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 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. **31st Sunday in Ordinary Time –31st October 2021–Year B**

Responsorial Psalm:

I love you, Lord my strength.

Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia, alleluia!
 All who love me will keep my words,
 And my Father will love them and will come to them.
 Alleluia!*

This Week's Readings

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 6:2-6. Hebrews 7:23-28. Mark 12:28-34

Next Week's Readings

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Kings 17:10-16. Hebrews 9:24-28. Mark 12:38-44.

Deaths: Kath Harney,

Anniversaries: Francis Hanlon, Laura, Pedro & Imelda Rante, Bernadette Roukema; Arie Roukema, Janelle Goonan, Chris Garner, Michelle Garner, Betty Nolan, Mary O'Brien.

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Monday	8.00am	All Saints - St Marys'
Tuesday	5.00pm	Holy Souls - St Mary's
Wednesday	10.00am	St Mary's
Thursday	10.00am	St Mary's
Friday	8.00am	St Mary's
Saturday	9.00am	St Mary's

PLEASE BOOK IN: Contact 5231 2177

Parish Office: 8.30am to 12.30pm

P.S. – ALL SAINTS/ HOLY SOULS'

In reality the one Celebrations of our destiny to be with God for eternity though the Death & Resurrection of Jesus. Weekday masses (Crowds 30 or under – now permitted with **No Proof of vaccination required** – other “compliances”: book in / wearing masks, socially distant. **Suggestions:** We choose either All Saints/ Holy Souls to enable more to attend either Mass. November is the month of remembrance for those who have died. We begin the month with All Saints and All Souls days to remember our loved ones and all who have gone before us. It is a time to remember them and pray for them as we hope they do for us.

For all who have died, we pray:

Merciful Father, we have seen glimmers of your glory and know that you love us and desire for us to be united with you. We pray for the loved ones who have died. May they come into the fullness of your grace. Let your light shine upon them. May you grant them eternal rest. Amen

We welcome to St Mary's Parish this weekend through the Sacrament of Baptism

1. Rosie Simpkin;

2. Aurora Lamanna; & 3. Micah Lucas.

“The Church gives the faith to your children through Baptism and you have the task to make it grow...”

- Pope Francis.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM & PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE (28TH OCTOBER)

A special meeting of both committees was held last Thursday evening: Fr Michael & Mandy Parker – were also present. We commenced with the sharing of the ‘Synod Prayer’ (preparing for the Council to be held in Rome in 2023. This council has been called by Pope Francis.) The members present discussed the latest letters from Bishop Paul Bird (Oct 22nd/ 27th). Also tabled was a paper sent to us by the Diocesan Administration Office – outing the Victorian Government Regulations applying stipulations for Religious Gatherings / Worship Centre's in responding to Covid-19.

Our Regular Sunday Masses: St Mary's (Saturday Vigil 6pm, Sunday 9am & 11am), will recommence on the weekend: November 6th /7th for the maximum of 150 Parishioners (St Mary's capacity with 1 person per 4 square metres- requirement to socially distant). **THIS GROUP OF PEOPLE MUST BE DOUBLE VACCINATED OR HAVE A MEDICAL EXEMPTION.** Vaccination status relates to those 16 years and older.

“When Vaccination status is unknown, the new Govt. regulations will permit gatherings of up to 30 people.”

Responding to this statement from Bishop Paul – We have decided that from Saturday, 6th November this Mass will be celebrated in St Mary's normally at 10am. (But on 6th November this Mass will be at 9am due to the Diocesan Social Justice Meeting in St Mary's Gathering space at 10am). It was suggested that a Marshall be in attendance to facilitate the smooth entry to the Church when Double Vaccination proof is required. Leadership Members will be present, when possible, to provide hospitality. The combined Committee Meeting urged our Parish to remain unified, to be respectful, compassionate, patient, and tolerant: Always aware of the challenging experiences that this process of Vaccination and Compliance has brought to our families and community.

Crawford Family Group – La Porchetta Wednesday 10th November at 12 noon. RSVP Mary 5231 2107

THIRTIETH FIRST SUNDAY - YEAR B – 31ST OCTOBER 2021

Lord God, you love us more than we could ever know.

Let us open our hearts to grow in love with you and to love our neighbour too.! Amen.

Click on this: [Link](#). to view this week's readings:

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you teach us to love God with all our hearts, soul, mind and strength. **Lord, have mercy.**

You call us to love our neighbour as ourselves. **Christ, have mercy.**

You draw us into the kingdom of God. **Lord, have mercy**

GOSPEL: A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK - (12:28-31)

One of the teachers of the Law of Moses came up while Jesus and the Sadducees were arguing. When he heard Jesus give a good answer; he asked him, "What is the most important commandment?" Jesus answered, "The most important one says: 'People of Israel, you have only one Lord and God. You must love him with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength.' The second most important commandment says: 'Love others as much as you love yourself.' No other commandment is more important than these." **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Pause All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

REFLECTION

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder what the Sadducees were arguing about...

I wonder why Jesus said the greatest commandment is to love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength..

I wonder what it means to love others as much as you love yourself...

I wonder how we can show love to others...

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Let us pray for Pope Francis, Bishop Paul and for all those called to leadership in our church.

