



St Joseph's ~ Cressy  
St Peter's ~ Birregurra



Parish Priest: 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

# 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 every one can grow. We acknowledge the Gulidjan, people, the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.

## Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 – Year A

### Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is kind and merciful.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Whoever keeps the word of Christ,  
Grows perfect in the love of God.  
Alleluia!

### This Week's Readings

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A  
Lev: 19:1-2. St Paul: 3:16-23. Matt: 5:38-48

### Next Week's Readings

First Sunday of Lent  
Genesis 2:7-9.3:1-7. Romans 5:12-19. Matthew 4:1-11.

**Deaths:** Terry McMahon, Imelda Denetrios (Sr Patsy's sister), Sr Teresa Clarebrough, R.S.M., Marie Sheedy.

**Anniversaries:** Ned Nolan, Jack McMahon.

### MASS TIMES:

Tuesday	10.30am	Mercy Place
<b>Ash Wednesday</b>		
Tuesday	5.05pm	St Mary's 'Ash Wednesday Vigil'
Wednesday	7.30am 10.00am	St Mary's Ash Wednesday
Wednesday	12.noon	St Brendan's Coragulac
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

Anytime by Appointment \*Each Friday after Mass

**World Day Of Prayer- Rehearsal will be held at Scots Presbyterian Church, Colac.**

At 1.30pm on Friday Feb 28<sup>th</sup>.

**World Day Of Prayer Service is on Friday March 6<sup>th</sup> – 1.30pm**

**Choir Practice: Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> 5.30pm  
All Welcome**

**SPECIAL MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST: 1: Training Session** for new Special Ministers will be held soon: For either Sunday Masses/ Nursing Home Ministry. **OR:** - **Special Ministers** are required to assist Lyn & Yvonne in Ministry to Barongarook Gardens. Wed 4<sup>th</sup> March at 10.30 - 11.30am  
If interested, please contact Parish Office.

**To Purchase Lenten Books \$10ea. - Parish Office**

### THIS WEEK

**\*Today: Sun: 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb. 5pm: Mass -St Brendan Coragulac**

**Tuesday: Mercy Place 10.30am** – (Special purpose Celebrate with Br Bernie and 4 visiting Brothers:

Br Bernie's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Entering the Christian Brothers). Also, Mass With Br Bernie to pray for his sister, Joan Ryan, who died recently.

**\*Plenary Council Meeting:** after 5pm Mass

(with the Topic: A Church – Missionary & Evangelising)

**\*Sacred Heart School Board – 7.30pm.**

**Thursday: Parent Information Evening – Reconciliation: Sacramental Program 5&7 pm.**

**PROJECT COMPASSION:** Theme This Year "Go Further Together": To be Launched this weekend: Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>. by Justice Group.

**Trinity College:** Mr Paul Clohesy has issued a statement re: an historical sex abuse charge (1980) This can be downloaded <https://www.tcc.vic.edu.au/historic-sexual-abuse-cases/> (Some hard copies are available on the Gathering Space table).

**Sympathy To:** Sr Patsy Bourke, R.S.M. on the death of her sister Imelda Denetrios this week.

**R.C.I.A. (Rite for the Christian Initiation of Adults)**

Tricia Hook is preparing to join us in our Lenten Journey of Faith. Tonight (Vigil Mass) Tricia will be formally presented to the Parish Community Next Saturday 12.30pm: Feb 29<sup>th</sup> at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat – Tricia will be accompanied to Ballarat by her support group' and along with other people from other parishes be presented to Bishop Paul. Parishioners are welcome to also attend. (Bookings are necessary: Contact Mandy by Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> 12noon).

**We welcome into our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism**

**'ELLIOT DONALD GRAY'**



**\*Next Plenary Council Meeting:  
Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb- after 5pm Mass:**

**Topic “A Church: Missionary & Evangelising.”**

How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is missionary and evangelising?

Some of the topics that inform this meeting include:

- Affordable adult faith formation courses • Authentic faith teaching in Catholic schools • Be a witness in society • Better communication of what the Church does • Better faith formation • Better formation for liturgical ministries and sacramental programs • Better homilies • Better preparation and support for married couples • Better selection and formation of candidates to priesthood • Better teachers in Catholic schools • Better training and support for youth leaders • Better youth faith formation • Church should adapt to multicultural reality • Church to act as a guide for Australian society • Concerns for diminishing parish communities • Defend Religious Freedom • Defend right-to-life issues • Encourage vocations • End celibacy, allow priests to be married • Establish more youth programs • Evangelisation in and of the family • Fight for human rights issues



Dear Friends,

On behalf of Caritas Australia and those we help, I would like to thank you for your generous support of Project Compassion 2019. Together we gave 100% to change the lives of those that need it the most. At this time of increasing global change and tense dialogue, the idea of the ‘common good’ is more important than ever. This is one of the reasons Project Compassion 2020 takes the theme of Global Community – Go Further Together. The work to end extreme poverty is far from over, and many challenges remain. Access to an education, basic health care, electricity, safe water, and other critical services remains elusive for many people and is often determined by socioeconomic status, gender, ethnicity, and geography. Unjust structures perpetuate and re-enforce the cycle of poverty, Pope Francis has spoken of the power of the Christian message to combat injustice and uphold dignity. “It is communion in Christ and in the Church that animates, accompanies and sustains the service of charity, both in communities themselves and in emergency situations throughout the world.” (Pope Francis, Private Audience to the Caritas General Assembly, May 2019). Caritas Australia invites you to participate in the service of charity, working to support communities to support themselves in spite of every challenge, and to thrive in this union of love and compassion. Let’s all - Go Further Together.

Yours sincerely,

**Bishop Christopher Saunders**  
**Chairman of Caritas Australia**



**Green shoots bring healing and hope**



**As Ash Wednesday approaches, may we take a moment to contemplate our intimate connectedness to all of creation, to all of humanity and to the land, writes Monica Dutton, S.G.S., ‘The Good Oil.’**

We are living in a time of ashes.

Accounts from those who experienced the full onslaught of the fires are of biblical proportions. Armageddon, apocalyptic, cataclysmic. So many recent devastating events unleashed across the globe involving the four elements of nature – earth, air, fire and water – demonstrate that we are powerless in the face of these phenomena. While we may choose to believe we control the world; and whatever personal views we might hold on climate change, fuel reduction, back burning, drought relief, and the politics of it all; these four natural elements contrive to remind us of our place on the planet. Rebuilding will be slow and painful. Losses to property, stock, machinery and business take years to recover. Losses of life, bushland, habitat and over a billion native animals are incalculable.

This time of ashes we are living in touches us all. Ashes and dust. Ashes to ashes, dust to dust. This time of fires followed by floods is a stark reminder of our own transience, and the transient nature of all creation. As Ash Wednesday approaches, may we take a moment to contemplate our intimate connectedness to all of creation, to all of humanity and to the land – and in particular, what this connectedness calls from us, and calls us to.

**PRAYER God of all peoples and nations,**

As you accompany us on our Lenten journey, May our fasting strengthen our commitment to live in solidarity,

Our almsgiving be an act of justice, And our prayers anchor us in love and compassion. Awaken our hearts and minds that we may be one human family

As we all go further together. We ask this in Jesus’ name,  
Amen.

**KELLY FAMILY GROUP** are having lunch and meeting at the East Hotel on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb at 12.30 pm. Need to discuss our plans for the year. Please contact Janice or Bill on 52316145 by 24<sup>th</sup> so we will have numbers.

**CRAWFORD FAMILY GROUP** are having Lunch at Winchelsea Hotel. Meet at St Mary’s Car Park at 11.30am on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February