anytime by Appointment.

Continued Appreciation to Parishioners for Generosity in ongoing support of the Parish.
Parish Bank Details for those wanting to assist with Parish Expenses:

* **For Direct Giving Details:**

BSB: 083 585 Account: 811051426

Planned Giving: REF: Envelope number/surname:

Or phone Mandy in the Parish Office 5231 2177

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

POPE FRANCIS – NOVEMBER INTENTION

Artificial Intelligence

We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

Sympathy: To Colleen O'Shannassy (Cathy, Leanne, and families) on the death of Bernie this week.

*To James Gateck on the death of his mother in Katoom, Sudan this week. James will be at 5pm Mass/this Tuesday.

*To Brendan Scanlan, Dion & Mary-Anne on the death of Robert Krally this week (Mary-Anne's husband).

CHRISTMAS DINNER: This year effected by Covid-19! Dinner this year: We do hope to provide Dinners for all who would appreciate a 'specially & lovingly' prepared Dinner. These can be either "delivered or picked up". The meals will need to be "ordered". Next Meeting for those interested in assisting: Tuesday 8th December 10am St Mary's Gathering Space. More details to come after the Meeting.

CENTACARE (Family Counselling)

St Mary's Presbytery Colac. Wendy 5559 3006

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: New Church Season: Sunday Year B Readings. Weekday Year 2.

THANK YOU: * Support of the Parishioners: To the Parish Planned Giving Program (i.e. Parish General Expenses of Maintenance, Services, Staff, Diocesan Commitments – been outstanding over these 8 months. * With Normal Sunday Mass Times recommencing this weekend the larger Bulletin with extra prayers & readings will conclude this weekend. Those desiring to have the weekly bulletin continuing to be emailed direct each weekend can indicate this intention to Mandy (Weekdays: 9am-12Noon).

* With the Church capacity now capped at 144 people no need for any phone bookings weekday or Sunday Masses.

*Music at our Liturgies to be either D.V.D or Organ Music. Singing is provided by a Cantor ONLY

***Masses to Resume:** Cressy: Friday 11th Dec.6.30pm. Birregurra: Sunday 13th Dec 9.00am.

*Lists of Mass/Church Attendees kept in Parish Office for 30 days.

Pious Goods Store: Teresa Fleming (Co-Ordinator) has had a 'spring clean' at the Store. Some items for SALE. New Items Available including: Columban Calendars @ \$9.

Plenary Council Update:

The journey to the Plenary Council 2020 continues. While it is in a context more different than we could have ever expected the need to pray, discern and listen to the Holy Spirit and each other is more important than ever.

Link to Reflection Guide for responding to the 'Thematic Discernment Papers': [HERE](#)

Remembrance Wall Applications

St. Mary's Parish Colac has a Remembrance Wall near the entrance to the church. Parishioners are invited to put forth and pay for names to be placed there.

Application Forms are available in the Foyer or at Presbytery Office. Please note the final date to submit names to the Parish Office is Wednesday 2nd December.

PLENARY COUNCIL PRAYER

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost. Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.

O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council. Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road. Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth. Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying. Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel. Through

Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

Our Lady Help of Christians Pray for us. St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.

WOMEN NEED NOT BE PRIESTS TO LEAD CHURCH, FRANCIS SAYS IN NEW BOOK

ROME — Pope Francis has strongly defended his record on naming women to positions of authority at the Vatican, saying in a new book that women do not need to be priests to serve as leaders in the global Catholic Church.

Francis also notes that in Catholic dioceses across the world women often serve in leadership positions, running Catholic schools or hospital systems, or heading up diocesan departments.

"Perhaps because of clericalism, which is a corruption of the priesthood, many people wrongly believe that Church leadership is exclusively male," the pope states in the book.

"To say they aren't truly leaders because they aren't priests is clericalist and disrespectful," he adds.

The pontiff brings up the issue of women serving in the church as part of a six-page reflection on the "leading role" that women have played during the pandemic. He says that countries with women at the helm "have on the whole reacted better." Francis says he has tried to "create spaces where women can lead, but in ways that allow them to shape the culture, ensuring they are valued, respected, and recognized."

The pope says he has also focused on naming women as consultors to several Vatican congregations, "so that they can influence the Vatican while preserving their independence from it."

"Changing institutional culture is an organic process which calls for integrating, without clericalizing, the viewpoints of women," states the pope.



PREFACE I OF ADVENT

The two comings of Christ

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord. For he assumed at his first coming the lowliness of human flesh, and so fulfilled the design you formed long ago, and opened for us the way to eternal salvation, that, when he comes again in glory and majesty and all is at last made manifest, we who watch for that day may inherit the great promise in which now we dare to hope. And so, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end.

**PURPLE IS A COLOUR OF PREPARATION
AND ANTICIPATING JOY.**

***** As November: Month of the Holy Souls Concludes:***

Prayers for the Faithful Departed

Dear God,

We remember our relatives and friends who have died. We miss them dearly and wish they were here with us. Help us through our sorrow.

Our grieving is a sign of our love for them. We know that we were blessed with these people in our lives, and that they continue to live in us. God, may we be comforted today in knowing that our loved ones are at peace, in your embrace, and that one day we will see them again. Amen

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- **Our Diocesan Community:** Latest Edition available at Church Door/Presbytery Door.