



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



Parish Priest: Colac & Apollo Bay Fr Andrew Hayes  
 Priest In Residence: Apollo Bay Fr Michael O'Toole  
 Phone: 03 52312177  
 Fax: 03 52312189  
 Email: [colac@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:colac@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
 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.*

**3<sup>RD</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Times – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – Year C**

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.*

**Gospel Acclamation**

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

**This Week's Readings**  
**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 Nehemiah 8:2-6.8-10. Corinthians 12:12-30. Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21.

**Next Week's Readings**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 Jeremiah 1:4-5. 17-19. Corinthians 12:31-13:13. Luke 4:21-30

**Deaths:** Scott McBroom, Graeme Smith, Beryl Larson, Karen Thomas.

**Anniversaries:** Jim & Monica Martin, Daniel Trew, Pat Jackman, Fr. Colin Frape, George Phillips.



| 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 |
| Saturday  | 6.00pm            | St Mary's |
| Sunday  | 9.00am<br>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                          |                   |           |
| Wed, Thurs, Friday                                    | 10.00am           |           |
| Sunday  | 11am              |           |
| OUR LADY OF FATIMA – LORNE                            |                   |           |
| Sunday  | 9.00am            |           |

**Happy Australia Day**

*Might we pray today for all people in our country, those within and without. We speak of Australia as a country of a "fair go." Might we determine to make that as true as we are able. I loved this from Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde in Washington this week. Did you see it? "... to pray for unity as a people and a nation - not for agreement, political or otherwise - but for the kind of unity that fosters community across diversity and division." Gold!*

Fr Andrew H

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**GLEESON FAMILY GROUP**

Our Planning Meeting for our activities and outings for this year is on Sunday Feb 9<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm at Winsome and Jos's home. Phone Winsome on 0427353203.

**Parish Grieving Support Group:** If interested in coming together over a cup of tea please contact. Anne 0488225188

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**Jubilee of the World of Communications  
 – January 24-26, 2025**

To be "pilgrims of hope" we need to communicate the Gospel of Christ through our words and actions. Communication is about bringing people together on a shared journey through stories and images that connect us. Communication is also about giving voice to the voiceless on the outskirts of humankind. Through truth-filled messages, we can build a more just and peaceful world and uphold the dignity of all people. Further resources on the Jubilee of the World of Communications is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgysacraments/jubilee-year-2025-pilgrims-of-hope/>

**Prayer for Australia Day**

*Blessed be God, for this ancient and beautiful land - a land of despair and hope, a land of wealth and abundant harvests, a land of fire, drought and flood. We pray that your Spirit may continue to move in this land and bring forgiveness, reconciliation, and an end to all injustice. Amen.*

**Popes Intentions January 2025**

**For the right to an education**

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.**

The law of the Lord is perfect,  
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,  
it gives wisdom to the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right,  
they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear,  
it gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is holy,  
abiding for ever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth  
and all of them just.

May the spoken words of my mouth,  
the thoughts of my heart,  
win favour in your sight, O Lord,  
my rescuer, my rock!

**Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.**

### PIETY STORE

### 2025 CALENDARS

AVAILABLE

@ \$10 EACH.

### NEW Liturgy Roster

Now Available

In St Mary's

Gathering Space

### 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.**



The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council

## Australia Day reflection guide released *(sourced Australian Bishops Office).*

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council has called for deep reflection and prayer as the nation marks Australia Day 2025.

The Council has released the *Australia Day 2025 Reflection and Discernment Guide* to enable Catholics to explore the complexities and significance of the day.

It also wants Australians to reflect on a nation where all feel included, respected, and valued, in a bid to inspire meaningful action and a commitment to reconciliation.

“NATSICC acknowledges and respects that many Australians hold a deep connection to this day and the pride they feel in our country,” the guide states.

“For many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, however, January 26 is a day of mixed emotions - one that brings sadness, reflection, and a sense of unresolved history.”

The guide is to be used by groups and individuals for prayerful reflection on Australia Day, which this year falls on a Sunday – our Holy Day in which the faithful come together to reflect, give thanks and seek God's guidance.

The guide includes prayers, scripture passages and questions for reflection.

The final reflection section asks people to consider exploring other dates that might serve as a “more inclusive national celebration, without the heavy historical connotations of January 26”.

“Some possible alternatives could include May 27 (anniversary of the 1967 Referendum) or NAIDOC Week.”

NATSICC has long advocated for a change in the date of Australia Day, arguing May 27 stands as a “powerful symbol of national consensus, when over 90 per cent of Australians voted YES to include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in the population count”.

“This moment in history represents a time when Australians came together with hope for a better future and made a practical step to begin that journey,” the guide reads.

The *Australia Day 2025 Reflection and Discernment Guide* can be found [here](#).