



Parish Priest: Fr Michael O'Toole
Phone: 03 52312177
Fax: 03 52312189
Email: colac@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Secretary Hrs: Mon - Fri 8.30am-12.30pm

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.

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sunday 5th September 2021-Year B

Responsorial Psalm:

Praise the Lord my soul!

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the Kingdom
and healed all who were sick.
Alleluia!

This Week's Readings

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 35:4-7, 6-8 St James 2:1-5, 27 Mark 7:31-37

Next Week's Readings

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 50:5-9, St James 2:14-18, Mark 8:27-35

Deaths: Mary Wooley, Sr. Elizabeth Lloyd (Sister of Brian Lloyd).

Anniversaries: Jessica McGuane, Fr. Robert Markey, Jack & Eileen Mahoney, Kevin Mahoney, Marie Mercuri, Gertrude Kemp, Joan Casey, James Carew, Maggie O'Sullivan, Owen Britt, John Griful, Mary Carew, Adele Feeley, Christine Carew, Fr Michael Quigley, Anastasia Gleeson.

MASS TIMES

Mass online: 'Bishop Paul Bird'

**St Patricks Cathedral Ballarat
Sunday 11 AM**

Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/patricks.cathedral.9/>

****Mass for you at Home on Sundays
6am of Channel 10 WIN TV**

PLENARY COUNCIL PRAYER

*For the Catholic Church in Australia as we prepare for the First Assembly of the Plenary Council in October: that the Holy Spirit may inflame the hearts and minds of all so that we may experience a new Pentecost in this Great South Land of the Holy Spirit. *(Pause for silent prayer)* Lord, hear us.

For our nation: that the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Plenary Council gatherings may help us to be more compassionate towards our neighbour with special care for those who are poor, marginalised and vulnerable. *(Pause for silent prayer)* Lord, hear us.

We pray for all the Plenary Council Members who are preparing for the First Assembly in October: that they will be attentive to the heartfelt hopes voiced in the initial consultations. *(Pause for silent prayer)* Lord, hear us.

We pray for the Church of Australia as we continue the preparations for the Plenary Council: that we may 'Listen to what the Spirit is saying' and be open to being guided by God's Holy Spirit. *(Pause for silent prayer)* Lord, hear us.

Thank You – To Parishioners for generous donation to the appeal: "Deacon Georges Support" in the south Sudanese Diocese of Malakai. These donations will be processed this coming Wednesday.

Any Gift can be placed in an envelope: Marked: 'Deacon George: Sth Sudan Appeal' – and return to the Parish or School Office.

*** For Direct Giving Details:**

BSB: 083 585 Account: 811051426

Parish Account: REF: Sth Sudan Appeal

****Thank you to those who sent in a donation.**

SAMOAN WORKERS: As reported in the local media several Samoan Workers are now employed at Australian Lamb Company Colac. Neighbourhood House (Carolyn Gatti) have endeavoured to organise hospitality, support and care. The Ministers Association was asked if each local Colac Church Community would be 'hospitable' to two of the houses. I have made a 'Pastoral Visit' to both houses assigned to St. Mary's. If parishioners would be interested in such 'reach out' they could contact our parish office. Father Michael. Email: colac@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Phone: 52 312177

Crawford Family Group:

Have Cancelled Lunch on 7th September.

Due to COVID Lockdown Restriction any questions please contact Dulcie.

Congratulations: To Mr. Tim O'Farrell (former Principal, Trinity College) who has been appointed by DOBCEL (new Governing Body: Catholic Education) as the Consultant: For all Secondary Schools in the Ballarat Diocese.

**CENTACARE FAMILY RELATIONSHIP
COUNSELLOR FROM WARRNAMBOOL – WENDY GARNER
For an appointment ph: 5559 3000**

Prayer for Child Safety – (A Novena: From today to Sept 12th) Sept. 12th ‘Safeguarding Sunday’

Gracious God,

You love and care for all of your children, especially the smallest and most vulnerable.

We entrust to you the lives of children and adults who have been sexually abused, and whose trust and innocence have been destroyed.

Help us to hear their cries of pain and to take responsibility for those whose lives have been broken.

Help us to recognise the hurt felt by those wounded by abuse and the failure to be heard.

We pray that with the help of your grace communities and families will find understanding and support, so that now and in the future their wounds may be healed and they may find lasting peace.

Let your grace and love fall gently now upon our children and adults at risk, giving them the inner strength, peace and resilience to seek out assistance when required.

We ask this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen

Mother of Mercy pray for us. Live, Jesus, in our hearts, for ever!



BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND

Collection for Sick and Retired Priests

The Ballarat Clergy Support Fund provides for retired priests who have spent a lifetime selflessly caring for others, and who deserve a happy and peaceful retirement. The Fund is currently supporting and caring for seventeen retired priests. Over the next few years, a number of priests currently in parish ministry will be moving into retirement and will also need to be supported by the fund. This annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our sick and retired clergy. Please give as generously as you can and help us continue ‘caring for those who cared for us’. Special envelopes are available for this collection, which will be taken up today. You may also return your envelope next week. A credit card facility is available for your convenience, and contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible. **CARING FOR THOSE WHO CARED FOR US – THE CHURCH COMMUNITY’S**

Pope Francis in his monthly prayer intention for September 2021 prays that we will make courageous choices.

For Pope Francis, responding to the threat faced by the environment is the most pressing task for our day. The future of our children and of the world depends on what we do today. He does not see the most important responses to climate warming to lie in better technology but in the decisions that we all make.

They reach from the small choices we make each day about how to travel to work and what we eat and drink to the huge decisions that government leaders make after long deliberation about how to cut emissions from cars, from farming and from power generation. We can save and nurture our world if we care about it, want to save it, decide to do what we can, and then do it. That is why Pope Francis in his monthly prayer intention for September 2021 prays that we all will make courageous choices. Good and lasting choices express our enthusiasms. The things that we choose are close to our heart, occupy our thoughts and dreams, and so naturally flow into our plans, our reading, our friendships and our hobbies. These things compose what Pope Francis calls our lifestyle. This is the cloak in which we wrap ourselves. It is, woven out of the thousands of threads of decisions that we make daily – what to wear, what to eat, how to get to work, how to spend our spare time, what we spend our money on, where we live, what news items to attend to, what stories we allow to touch our hearts, what causes we support, who we partner with, and so on. A simple lifestyle is one in which the threads form a pattern of buying only what we need, walking lightly on the earth, delighting in activities that do not need expensive equipment but bring us close to nature, and celebrating lightly. It is a lifestyle built around direct relationships with other people, with our environment and our society in which we delight in sharing our hearts and minds. We are not interested in piling up money and possessions or in consuming the world’s resources but on respect for the environment of which we are part. Pope Francis describes these choices as courageous because they are contrary to the directions in which our society leads us. These choices will lead us to opt out of competition, consumerism and compulsion to be a winner. They will make us prize simple and deep relationships to one another and to the environment of which we are part. Many of us will see happiness with less rather than more as odd, as a reproach. What they see as opting out of life we shall experience as diving into its deepest realities. Pope Francis naturally invites us to think about and to be inspired by young people. They will inherit the world that their elders make by their decisions. They also see the simple truths that we often hide from by surrounding ourselves in complication. In young people like Greta Thunberg and the those whom she inspired we can find inspiration to be simple in what we see, what we value, and in the passion with which we seek it. They invite us to imitate their enthusiasm and their determination to make the world fit for our descendants to live in.

(Fr Andrew Hamilton S.J.).