



Parish Priest: Fr Michael O'Toole
 Phone: 03 52312177
 Fax: 03 52312189
 Email: colac@ballarat.catholic.org.au
 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

Fourth Sunday of Advent - 20th December 2020 - Year B

Deaths: Fr Frank Young, Terry Burdeu, Joyce Grant (Arthur), Wayne Gardiner, Max Hardwick Melika Arnott,
Anniversaries: Pat Murnane, Maria (Mary) Monaco, Robbie Missen, Cam Smith, Ann Paatsch, Noel Murnane, Norman Rowe, Glenys Balchin, Ronald Brown, Frs Michael Glennen & Patrick Bushell, Bernie Kelly.

MASS TIMES - THIS WEEK		
Tuesday	5.00pm	St Mary's
Wednesday	10.00am	St Mary's
CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES		
Thursday 24th Dec	Vigil ~ St Peter's Birregurra Christmas Mass	6pm
Thursday 24th Dec	Vigil ~ St Joseph's Cressy Christmas Mass	8pm
Thursday 24th Dec	Vigil St Mary's Colac Christmas Mass	6pm/8pm Under Cover Tennis Courts St Mary's School
Thursday 24th Dec	St Mary's Colac Christmas Mass	11pm St Mary's Church
Friday 25th Dec	St Mary's Colac Christmas Mass	9am - Only St Mary's Church
Saturday	6.00pm	St Mary's
Sunday	9.00am 11.00am	St Mary's St Mary's
RECONCILIATION: Anytime by Appointment.		

RE: CHRISTMAS MASSES: DUE TO THE CAPACITY OF ST MARY'S CHURCH BEING REDUCED TO 144 PEOPLE (SQUARE METERAGE: COVID-19 COMPLIANCE) THE 2 LARGEST MASSES COLAC CHRISTMAS VIGIL: 6PM & 8PM WILL BE CELEBRATED ON THE ST MARY'S SCHOOL TENNIS COURTS: UNDERCOVER. CHAIRS FROM BOTH THE SCHOOL & CHURCH WILL BE IN PLACE: EXCELLENT LIGHTING. PARISHIONERS ALSO WELCOME TO BRING OWN CHAIRS.

OUR PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM: HOSTS

VIGIL: HELEN JONES & JAN HEALEY

9AM: MARK MCLENNAN & SEAN JAMES

11AM: ANNE PICARD -DREW & BRENDAN SCANLAN

CONGRATULATIONS to Jesse McCarthy (Stacey & Andrew) on his celebration of Confirmation First Communion this weekend.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS APPEAL –

(Bishop Paul Bird's support to Missionary Projects).

This year with our normal collections taken up as Leaving Collection – please place in a marked envelope: Bishops Christmas Appeal". Place in Collection Basket or deliver to Presbytery.

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

* **With Sunday Mass Times** recommencing the larger Bulletin with extra prayers & readings has concluded. 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**

*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.

Christmas Dinner : Final Orders
 to be taken at the Parish Office this
 Monday, 21st Dec. 12noon.
 Meal will be delivered.

Sympathy to: Judy Durr on the death of her brother, Terry Burdeu (Melb) this week.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY Colac Conference Christmas Appeal

We are most grateful for the donated food given to us by parishioners, Trinity, St. Marys and Sacred Heart schools, and Service Clubs of Colac. It has enabled us to continue assisting the needy during the coronavirus pandemic. Again this year we will be giving out Christmas hampers to the poor. If you wish to make a donation of food such as Christmas hams, puddings, tin desserts, short breads etc. please leave under the Christmas tree in Gathering Space.

Thank you, Paul Kennedy. President.



Advent Prayer

God of day and night,
send your Holy Spirit
upon us in these
weeks of Advent.

Into our busy lives let there be quiet spaces
to hear your voice each day.
Into our anxious minds let the knowledge of
your presence brings comfort and peace.
Into your troubled world let your promise of
redemption bring light and hope.
Move us to transform our lives to be more in
step with that of Jesus, your Son. To those
suffering hunger and oppression, may we
bring food and freedom. To those who are
lonely and forgotten may we bring friendship
and care. To those who are bullied, abused or
reviled may we offer support and justice. To
those who are lost and despairing may we be
beacons of hope. Christ appeared as a light
shining in the darkness. As followers of Christ,
may we be a light to all our brothers and
sisters, strong in faith, hope and love and
sharing his kindness and blessings with all.

Amen.

MARRIAGE TIP: As we wait for Christmas, it's
a good time to develop the virtue of patience.
Focus on being patient today, especially with
family members. Offer up the frustrations that
come from things not going the way you had
planned.

Popes Intentions for December

For a Life of Prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus
Christ be nourished by the Word of God
and a life of prayer.

Plenary Council Update: In light of the
ongoing uncertainty around future COVID-19
restrictions regarding travel and public gatherings,
especially social distancing, a decision has been
taken for the first Plenary Council assembly to take
place using a combination of online and in-person
delivery. Read more at the diocesan website
<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/first-plenary-council-assembly-mixes-in-person-online-format/>

***We farewell 2020, a challenging year
for so many people and now prepare to
celebrate this joyful Christmas season
and look forward with hope and
healing. - Howard Thurman, and American
poet expressed it this way.***

When the Song of the Angels Is Stilled

When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and the princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart.

=====
June Sherry - Christmas 2020.

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.

**“Make it a practice to judge persons and things
in the most favourable light at all times and
under all circumstances.**

St Vincent de Paul