



St Peter's Birregurra
St Joseph's Cressy



Australia Day

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

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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.

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time – 24th January 2021 –Year B

Responsorial Psalm

Teach me your ways, O'Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is near:

believe the Good News!

Alleluia!

This Week's Readings

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Times – Year B

Jon 3:1-5,10, 1 Cor 7:29-31, Mark 1:15.

Next Week's Readings

4th Sunday in Ord Time Year B

Deut 18:15-20, Corinthians 7:32-35, Mark 1:21-28

Deaths: Noelle Kelly, Esma Hallcroft, Guurtje Bell, Mary Fogarty,

Anniversaries: Frank Shalley, Ann Buckle, Rae Simpson, John Denis Foley, Monsignors Galligan and Conway

MASS TIMES:

Tuesday	9.00am*	St Mary's
Wednesday	10.00am	St Mary's
Thursday	10.00am	St Mary's
Friday	10.00am	St Mary's
Saturday	6.00pm	St Mary's
Sunday	9.00am 11.00am	St Mary's

SACRAMENTAL OF RECONCILIATION

Anytime by Appointment *Each Friday after 10am Mass

*Baptisms this weekend we welcome:

Alfie O'Connell -St Mary's Colac
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Sr Aileen Moloney R.S.M. – celebrating her 70th Anniversary, today Sunday 24th January.

Her Address: Unit 4, Sherlock Close
Rice Village, Marshall 3216.

Congratulation to Dion Scanlan celebrating his 70th Birthday on Sat 30th January and Joan Hannah celebrating her 90th Birthday on Tuesday 26th January.

GLEESON FAMILY GROUP MEMBERS.

Welcome to 2021, a year we hope to be an improvement on last year! We are planning a social meeting on Sunday 31st January, 2pm at Gleeson's to decide what we might do this year. Looking forward to seeing you all again.

CRAWFORD FAMILY GROUP: Lunch at Colac Central Hotel on Tuesday February 2nd at 12 noon. RSVP: 0427 313 546.

CROFT FAMILY GROUP: B.Y.O. 'Fish n Chips' Friday January 29th 6.30pm at the east end of the Botanic Gardens.

LITURGY MEETING -WEDNESDAY 27TH AT 10.30AM

2020 – SUCH A CHALLENGING YEAR (yes, even for Parishes!!) Yet the support for St Mary' Parish, Colac by parishioner has been outstanding! "You have To Be Congratulated!"

2019 Planned Giving: Jan to Dec: \$ 126,581.

2020 Planned Giving: Jan to Dec: \$ 128,705.

And that with no Parish Masses for over 6 months. Way a powerful statement from parishioner regarding their loyalty, faithfulness and love of their Faith & Community.

Diocesan Levies Paid this Month:

(Quarter: Oct/Nov/Dec.)

- Parish Account
Diocesan Administration: \$ 7,364.50
Christmas Appeal: \$ 940.30 (last Year: 2,906.)
Total: \$ 8,304.80
- Presbytery Account - \$ 4,036.00

2021 School Year – Our Teachers and Staff return this week with Students at the various Schools returning as per each Schools Plan.

- From January 1st the Schools' are "governed" by DOBCEL (Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited): Bishop Paul Bird is the President of the Company; Mrs O'Neil is the Chairperson of the Company; Mr Tom Sexton is the Executive Officer. – From our Parish Stance we offer our best wishes and prayers from a Safe, Enjoyable and Productive Year.

The Colac Conference of the SVDP Society wishes to thank all parishioners for their generous donations to the Christmas appeal. As a result, we were able to give a hamper to 43 needy families. Paul Kennedy ~ President.

AUSTRALIA DAY 2021

On Australia Day, let's reflect, respect and celebrate. We're all part of the story.

On Australia Day we can celebrate all the things we love about Australia

More than half of all Australians get involved in Australia Day, participating all around the country. From the biggest cities to our smallest, most remote townships, there are thousands of inclusive events and activities taking place. But we also recognise that Australia Day can be hard for some, with some feeling less included than others.

The national campaign for Australia Day is called, We're all part of the Story and it is based on the fact that all Australians play a part in our national identity. Australia Day, we urge everyone to take time out to reflect on our history, what impact it had on our first peoples, and pay respect to all those who sacrificed much along the way to getting to where we are today. Whether it's the land, sense of fair go, our lifestyle, democracy, the freedoms we enjoy and most importantly, the stories of our people. No matter where each of our personal stories began, Australia Day is when we can all come together and pay tribute to our diversity, promote reconciliation and celebrate our progress as a dynamic, modern society. Australia Day is when we acknowledge and celebrate the contribution that every Australian makes. From our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples – who have been here for more than 65,000 years – to those who have lived here for generations and to those who have come more recently to call our country home.

LITURGY ROSTER -To help in the planning of the next Liturgy Roster – Please state your availability in the clipboard on the table in Gathering Space.

CENTACARE (Family Counselling)

St Mary's Presbytery – Colac. Wendy 5559 3006
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HEALTH SERVICES: 1: Again, to update:

Due to COVID-19. Restrictions!! Advisable for those desiring "Sacramental Ministry" to notify the parish Office – prior to admission to all facilities. Families can request "Pastoral Care Visits if necessary. Parish Office: 5231 2177.

2: Parishioners who feel safer wearing a mask to Mass – this is your personal choice.

Pope Francis Message to Joe Biden:

"I... ask God, the source of all wisdom and truth, to guide your efforts to foster understanding, reconciliation and peace with the United States and among the nations of the world in order to advance the universal common good."

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC).

The 26th of January 1788 was not a day of celebration for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people nor was it for the passengers upon the first fleet – a mix of prisoners and military personnel. Perhaps it is time that we rethink the date upon which our nation comes together as one to recognise and acknowledge the gifts that God has provided in our great southern land.

For the past year, those that sit upon the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council have asked their community, peers, friends and fellow Catholics if they celebrate Australia Day. The resounding response was no. That answer was not followed by hatred or vitriol, it was simply that they felt it was not meant for them nor was it mindful of the hurt experienced by Australia's First People. For many, the opportunity to spend the day with family and friends is appreciated and our people understand and respect the pride that some Australians have for the day, however the foundation of unity and inclusiveness is just not there.

Celebrating our nation on a day that harbors grief, invokes painful memories and ignores the true history of our society just doesn't make sense. Given that the day has been celebrated on various dates and under different names in the past 100 years, what will be lost by moving the date?

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council.

Preface for Australia Day: *Grant we pray, O Lord our God, that as the Cross shines in our southern skies so may Christ bring light to our nation, to its peoples old and new, and by saving grace, transform our lives.*

For from ancient times, you made this land a home for many peoples, and became their rock of strength; when they were hungry, you gave them food, and when thirsty, water even in the desert. To all your providence has proclaimed the Good News of Jesus Christ your Son, sent by you to the Saviour of all the world, who has brought peace by his sacrifice on the Cross.... May God who formed our southern land by you a rock of strength. **Amen.**

May God who rules the great seas keep you safe in every storm. **Amen.**

May God who made the skies above turn your darkness into light. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**