



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

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.

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sunday 12th September 2021-Year B

Responsorial Psalm:

I will walk in the presence of the Lord,
 In the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 which crucifies the world to me and me to the world.
 Alleluia!

This Week's Readings

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 50:5-9, St James 2:14-18, Mark 8:27-35

Next Week's Readings

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20, St James 3:16-4:3, Mark 9:30-37

Deaths: Sr Anne McMillan R.S.M., Patrick Lawlor (W'Bool),

Anniversaries: Ian Weller, Ursula Carmody, Josephine Foley, Des Harrington, Patrick Finlay, John W. Daffy,
 Victims 9/11 (20th Anniversary), Edna Lane.

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Tuesday	5.00pm	St Mary's
Wednesday	10.00am	St Mary's
Thursday	10.00am	St Mary's
Friday	10.00am	St Mary's

PLEASE BOOK IN: Contact 5231 2177

Parish Office: 8.30am to 12.30pm - Please attend
 One Mass to allow others to attend.

Can check on day of Mass if places are available.

RECONCILIATION: FRIDAY AFTER MASS 10AM
 - ANY TIME BY APPOINTMENT

Bishops of Victoria stand in solidarity with our Afghani communities across Victoria

The Catholic Bishops of Victoria have expressed their solidarity and support for the local Afghan community and their families back home in a joint statement. Read the statement on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/cssv-stands-in-solidarity-with-our-afghani-communities-across-victoria/>

Volunteer in Australia and Overseas - The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco

We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for January 2022 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Australia. When it is possible and safe to do so, we will recommence sending volunteers to work with disadvantaged young people in Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste & the Solomon Islands. Applications close October 30th. Send us an inquiry - www.cagliero.org.au

Mass online: 'Bishop Paul Bird'

**St Patricks Cathedral Ballarat
 Sunday 11 AM**

Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/patricks.cathedral.9/>

****Mass for you at Home on Sundays
 6am of Channel 10 WIN TV**

SAMOAN WORKERS: As reported in the local media several Samoan Workers are now employed at Australian Lamb Company Colac. Neighbourhood House (Carolyn Gatti) have endeavoured to organise hospitality, support and care. The Ministers Association was asked if each local Colac Church Community would be 'hospitable' to two of the houses. I have made a 'Pastoral Visit' to both houses assigned to St. Mary's. If parishioners would be interested in such 'reach out' they could contact our parish office. Father Michael. Email: colac@ballarat.catholic.org.au
 Phone: 52 312177

Personal Par: Mehdrad (Francis) has accepted 'my' invitation to come to the Presbytery this Sunday: 12th Sept. to be available for "Hair Cuts": both Women & Men: From 12Noon to 3pm(?):
 For Bookings 0469 868 430; 0429 393 512.

FEAST DAYS:* 14th September-Exaltation of the Cross.

*15th September - Our Lady of Sorrows.

**CENTACARE FAMILY RELATIONSHIP
 COUNSELLOR FROM WARRNAMBOOL - WENDY GARNER
 For an appointment ph: 5559 3000**

Safeguarding Sunday – 12 September

The Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday this Sunday – the conclusion of National Child Protection Week. Safeguarding Sunday seeks to acknowledge the immense damage caused by the sexual abuse of children and adults at risk. It makes a commitment to practices and protocols that create and maintain safe environments for all people. It invites people to pray for those harmed by abuse directly and indirectly.

Prayer for Child Safety

Gracious God,

You love and care for all of your children, especially the smallest and most vulnerable.

We entrust to you the lives of children and adults who have been sexually abused, and whose trust and innocence have been destroyed.

Help us to hear their cries of pain and to take responsibility for those whose lives have been broken.

Help us to recognise the hurt felt by those wounded by abuse and the failure to be heard.

We pray that with the help of your grace communities and families will find understanding and support, so that now and in the future their wounds may be healed and they may find lasting peace.

Let your grace and love fall gently now upon our children and adults at risk, giving them the inner strength, peace and resilience to seek out assistance when required.

We ask this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen



BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND

Collection for Sick and Retired Priests

The Ballarat Clergy Support Fund relies on your generosity to enable it to continue supporting our sick and retired priests. You are still able to contribute, by using the special envelope provided, or in an envelope marked "Ballarat Clergy Support Fund". **A credit card facility is available for your convenience, and contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible.**

CARING FOR THOSE WHO CARED FOR US – THE CHURCH COMMUNITY'S RESPONSIBILITY

From the Executive Director – (taken from the Newsletter/DOBCEL) Mr Tom Sexton.

Last week Victoria's Chief Psychiatrist Neil Coventry addressed rising community concern over the impact of the state's extended lockdowns on child mental health. I believe the information that Dr Coventry provided is very useful in our work in Catholic education.

In part, Dr Coventry said that: *"It is a very uncertain situation that we find ourselves living within and I think, I want to make sure that we think about the impact that this is having for all of us.*

"It impacts our own sense of well-being, and anxiety, stress level, we all feel, to some extent, confused and very uncertain about the future. I want to emphasise that this is a normal reaction to an abnormal situation that we are currently experiencing.

"The good news I want to share is that, fortunately, most of us will be able to cope with this challenge. We will use our normal resources, our strengths, our sense of resilience in the support that we have around us from our family, loved ones and friends. However, we also need to acknowledge that some people will really struggle.

"I want to give a few specific messages that I would like you to take note of. The first message is that we need to feel positive that people will be able to cope with this, that children and families are resilient, they will have the capacity to use their strength to get through this challenging situation, for the majority.

"I also want to stress that there are a few simple things that parents can do to try and help their children in recovery. Basic simple things such as maintaining normal routines. It is particularly important when you have a situation of homeschooling at the moment, to get that balance between study, relaxation, chillout time, certainly exercise and meal plans but also, more importantly, around the sleep patterns, particularly for vulnerable teenagers.

"The thing I would most like to stress is that we need to be talking to our children about how they are coping. Please, reach out to your kids. Don't be anxious and afraid to have a conversation about how your kids are coping. What are their challenges and confusions about what is going on? I stress, this is a series of conversations. Not a one-off single intense conversation."