



Parish Priest: Fr Michael O'Toole  
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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.

**32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – 7<sup>th</sup> November 2021–Year B**

**Responsorial Psalm:**

*Praise the Lord, my soul!*

**Gospel Acclamation**

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Happy the poor in spirit;  
 the kingdom of heaven is theirs!  
 Alleluia!*

**This Week's Readings**

**32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 Kings 17:10-16. Hebrews 9:24-28. Mark 12:38-44.

**Next Week's Readings**

**33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 Daniel 12:1-13, Hebrews 10:11-14. 18 Mark 13:24-32

**Deaths:** Pattie Ryan, Nyedang Riek (Sth Sudan), Heather Walters, Bert Newton.

**Anniversaries:** Kath Chapman, Peter Daffy, Gwen Kenny, Ellen Frances Felder, Fr Frank Crowe, Berenice Potter, Lionel Winter,



**MASS TIMES THIS WEEK**

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	10.00am	St Mary's
Sunday	9.00am	St Peter's Birregurra
Sunday	9.00am	St Mary's
Sunday	11.00am	St Mary's

**Reconciliation: Each Friday after 10am Mass. Anytime by appointment.**

**REMINDER:**

**SATURDAY 10AM MASS – a Sunday Mass for 30 people: Vaccination Status not asked.**  
**3 - Sunday Masses: Saturday Vigil 6pm; Sunday 9am & 11am( for 150 people - proof of Vaccination will be asked for as a Covid requirement).**  
**\*St Joseph's Cressy - Friday 6.30pm**  
**\*St Peter's Birregurra: Sunday 9.am**  
**(\*both for 30 People -Vaccination Status not asked for).**



**TRINITY COLLEGE 2021-2022**

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

**College Captains:** Ben Black & Sophie Darroch.  
**College Vice Captains:** Hugh Daffy & Bella O'Dowd

**CONGRATULATIONS:**  
**Rex Murrell celebrating his 90th Birthday!!**

**CWL - Annual General Meeting**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 1.30 in Gathering Space.

**ALL SAINTS/ HOLY SOULS'**

**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**

**Charlie Michael Parker**

*Baptism and you have the task to make it grow..."*  
 - Pope Francis.

**Sympathy To:** Bol & Rodda Riek and family on the death of Bol's Mother in South Sudan this week.

**Gleeson Family Group** Christmas Lunch  
 December 5th 12.30 at Colac East Hotel. Proof of double vaccination required. For confirmation of numbers please phone Winsome 52353203

**Croft Family Group** Lunch Sunday Nov 7 at Shannon's Café (Woollies' Complex) 12:00pm, RSVP Linda 0448314774

**THE FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PLENARY COUNCIL**

With the closing of this First Assembly, the Plenary Council process now enters a time of prayer, reflection, maturation and development. This will involve continuing reflection by the Members of the Council, and consultation with the wider Church community, as we develop propositions for presentation to the Second Assembly of the Council next July.

## RESILIENCE & HOPE

*As we continue to deal with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, Australian Jesuit Provincial Fr Quyen Vu SJ reflects on how we might overcome feelings of helplessness and find hope in faith.*

The Covid-19 pandemic does not spare anyone. Whether you are young or old, rich or poor, living in the countryside or the city, we are all affected by it. It has turned our life upside down no matter where we are on this earth. The lockdown and lockout have made it worse especially for those who require personal assistance, those in aged care facilities and those who need other people's assistance daily.

Mental illness has become the second cause of people's illness post Covid-19. It has increased during the lockdowns and will continue to affect our lives into the future. As human beings, we like to take control of our life and dictate how we live, play, rest and socialize. However, every now and then we find ourselves in a situation where we feel a sense of helplessness and we cannot do anything about it at all; it is beyond us and over and above our control. The pandemic has taken control of our life for the last one and a half years. No matter what and how we want to control our life and our daily activities, it does not allow us to do so. Our desire to interact with the wider community, with work colleagues and friends has been frustrated; opportunities to do so have been so scarce.

When we feel helpless, resilience is what allow us to overcome our helplessness.

When we find ourselves in a hopeless situation, then faith will enable us to overcome our hopelessness. Hopelessness can be debilitating. It does not provide us with much hope at all.

The faith journey of Cardinal Francis Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan shows us that hope can overcome despair and hopelessness. The late Cardinal Van Thuan was arrested for his faith and spent thirteen years in prison after the fall of Saigon in 1975. He endured harsh treatment and deplorable conditions. Nine of those thirteen years he spent in solitary confinement. During those long years of isolation and imprisonment, instead of giving in to despair and self-pity, Cardinal Van Thuan found God in the darkness of his life. He discovered that there is a purpose to life no matter that condition we find ourselves in.

He began using scraps of paper to compose messages of hope for other people. Faith allows him to overcome hopelessness.

Resilience and faith are tools to overcome desolations, challenges, and difficulties that we encounter along the path of life. All of us have this inner strength which we can turn to when we find ourselves in a crisis, in isolation, in lockdowns and in situation of helplessness. Turn to our inner strength and reach deep down into our God-given gifts and strength. All of us have faith and hope. Faith and resilience are remedies for hopelessness.

### **A Litany of Remembrance**

#### **WE REMEMBER THEM**



In the rising of the sun and in its going down, we remember them.

In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter, we remember them.

In the opening of buds and in the rebirth of spring, we remember them.

In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer, we remember them.

In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn, we remember them.

In the beginning of the year and when it end, we remember them.

When we are weary and in need of strength, we remember them.

When we are lost and sick at heart, we remember them.

When we have joys we yearn to share, we remember them.

So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a part of us, as we remember them.

### **Prayer for the Synod**



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.