



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



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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.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY – 29th December 2024–Year C



This Week's Readings

Holy Family —Year C

Samuel 1:20-22. 24-28, St John 3:1-2. 21-24 Luke 2:41-52

Next Week's Readings

The Epiphany of the Lord —Year C

Samuel 1:20-22. 24-28, St John 3:1-2. 21-24 Luke 2:41-52

Responsorial Psalm

How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Open our heart, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

Deaths: Ann Trew (Apollo Bay), Fr Len Thomas (Melb).,

Anniversaries: Charlie Dunse, Ian 'Cindy' Maguire, Jessica Berry, Les Doupe, Br Frank Lloyd, Kathleen Morgan.

MASS TIMES - COLAC, CRESSY, BIRREGURRA.		
NEW YEAR MASS TIMES		
Tuesday	6.00pm	St Mary's
Wednesday	9.00am	St Peter's Birregurra
Wednesday	10.30am	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
Rosary - each Thursday: 9.30am St Mary's Church		
St Mary's: Holy Hour- 1st Tuesday of the month: 4-5pm		
STAR OF THE SEA - APOLLO BAY		
Tuesday 'New Year Vigil'	5.30pm	
Wed, Thurs, Friday	10.00am	
Sunday	11am	
OUR LADY OF FATIMA – LORNE		
Wednesday 'New Year's Day'	9.00am	
Sunday	9.00am	

THANK YOU, Fr Michael: ~ To celebrate and thank Fr Michael for his dedicated service as our Parish Priest, the Leadership Team invites you to stay for a cup of tea after Mass, 6pm on 11th January and 9 am and 11 am on January 12th 2025.

CHRISTMAS DINNER: What a Superb Effort – by our “Super chef: Kaye Cheng and her amazing group of helpers: They produced a wonderful Christmas Dinner. This year we had a large number of Volunteers for each of the 3 days: Preparation, Cooking, Delivery & Celebrations. What generous donors again this year: Minerva Food (ALC), Bulla Cream & Ice Cream, A.K.D., Garden of Eden, Treasure Hunters, Charcoal Chicken: plus, individual donations; Red Cross, 231 Dinners – either delivered to homes, or picked up, as well as served in & outside of the Gathering Space. We had a United Nations Experience – Maybe 15 Nationalities represented: Friends ‘Young & Old’ but together calling Australia Home.

‘THANK YOU’ To all involved in our Christmas Mass Celebrations: Organists; Choir, Ministers of Word & Sacraments, Sacristans, Flower Preparation, Church Cleaning, Stephen our Gardener.

*Generous Christmas Giving to our Parish Planned Giving, 1st Collection; Special Bishops Charity Collection, Personal Gifts to Mandy & myself (M’OT).

Sacrament of Baptism: We welcome this weekend into our Parish: **Lucy Rodway, George Kodit, Joey Keast & Calvin Keast.**

Christ Church Birregurra with Fr Jeremy have invited us to join them for **Vesper (Prayer of the Church “New Year”)** Friday 3rd Jan. 6pm. Always a delightful supper follows!



This weekend at our Vigil Mass – We Welcome newly ordained Priest: Fr Cay Trinh. Fr. Cay comes to meet members of our Vietnamese Community some who came from his home neighbourhood. They will sing some Vietnamese Hymns during the Mass. We will have a leaving Collection to support Fr Cay who leaves soon to Celebrate a Mass in his home parish in Vietnam. 5 Ballarat Priests will accompany him (the Family will host a celebration gathering of 1000 people! Hence our support!



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

O How lovely is your dwelling place,
Lord, God of hosts.

My soul is longing and yearning,
is yearning for the courts of the Lord.
My heart and my soul ring out their joy
to God, the living God.

They are happy, who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.

They are happy, whose strength is in you;
they walk with ever growing strength.

O Lord, God of hosts, hear my prayer,
give ear, O God of Jacob.

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield,
look on the face of your anointed

How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

- Pope Francis made a visit on Thursday to one of the largest prison complexes in Italy, opening a special "Holy Door" for the [2025 Catholic Holy Year](#), in what the Vatican said was the first such action by a Catholic pontiff. Speaking to hundreds of inmates, guards and staff at the Rebibbia prison on the outskirts of Rome, Francis said he wanted to open the door, part of the prison chapel, and one of only five that will be open during the Holy Year, to show that "hope does not disappoint". "In bad moments, we can all think that everything is over," said the pontiff. "Do not lose hope. This is the message I wanted to give you. Do not lose hope." Francis opened the Catholic Holy Year, also known as a Jubilee, on Tuesday. A Catholic Jubilee is considered a time of peace, forgiveness and pardon. This Jubilee, dedicated to the theme of hope, will run through Jan. 6, 2026. Holy Years normally occur every 25 years, and usually involve the opening in Rome of four special "Holy Doors", which symbolise the door of salvation for Catholics. The doors, located at the papal basilicas in Rome, are only open during Jubilee years. The Vatican said the opening of the "Holy Door" at Rome's Rebibbia prison was the first time such a door had been opened by a pope at a prison since the start of the Jubilee year tradition by Pope Boniface VIII in 1300.

Francis has shown special attention for the incarcerated over his 11-year papacy. He often visits prisons in Rome and on his foreign trips.



APOLLO BAY & LORNE

FIRST COLLECTION

BSB: 083585 Acc: 810967715

SECOND COLLECTION

BSB: 033600 ACCOUNT: 230038

EFTPOS: We at St Mary's have EFTPOS facilities in our 'gathering space' for those that do not carry cash and would like to contribute to our Parish. Every donation is very much appreciated – **St Mary's Finance Team.**

YOU ARE ABLE TO SELECT

DONATION AMOUNT: \$2.00

\$5.00, \$10.00, & \$20.00.

Hope and joy in new life

In his Christmas message for 2024, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli focuses on the familiar, hopeful image of the Holy Family—'a mother and father hovering attentively over their newborn child'—and how it invites us into 'a promise that transcends time and place', and that has the power to transform our lives, our families and the world.

Click on link below to view:

[Archbishop Comensoli's 2024 Christmas message | Melbourne Catholic](#)

**Paul Kelly Lyrics ~
"Maybe This Christmas"**
Maybe this Christmas will
mean something more
Maybe this year love will appear
Deeper than ever before
And maybe forgiveness will ask us to call
Someone we love, someone we've lost
For reasons we can't quite recall
Maybe this Christmas
Maybe there'll be an open door
Maybe the star that shone before
Will shine once more
Maybe this Christmas will find us at last
In heavenly peace, prayed for at least
With the love we've been
shown in the past
Maybe this Christmas