



Our Lady Star of the Sea Apollo Bay  
 Our Lady of Fatima Lorne  
 St Mary's Colac  
 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

Colac and Apollo Bay Parishes are a community of believers, who strive to bring Christ's good news to all people in the district. Through service, caring and love we aim to create an environment of respect and understanding in which everyone can grow. We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.

**Fourth Sunday of Advent – 24<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – Year B**



**Responsorial Psalm**

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation**

How Beautiful....

**This Week's Readings**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year B.**

Samuel 7:1-5.8-12.14.16. Romans 16:25-27. Luke 1:26-38.

**Next Week's Readings**

**The Holy Family - Year B.**

Genesis 15:1-6,21:1-3, Hebrew 1:1-2, Luke 2:212, 39-40

**Deaths:** Graham Gibson, Kevin Murfitt, Maree Stonehouse, (W'Bool), Carmel (Foley) Brown (W'Bool), Donald Amor (Horsham), Sr Shelia Thompson, f.m.m. (Sydney), Doreen O'Grady (Gavan), 'Margaret Redford, Joy Page.  
**Anniversaries:** Patrick Brogan, Lorraine Mahoney (Des), Veronica Mahoney, Jerry and Molly Mahoney, Agnes and Cliff Olney, Noel Murnane, Lee Monaghan, Bernie Kelly, Robbie Missen, Russell Turner, Rosemary Morrissy, Shirley Crawford, Angelina Favorito, Chris Burrow, William Carew (snr), Joan Glenane, Terry McMeel, Mary Hammett, Bernard Longano, Sr Gertrude Keily L.O.M., Ben Johnston, Nell Vivian, Therese Rushsard.

**MASS TIMES - COLAC, CRESSY, BIRREGURRA.**

Tuesday	5.00pm	St Mary's
Wednesday	10.00am	St Mary's
Thursday	10.00am	St Mary's
Friday	10.00am	St Mary's- Colac
Saturday	6.00pm	St Mary's- Colac
Sunday	9.00am 11.00am	St Mary's- Colac St Mary's- Colac

RECONCILIATION: Friday after 10am Mass-by Appointment.

**STAR OF THE SEA - APOLLO BAY**

Tuesday	5.30pm
Wed, Thurs, Friday	10.00am

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES  
 COLAC PARISHES.**

24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	6pm & 8pm	St Mary' Church
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	6pm	St Peter's Birregurra
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	8pm	St Joseph's Cressy
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	*8am & *10am	St Mary' Church
31 <sup>st</sup> Dec	6pm	St Mary' Church
1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2024	9am	St Peter's Birregurra
1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2024	9am	St Mary' Church

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES – Apollo Bay**

24 <sup>th</sup> Dec - OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA – A' BAY	6pm
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec - OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA – A' BAY	10am
1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2024- OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA – A' BAY	11am

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES. - LORNE**

24 <sup>th</sup> Dec - OUR LADY OF FATIMA - LORNE	6pm
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec - OUR LADY OF FATIMA - LORNE	10am
1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2024 - OUR LADY OF FATIMA - LORNE	9am



**BAPTISM** We welcome into our Parish Community this Week.

**'Zimi Seal, Leo Cuttler, & William Murphy.'**

**Thank You:** To Members of Our Parish Committees: Leadership Team; Finance Committee – Vinnies. Also to Sacristy Workers'; Flower & Altar Preparation Workers; Organists Choir; Also to Ministers of Word & Eucharist. Our Appreciation to Steve (Church & Presbytery Gardens & Surrounds. To Mandy & Dorothy for keeping the Presbytery – "somewhat sane"! Mandy for her wonderful "Welcoming Presence & Hospitality both at the Front Door & Phone; including Sacramental Co-Ordinator. For the many kind words to Mandy & Myself over these few days. **Christmas Blessings To All** - M.O'T.

**SYMPATHY TO:** Brian Crook on death of his Aunt: Sr Sheila Thompson f.m.m. (Sydney).



**BISHOPS CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

**DONATIONS CAN NOW PLACED IN ENVELOPE IN THE WEEKLY COLLECTION BASKET.**

**CHRISTMAS DINNER:** Our Appreciation to Kaye Cheng (Chef & Co-ordinator) and to the many Volunteers – supporting her: Those preparing, serving, delivering etc. Our generous Sponsors: A.L.C. Bulla, Garden Of Eden; Treasure Hunters, Central Hotel, Charcoal Chicken, Brandon Bakery, Wonder Burger, Colac Lake Red Cross Unit and parishioners! Our delight to be able to 'Host' our **Open & Diverse Cultural Colac Community.**

**Feast Days:** \*Dec 26th. St. Stephen.

\*Dec 27th . St John, Feast \*Dec 28th. Holy Innocents,.

\*29th. St Thomas Becket,

**VIGIL Ecumenical Prayer:** New Year St Peter's Birregurra: 6pm Celebrants Fr Jeremy Morgan (Anglican) & Fr Michael. Evening Prayer of Church: Followed by "hospitality." Friday 29<sup>th</sup> Dec At 6pm.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

*For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.*

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;  
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.  
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,  
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.  
'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;  
I have sworn to David my servant:  
I will establish your dynasty for ever  
and set up your throne through all the ages.'  
He will say to me: 'You are my father,  
my God, the rock who saves me.'  
I will keep my love for him always;  
for him my covenant shall endure.

*For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.*

**Advent 2023 Prepare for Christmas with The Catholic Guy, Bruce Downes**

Join me and people all around the world for a free Daily Devotional that will guide you on a life-changing journey through Advent.

"You don't become what you hope to become. You only become what you do."

<https://BruceDownes.org/Advent/> For more info: [info@brucedownes.org](mailto:info@brucedownes.org)

**\*Columbian Calendar 2024** St Mary's Piety Store \$10 each.

**Christmas Appeal 2023**

Our Christmas Appeal is one way by which the diocese can respond to the many communities from near and far who turn to us for assistance. Often these requests come through people who have personal links with the diocese of Ballarat.

I thank the people of the diocese for their support of last year's appeal. The money was distributed as follows:

Catholic Mission Humanitarian Aid for Ukraine	10,000
Caritas Humanitarian Aid for Gaza	10,000
St Columban's Mission, "Shared Table" Peru	5,000
Nazareth House Ballarat	5,000
St Vincent de Paul	5,000
Catholic Care Victoria	5,000
Aid to the Church in Need	2,000
Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking	2,000
Total donations made in 2023	\$44,000

**One Family Suggestion:**

If Santa brings a 'New bike' 'Old Bike' can be dropped off Christmas morning to Presbytery Garage for a 2<sup>nd</sup> Bite!

**APOLLO BAY & LORNE**

**FIRST COLLECTION**

BSB: 083585 ACC: 810967715

**SECOND COLLECTION**

BSB: 033600 ACCOUNT: 230038

**Parish Account Colac**

\* For Direct Giving Details:

BSB: 083 585

Account: 811051426

Planned Giving: REF:

**POPE INTENTION**

**DECEMBER 2023**

**For persons with disabilities**

*We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.*



**Vinnies: 'Thank You for Gifts 'donated' To Church Christmas Tree!!**



**IRISH CHRISTMAS BLESSING**

**"May the Blessings of Christmas be with you, May the Christ Child light your way, May God's holy angels guide you, And keep you safe each day."**