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 Secretary Hrs: Mon & Fri 9am & 12 pm

# 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.

## Third Sunday of Lent – 7<sup>th</sup> March 2021 –Year B

### Responsorial Psalm

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

### Gospel Acclamation

*Glory and Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*  
 God loved the world so much, he gave us his only son,  
 That all who believe in him might have eternal life.  
*Glory and Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*

### This Week's Readings

Third Sunday of Lent Year B  
 Exodus 20:1-17 Corinthians 1:22-25 John 2:13-25

### Next Week's Readings

Fourth Sunday of Lent Year B  
 Chronicles 36:14-16. 19-23 Ephesians 2:4-10 John 3:14-21

**\* Project Compassion Kits available in Gathering Space.**

**Deaths:** Michael Dignan (B'at East), Mary Morag Falcolner, Wray Taylor (Geelong), Michael Holdforth.

**Anniversaries:** Robert McCarthy, Sr. Mary Frances McCarthy, S.G.S., Ted McGuane,

### 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
Friday	6.30pm	St Joseph's – Cressy
Saturday	6.00pm	St Mary's
Sunday	9.00am 11.00am	St Mary's
Sunday	9.00am	St Peter's – Birregurra

### SACRAMENTAL OF RECONCILIATION

Anytime by Appointment \*Each Friday after 10am Mass

### ECUMENICAL WORSHIP AT Beeac on March 14<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am.

### A Pilgrimage for the Year of St Joseph (Fr Justin Driscoll)

The Aussie Camino is a pilgrimage route running from Portland in Victoria to Penola in South Australia, inspired by the life and journeys of Australia's first Saint, Mary of the Cross MacKillop and her mentor Fr Julian Tenison Woods. This year being declared the Year of St Joseph by Pope Francis, is a great opportunity to visit & reflect on the "Josephites or Brown Joeys"; the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, founded by St Mary MacKillop in Penola in 1866. On average, you will walk between 20 & 25 km per day (6 to 8 hours) for the 8 days of walking. Each day is long, however it is spectacular and is both a spiritual and a human experience. **For more information contact:**

Travel Ballarat: [leonie@lifestyletravel.com.au](mailto:leonie@lifestyletravel.com.au)

10 Days – Portland to Penola:

Departing Ballarat: Friday, April 30, 2021

Returning Ballarat: Sunday, May 9, 2021

### THIS WEEK NOTICES

**Wednesday:** R.C.I. A. St Mary's 7pm - Gathering Space.

**VINNIES** – (Urgent) Volunteers required to work at Vinnies on any Saturday. Hours from 10am – 2pm. (whatever is possible). Either in the Shop or at the back of the Store. Contact :523 12738 (Business Hours 9am-5pm).



**\*Baptism this weekend we welcome:**

Henley Cooper Finn  
 - St Mary's Church

### LENTEN REGULATIONS – 2021 – Bishop Paul Bird

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting and Abstinence from meat. On all other Fridays, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled through any one of the following: (a) Prayer: for example, Mass attendance; family prayer, a visit to a church or chapel, reading the Bible, making the Stations of the Cross, praying the rosary. (b) Self-denial: for example, not eating meat, not eating sweets or desserts, reducing time for watching TV or other entertainments. (c) Helping others- for example, taking the family to visit the elderly in old people's home or in the parish, visiting the sick or someone who is lonely. All who have completed their eighteenth year and have not yet begun their sixtieth year are bound to fast. (Canon 1252).

**CATHOLIC CARE (Family Counselling)**  
 St Mary's Presbytery/Colac Ph. Wendy 0409 192 480

### CROFT FAMILY GROUP

Brunch at NuDeli Sunday March 14 after 9am Mass.  
 Please RSVP to Linda 04483 14774 for booking.  
 All Parishioners Welcome.

**'Look To Jesus': Reflections for Lent & Easter available \$6 - In Gathering Space.**



### PROJECT COMPASSION CALLS ON AUSTRALIANS TO 'BE MORE'.

*Compassion: "We're giving them what is their right. We're helping them to have the basic necessities of human life. And that's our duty – if it's their right, it's our duty."*

Twenty-two-year-old Oliva lives in Tanzania with her farmer husband, two young sons and an adopted niece and nephew. She didn't have the opportunity to go to school growing up - and was embarrassed that she couldn't read, write or count. Around 25 percent of Tanzanian girls and women over 15 years cannot read or write, with many families unable to afford school

fees or uniforms. Now, as an adult, Oliva runs a kiosk and works as a farm labourer - but her business was losing money because she couldn't add up.

