



St Peter's Birregurra
St Joseph's Cressy



Parish Priest: Fr Michael O'Toole
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Secretary Hrs: Mon to Fri 8.30am-12.30pm

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 everyone can grow. **4th Sunday of Ordinary Times – 30th January 2022– Year C**

Responsorial Psalm

I will sing of your salvation.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
*The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor
and freedom to prisoners.*
Alleluia!

This Week's Readings

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 1:4-5. 17-19. Corinthians 12:31-13:13. Luke 4:21-30

Next Week's Readings

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 6:1-8. Corinthians 15:1-11. Luke 5:1-11.

Deaths: Claire Pollard (Murtoa), Leon Belville (Ballan), Fr Noel McKay (Robinvale), Dulcie Brooks, Sr. Janet Meade, R.S.M. (Adelaide),

Anniversaries: John Cass Snr, James Morrissy, Veronica Garner, Lucy O'Toole, Br Pat Dennehy, Kevin Bennett.

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
Saturday	6.00pm	St Mary's
Sunday	9.00am 11.00am	St Mary's St Mary's

SACRAMENTAL OF RECONCILIATION

*Each Friday after 10am Mass **Anytime by appointment

2022 SCHOOL YEAR

'Best Wishes!' God's Blessings To our 3 School Communities: As they return to College & School this week. "Trusting that well rested; Covid- Compliant, 2022-Can be a happy Fruitful and Satisfying Year.'

**NEXT WEEK MEETING COMBINED MEETING
PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM & FINANCE COMMITTEE
THURS 3RD FEB 5.30PM, -ST MARY'S GATHERING SPACE.**

Diocesan Levies Paid this Month:

(Quarter: Oct/Nov/Dec.)

- **Parish Account**
Diocesan Administration: \$ 7,227.00
Christmas Appeal: \$ 1500.00
BCSF \$ 380.00
Total: \$9,107.00
- **Presbytery Account \$ 5,569.00**

"Thank You" for Generosity of Parishioners Over Christmas Season.

Hello Everyone,

In view of health concerns, **Fr Wally Tudor** will soon be retiring from his responsibilities as Parish Priest. I offer my thanks to Fr Wally for his dedicated service in numerous parishes in our diocese over the past 34 years, most recently as Parish Priest of Apollo Bay since 2009. Fr Wally will conclude his ministry in Apollo Bay at the end of this month.

Throughout January, several Columban priests will celebrate Masses in the Apollo Bay Parish. I am very grateful for the assistance of the Columbans on this occasion as on many previous occasions.

Following consultations in recent times, I am pleased to announce **appointments that will take effect on February 1, 2022.**

Fr Michael O'Toole will become Parish Priest of Apollo Bay. This will be in addition to his responsibilities as Parish Priest of Colac and Supervising Priest for Cororooke. I am very grateful to Fr Michael for his generosity in being willing to take up this additional role. **Fr John Pothiyittel will become Assistant Priest of Apollo Bay Parish.** I pray for Fr Michael and Fr John as they take up the care of the communities in the Apollo Bay, Lorne and Airey's Inlet. May their ministry bring blessings to themselves as well as to the parishioners.

God bless you all.

Bishop Paul

CONGRATULATIONS – BAPTISMS

This weekend, we welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Stella Morrissy, Gioia Morrissy, Sophia Talimanidis,
Joshua Inquanti & Alexander Inquanti

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

- Pope Francis.



The Church in Australia will celebrate Word of God Sunday on February 6 this year.

Pope Francis, in instituting this event, set it down for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. In Australia, however, a date falling at the end of January risked being lost in the summer holidays and preparations for the return to school. Consequently, the Australian bishops have set down the first Sunday in February as Word of God Sunday.

**** After almost 2 Years when Covid Restrictions have had an impact on some Mass Procedures including the “Carrying in Procession the Word of God” – I ask that from next weekend February 5th & 6th the Lector (Reader) again report into the Sacristy before Mass and Carry the Lectionary in Procession with the Celebrant. Thus, the Celebrant will know we have a Lector etc. for the Masses.**

****We will also resume Procession of ‘Bread & Wine at the Offertory Time.**

****Holy Water always available in Sacristy for personal home use.**

Towards the end of 2019, Pope Francis instituted a Sunday of the Word of God. This was put down for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. He chose this date because it is close to when the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is celebrated in the northern hemisphere. This timing is quite impractical for Australia.

The dates get mixed up with the final weeks of the summer holidays, the return to school and the celebration of Australia Day. The Australian bishops have decided to keep it close to Pope Francis’ day, so it will be the first Sunday in February. In fact, there were two documents about Scripture released by the Holy See on 30 September – one in 2019 and the other in 2020. They mark the 1600th anniversary of the death of St Jerome, the great Scripture scholar who prepared the definitive translation of the Bible into Latin. The first document institutes the Sunday of the Word of God. The second gives an account of St Jerome, his scholarship, his faith and his “living and tender love” of the Word of God. Jerome is proposed as a model for inculturating the Gospel and discovering Christ for our time. Most are no doubt familiar with the saying of Vatican II: **“the Church has always venerated the divine Scriptures as she has venerated the Lord’s body ... offering people the bread of life from the one table of the Word of God and the body of Christ (Dei Verbum 21).”**

The first Sunday in February is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God. Let us embrace Sunday of the Word of God to help us launch our new year with a deeper and richer encounter with the Risen Lord.

Looking Forward Booklet 2021-2025

The new “Looking Forward” pastoral planning booklet 2021-2025 is now available and can be accessed and/or downloaded from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/looking-forward/>. This new edition of “Looking Forward” provides principles to guide our pastoral planning, includes data about the diocese and offers information on changes to parishes over the next few years.
(eg. Colac, Apollo Bay)

Croft Family Group Lunch and planning day at Linda’s. 25 Talbot St, Elliminyt. Please bring your own picnic lunch as we gather for the first time 2022. After two years of restrictions, we look forward to being able to enjoy the hospitality and companionship of Family Group. All welcome to participate in Family Group Activities. *Please contact Linda 0448 314 774 more information.*

**Covid Regulations: ‘Thank You!’
To Parishioners for following Diocesan & Government Regulations: E.g.: QR Code, Wearing Face Masks, Social Distancing and Sanitizing.**

Pope’s Prayer Intentions for February 2022

For religious sisters and consecrated women

We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

PRAYER & PEACE Ukraine - under threat of a

Russian invasion “They are a suffering people,” Francis said, referring to Ukraine. “They have suffered hunger; they have suffered so much cruelty and they deserve peace.” “May the prayers and invocations that are being raised today up to heaven touch the minds and hearts of those responsible on earth,” he continued.

“Please, never war,” Francis said.

Synod of Bishops Catholics across Australia are invited to use a guided, prayerful reflection method to consider a series of questions and make submissions via an online portal. Those submissions will help the Bishops develop a national report to support the global process leading to an international gathering in 2023. Find out more at <http://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>