(Pause) May their prophetic appeals for a new human solidarity and for loving care of the earth be heeded and acted upon. **Lord, hear us.**

Let us pray for all world leaders taking part in the Glasgow climate conference. **(Pause)**

May they make the urgent commitments needed to protect the planet from global warming and adopt effective measures to limit it. **Lord, hear us.**

Let us pray for the people of Afghanistan, Sudan, Lebanon and Syria and all places experiencing great suffering. **(Pause)** May the world community swiftly come to their aid. **Lord, hear us.**

Let us pray for the children in the schools in our parish. **(Pause).**

As they return to a more normal school life may they find happiness and joy at being re-united with their teachers and classmates and the resumption of in-school education be a blessing for all.

Lord, hear us.

Let us pray for students in our parish who are in the midst of VCE exams. **(Pause)**

May they be guided and supported by parents, teachers and friends at this time of their lives..

Lord, hear us.

As we celebrate the Feast of All Saints and All Souls Days let us pray in thanksgiving for all whose lives have inspired our faith. **(Pause)** May we remember them with love and deepen our communion with them. **Lord, hear us.**

Let us pray for those who have died and for those whose anniversary occurs at this time. **(Pause).** We remember especially..... May they live in the love of God forever. **Lord, hear us//.**

LORD'S PRAYER ... "Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come;"



TRINITY COLLEGE

Thanksgiving to outgoing 2020 -21

College Vice Captains: Ruby Kerr and Liam McCullagh. And

College Captains Jennifer Roache & Saul Kavenagh



Congratulations to the following students who were inducted into their leadership roles this week.

College Captains: Ben Black & Sophie Darroch.

College Vice Captains: Liam McCullagh & Ruby Kerr.

Cry of the Earth Cry of the Poor Listening, learning... change

The Bishops Social Justice Statement 2021-22:

Cry of the Earth Cry of the Poor affirms that “we human beings need a change of heart, mind, and behaviour.” It draws from Scripture, from the theological tradition, from Catholic Social Teaching, and from the wisdom of the world, including the insights of the First Nations. The Bishops invite us to take up Pope Francis’ invitation to a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability, guided by seven Laudato Si’ Goals. These Goals are:
♦ Response to the cry of the earth; ♦ Response to the cry of the poor; ♦ Ecological economics; ♦ Sustainable lifestyles; ♦ Ecological spirituality; ♦ Ecological education; and ♦ Community engagement and participatory action. [Website Flyer Link Here:](#)

COLAC PARISH – is one of “5 HUBS” in the Diocese asked by the

Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission:

To host a HUB on **Sunday 6th November 10am – 3pm.**

For Hospitality purposes Contact: **Colac Parish Office** – Weekday 8.30am -12.30pm: Mandy 5231 2177

To register visit: [Click LINK](#)

KNOX PUBLIC LECTURE

The annual Knox Public Lecture is an important date in the calendar of Catholic Theological College. It commemorates the life and ministry of the founder of The College, the late James Robert Cardinal Knox, fifth Archbishop of Melbourne. This vision is embodied today in Catholic Theological College and it is through the Knox Lecture that the College acknowledges its great debt to James Knox. The Knox Lecture has been offered annually from 1978 and has been presented by eminent speakers. For a full list of Knox Public Lecture Speakers please click on link below. **2021 Lecture Date and Time: Thursday 4 November at 7pm Topic: Truth Telling & the Yoo-rrook Justice Commission**

[Click here to book online](#)

ENJOY CHRIST CHURCH BIRREGURRA

OPEN GARDENS

Four of Birregurra's Finest Gardens

Saturday October 30th

& Sunday October 31st

10am - 4pm

Ticket Sales and Covid QR Check-in at Christ Church Hall. *\$25 for all four gardens plus refreshments or
*\$7 per garden +refreshments \$5
Refreshments and Plant Stall in Christ Church Grounds

“WITH APPRECIATION TO MANY PARISHIONERS FOR CONTINUED GENEROSITY (IN COVID TIMES) TO BOTH PARISH AND PRESBYTERY ACCOUNTS.”

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In March 2020, Pope Francis announced that the theme for the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops would be "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission".

Prayer for the Synod

As we embrace this Synodal Process, this prayer invites the Holy Spirit to be at work in us so that we may be a community and a people of grace.

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it. We are
weak and sinful;

do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth
and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. **Amen.**



Synodal process puts

'focus on people of God'

Pope Francis is reorienting the power structures of the Church from a vertical, top-down style of governance to a circular, more relational approach through the global synod process, Xaviere Sister Nathalie Becquart says.

"The focus is no longer first on the primacy at the top of the pyramidal view. The focus is first on all of the people of God," said Sr Nathalie, who is the undersecretary of the Vatican's office of the Synod of Bishops.

"Papal primacy can no longer be conceived on its own or in itself, and it is clear that for him [Francis], primacy can only be exercised in relationship to and with all the members of the people of the body of Christ," she continued.

Sr Nathalie's remarks came during a lecture on "Primacy, Collegiality, Synodality: The Experience of the Synod of Bishops" at the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas in Rome on Friday.

In a comprehensive hourlong address, Sr Nathalie offered a sweeping overview of the historical tension between papal primacy and collegiality among the Church's bishops — both of which have often been at odds with the laity. One of the important developments after Vatican II, she said, has been the creation of the Synod of Bishops to allow more collegiality in Church governance.

Francis, she noted, has put a "spotlight" on that and has discerned that synodality is the mechanism to properly implement the Second Vatican Council to restore a better relationship between the Pope and bishops, as well as all the people of God.