

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.

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sunday 19th September 2021-Year B

Responsorial Psalm:

The Lord upholds my life.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
God has called us with the gospel to share in the
glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

This Week's Readings

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Next Week's Readings

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Numbers 11:25-29, St James 5:1-6, Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Deaths: Margaret Hulm, Colin McGlade, Maud Dufty (QLD), John 'Jack' Wilson.

Anniversaries: Jovita Asidor, Noreen Brogan, Ella Harty, Maria Rose Oliveri, Giuseppe Oliveri, Nick Cheng, Mary and John Moloney, Fr Paul Mercovich, Ted Parker, John Arackal.

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
Saturday	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

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 (2 responses) Phone:52 312177

School Holidays

Safe and Enjoyable Holidays to students, teachers, staff and parents. Thank you to all for a wonderful term!

Remembrance Wall Applications

St. Mary's Parish Colac has a Remembrance Wall near the entrance to the church. Parishioners are invited to put forth and pay for names to be placed there. Application Forms are available in the Foyer or at Parish Office.

Applications close Friday 29th October.

SUNDAY 19 SEPTEMBER HAS BEEN DESIGNATED 'SOCIAL SERVICES SUNDAY.'

This is an opportunity for all to reflect upon, pray for and give thanks for the 7,000 committed staff and 17,000 volunteers across Victoria in our 43 member organisations and the 200,000 people they together work to serve each year. Social Services Sunday is also a time to acknowledge that parishes are often at the forefront of providing practical support, care and service to those in need within their local communities, and beyond.

MIND MATTERS – ‘We may never know the impact that we have.’

I tell you I wish to make a simple point: we cannot always tell what positive impacts we have on others. The effects may be much delayed. The effects may never be clear. I think about the possibility of positive impacts when I write for newspapers and when I interact with others. I may have positive effects here and there. If we keep that potential in mind, we may have greater positive impacts.

The impact might be from a kind word or a good deed at the right time or from something of value we create - a child for instance. We may never know the impact we have. We may never perform in front of adoring fans. But we may be able to look back and think, I did my best, under the circumstances, to have a positive impact.

John Malouff is an Associate Professor at the School of Psychology, University of New England.

(source ‘Warrnambool Standard’).



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. Thanks to those who have already contributed!**

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

Migrant & Refugee Sunday 2021 – September 26 Pope Francis has chosen the theme, Towards An Ever Wider “We”, for the 107th World Day of Migrant and Refugees, commemorated in Australia on Sunday, September 26, 2021. Download the 2021 kit from the Australian Catholic Migrant & Refugee Office <https://www.acmro.catholic.org.au/resources/migrant-refugee-kit/booklet>

Catholic Mission Month Catholic Mission Australia has launched its annual World Mission Month Appeal, focusing on the work of the Good Shepherd Sisters in Thailand supporting children from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds through the Kindergarten Centre. For more information go to <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/catholic-mission-launches-world-mission-month-appeal>



ANNUAL REPORT – PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP MOVEMENT

September 2021

We trust that this letter finds you well and optimistic about a future beyond the restraints of the Corona Virus. As with many other Movements in our Church, our Passionist Family Group Movement has been challenged by the conditions related to the Virus during 2020/21. Despite this, the members in our Parishes, wherever and whenever possible, have continued to gather and support each other or have found other ways to connect during Lockdowns, e.g., Zoom has enhanced our communication possibilities. We were affirmed and encouraged by the word of Archbishop Julian Porteus who said: **The emergence of ecclesial movements in recent times is a gift to the Church and the Australian bishops would like to encourage and support their life and mission... We’ve always had various movements in our Church but there is a fresh outpouring of grace associated with movements in our time.**

The PFGM Southern Team members have continued to remain in contact to support your Parish Coordinators through email, telephone contact and occasionally via Zoom.

We thank you sincerely for your ongoing support. Again, in 2021, in light of these ongoing challenging times, we are asking for a very reduced Parish subscription to our Movement.. Our invoice is enclosed.

With God’s blessings,

Frances Sullivan: For the PFGM Southern Team: Frances & Michael Sullivan, Alison & Tony Woolley, Gail & Hank Fiddelaers, Trish & Roger Gurney.

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

Early Notice Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission

*Reflection by Zoom in Regional Hubs. *Saturday Nov 6th 10am to 3pm.

*By Zoom St Mary’s Gathering Space

*More details closer to the event. (Jim Ryan - Colac Parishioner /Commission Member);

* Topic Social Justice Statement “Creator: Environment.”

FIFTH PLENARY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA **AGENDA**

As children of God, disciples of Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, the Members of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia are called to develop concrete proposals to create a more missionary, Christ-centred Church in Australia at this time.

'I dream of a "missionary option", that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelisation of today's world rather than for her self-preservation.'

Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium 27



PLENARY COUNCIL – CONTINUING THE JOURNEY

The last twelve or so months of our Plenary Council Journey has required many unplanned changes due to the impact of COVID-19 and the restrictions which do not allow people to gather. With the publication of the Plenary Council agenda, we can however reflect and pray with the sixteen questions that form the agenda. With this in mind, we extend to people in the diocese an invitation, another opportunity, to engage in the process and to listen deeply to the voice of the Spirit. **PLEASE SEE ATTACHED HANDOUT. Please feel free to complete this individually or after lockdown as part of a small group depending on COVID restrictions.** It can be printed out, then emailed or posted back in or you can just send answers via email to pastoralministry@ballarat.catholic.org.au. Any submissions will be forwarded to the Diocesan Members to the Plenary Council.

As we are not able to gather as a community at this time due to COVID restrictions, this opportunity to respond may be a way for you to spend some quiet time in reflection, thinking about the agenda of the Council and the future of the Church, on your life and prayer life. It may be of comfort to know that others from your faith community may be reflecting on this at a similar time.

Q1. You are invited to share briefly the impact of COVID-19 on your life and your faith life.

Q2. What has changed for you in relation to the Plenary Council since COVID-19?

Q3. Any further comment you would like to share?

FAN THE FLAME TOWARDS PLENARY ASSEMBLY 2021

* As we reflect on the future of the Church in Australia and immerse ourselves in the Plenary Council, let us follow the example of Mary, remembering her trust that the Spirit of God would be with her. *(Pause for silent prayer)* Lord, hear us.

* For the Plenary Council: in these months leading up to the First Assembly: that we may have the courage to speak boldly and the ability to listen humbly with hearts open to where the Spirit is leading our Church in Australia. *(Pause for silent prayer)* Lord, hear us.

* For the Plenary Council Assemblies of 2021 and 2022: that the Assemblies to be held this year and next year will renew the Church making it humbler and hopeful. *(Pause for silent prayer)* Lord, hear us.

*For the Plenary Council: that we might be given more profound faith, greater courage, deeper spirituality and the ability to discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us, as faith communities come together to respond and prepare for the First Assembly in October this year. *(Pause for silent prayer)* Lord, hear us



TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY - YEAR B - 19TH SEPTEMBER 2021

OPENING PRAYER: *Lord God, help us to focus on Jesus and let us remember that true greatness comes from being able to put others first just like Jesus did.*

PENITENTIAL ACT:

Lord Jesus, you call us to be servant of all. **Lord, have mercy.**
You show us how to welcome the Father. **Christ, have mercy.**
You teach us to love. **Lord, have mercy.**

GOSPEL: A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark (9:33-37)

Jesus and his disciples went to his home in Capernaum. After they were inside the house, Jesus asked them, "What were you arguing about along the way? They had been arguing about which one of them was the greatest, and so they did not answer.

After Jesus sat down and told the twelve disciples to gather around him, he said, "If you want the place of honour you must become a slave and serve others!"

Then Jesus had a child stand near him. He put his arm around the child and said, "When you welcome even a child because of me, you welcome me. And when you welcome me, you welcome the one who sent me." ***The gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.***

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION AND TIME OF SHARING:

I wonder why Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum...

I wonder how Jesus knew the disciples were arguing...

I wonder how the disciples' hearts changed after listening to Jesus...

I wonder what I can do to serve others...

I wonder how I can welcome Jesus into my life even more...

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:

*Let us pray for Pope Francis and those called to leadership in the church (**Pause**) May we learn from the wisdom of Pope Francis in his humble service of others, especially to little children, the poor and the marginalized.

Lord, hear us.

*Let us pray for the many leaders in our world who exercise power at the expense of others.

(**Pause**) May they experience a conversion to servant leadership which seeks the well-being of all in their care.

Lord, hear us.

*Let us pray for wisdom in this month of celebration of creation. (**Pause**)

May we embrace the eco-conversion called for by Pope Francis for the safeguarding of our planet.

Lord, hear us.

*Let us pray for the people of Afghanistan and for all refugees who are fleeing violence and the tearing apart of their families, their villages, their culture and future peace. (**Pause**).

May we welcome them to our country with open arms and by our actions show that we are committed to providing them with a safe haven.

Lord, hear us.

*Let us pray for the unsung heroes and heroines of the Covid pandemic. (**Pause**)

May they experience the deep gratitude and sincere appreciation of the whole community.

Lord, hear us.

*Let us pray for those who have died and for those whose anniversary occurs at this time. (**Pause**).

We remember especially... *Margaret Hulm, Colin McGlade, Maud Dufty (QLD), John 'Jack' Wilson..* May they be at peace in the home God has prepared for them.

Lord, hear us.

LORD'S PRAYER ... *"Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come;"*