Then Oliva enrolled in Caritas Australia-supported literacy and numeracy classes. She also set up a classroom at home to teach her neighbours, for free, because they were too shy to attend larger classes.

Oliva has now graduated, as have some of her students. Attendance at her classes is growing, her kiosk is thriving and she can help her children with their homework. She aims to become a pastor and run for leadership in the next local election. Oliva aspires to "Be More" and wants to help her community to achieve its vision of a better life for all.

***"I am proud to be a teacher who helps others to achieve their dream," Oliva says.***

***Pick up your Project Compassion Envelopes/ Money Box in the "Gathering Space!!"***

**Reforming the Church and Australia's Plenary Council A long time priest in Melbourne says the Plenary Council must address four key areas if it wants to renew and enliven the Church. - Fr Terry Kean | Australia: Copies of Fr Terry's Article are available in the Gathering Space Or you may read full article visit: <https://catholicoutlook.org/reforming-the-church-and-australias-plenary-council/>**

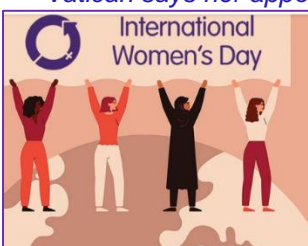
### POPE FRANCIS' VISIT IS SIGN OF CLOSENES TO THE CHURCH IN IRAQ.



Pope Francis' first papal Apostolic Journey to Iraq is scheduled to begin on Friday, 5 March. During the four-day visit, the Pope will meet with Christian communities as well as civil and religious authorities. This will be the Holy Father's first trip abroad in about fifteen months as the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic and the subsequent restrictions on movement have posed a challenge to external travel. It is also the first-ever papal journey to Iraq. The Apostolic visit begins on Friday morning when the Pope departs from Rome for Baghdad's International Airport. He is slated to visit several cities including Mosul, Qaraqosh and Erbil. Speaking to Vatican News, Cardinal Parolin described the Pope's visit as a sign of his "closeness to the Catholic Church" in the country and to its dwindling Christian communities. "We know that the Church has suffered a lot," Cardinal Parolin said. "It has lost many Christians who have left Iraq for other countries." The Church, therefore, needs the presence of the Holy Father "to be encouraged and to continue her mission of witnessing Jesus Christ and the Gospel in the difficult situation in which she finds herself," he said. The presence of Christians in Iraq has significantly diminished in the past two decades. In 2003, before the deposal of Saddam Hussein, there were approximately 1.4 million Christians in the country. However, thousands of Christians were killed and many others fled for their lives in the face of violence and persecution under the 2014 – 2017 occupation of the Plain of Nineveh by the so-called Islamic State. Another positive dimension to the Pope's visit, according to the Cardinal, is to "boost the efforts which have already started to reconstruct the country. These efforts, he said, are carried out on many fronts, and include fighting corruption and sectarianism, and ensuring that everyone is treated equally – "giving to everyone their deserved places in the fabric of society notwithstanding their The Pope's visit, Cardinal Parolin concluded, will be an occasion of "interreligious dialogue, collaboration, understanding and fraternity between Christians and Muslims in view of the good of the country and its brighter future." religious belonging or class." Of major importance also, is the interreligious significance of the Pope's visit.

### Nun named to voting position at Vatican praises 'brave' pope.

*A French nun who has become the first woman to hold a voting position at the Vatican says her appointment is evidence the "patriarchal mindset is changing" as more and more women assume high-level decision-making responsibilities in the Catholic hierarchy.* Sister Nathalie Becquart said during a news conference that her appointment as an undersecretary in the Vatican's Synod of Bishops office was a "brave signal and prophetic decision" by Pope Francis who has repeatedly stressed the need for women to have a greater say in church governance.



### Prayer for International Women's Day - March 8 2021

*Loving God, We celebrate your faithfulness and love. On this day we commit ourselves to the promotion of the full humanity of all women everywhere. We know that whatever denies, diminishes, or distorts the full humanity of women is not of God. Help us to be faithful to your call to love. Amen* (Education for Justice)