



Parish Priest: Fr Michael O'Toole
 Phone: 03 52312177
 Fax: 03 52312189
 Email: colac@ballarat.catholic.org.au
 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.

1st Sunday of Advent – 28th November 2021–Year C

Responsorial Psalm:

To you O Lord, I lift my soul.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
 Show us, Lord, your love;
 and grant us your salvation.
 Alleluia!

This Week's Readings

1st Sunday of Advent—Year C

Jeremiah 33:14-16, Thes. 3:12-4:2, Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Next Week's Readings

2nd Sunday of Advent—Year C

Baruch 5:1-9, Philippians 1:4-6,8-1, Luke 3:1-6.

Deaths: Matt. Sheedy, Arturo Joven(The Philippines), Pat Gleeson (W,Bool), Harriet Puenteblanca /Balam (The Philippines),

Anniversaries: Jillian Hannah, Bernie O'Shannassy, Wendy Darcy, Tony Cirillo, Angelo Cavalieri, Fr Justin Woodford, Mons McCunnie, Jimmy Simpson, Marie Goonan, Mary Parker.

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
Saturday	6.00pm	St Mary's
Sunday	9.00am	St Mary's
Sunday	11.00am	St Mary's

Reconciliation: Each Friday after 10am Mass. Anytime by appointment.

REMINDER:

SATURDAY 10AM MASS – a *Mass for 50 people: Vaccination Status not asked.

3 - Sunday Masses: Saturday Vigil 6pm; Sunday 9am & 11am (unlimited numbers - proof of Vaccination will be asked for as a Covid requirement).

(*50 People -Vaccination Status not asked for 10am Saturday & weekdays).



TRINITY COLLEGE RAFFLE: LAST OPPORTUNITY

This Year NOT a Car; but a Christmas Raffle – Tickets \$10

We welcome to St Mary's Parish this weekend through the Sacrament of Baptism
Devon Marius Rivett

"Baptism and you have the task to make it grow..." - Pope Francis.

@Thank you to Fr Michael and all the Parishioners and who payed tribute to me at the Parish Dinner last Tuesday Evening. A most grateful- Betty Daly.

HOLY SOULS"

For all who have died, we pray:

Merciful Father, we have seen glimmers of your glory and know that you love us and desire for us to be united with you. We pray for the loved ones who have died. May they come into the fullness of your grace. Let your light shine upon them. May you grant them eternal rest. **Amen**

- 4PM Tuesday 30th November – **Visitation & Prayer at the Colac Cemetery.**
- 5PM: Memorial Mass : **Sr Stella Gleeson, S.G.S. (Sister of Fr Brian Gleeson, O.F.M.).**

OPEN CHRISTMAS DINNER - Meeting held 23/11/21.

Decision: Yes, to once again offer a Christmas Dinner @ A Sit-Down Christmas Dinner – Saturday, 25th Dec 12 noon. For all who are fully vaccinated.

@ A Take Away Christmas Dinner available for pick up on Friday 24th dec after 10am OR A Meal can be home delivered on Friday 24th Dec.

R.S.V.P: By Monday 19th Dec 12 noon. Phone Parish Office. Monday to Friday 9am to 12 noon.

Next Meeting Tuesday 20th Dec. 10.30am.

*** CHOIR PRACTICE** commencing at 6pm every **Thursday** - All very welcome to come and learn new Hymns for Advent & Christmas!!

CONFIRMATION & 1ST COMMUNION

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS:

MADDISON DESMOND & NASH CHARLES

ADVENT WEEK I

God of Creation, you created night and day.
 You separated the sea from the sky.
 You gave life to all living creatures and say that it was good.
 Help us to reconnect with the majesty of your creation.

**MICK MCCRICKARD WALKED SATURDAY
THE 27TH OF NOVEMBER FROM BEECH
FOREST TO COLAC.**

to raise funds to provide a meaningful Christmas for the Young People who attend St Joseph's Flexible Learning Centre "Youth Plus". Vulnerable young people in our community. **Donations to LINK:** <https://youthplusfoundation.org.ausupport-us/donate>. Please Reference "Colac."

I.VINNIES COLAC need volunteers on a Monday, No experience necessary contact Meg on 52312738 or pop in and say hello. " would much appreciate it.

2. St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal.

Parishioners are invited to donate non-perishable food such as tinned hams, Christmas puddings, deserts and other items which the disadvantaged can use at Christmas time. These can be placed under the Christmas tree in the foyer.

Thanks, Paul Kennedy, Treasurer.

Understanding Islam (and Muslims in Australia). Friday 3rd December 2021: To register Email: Carolyn.gatti@diversitat.org.au

FAMILY GROUP NOTICES

***Gleeson Family Group** Christmas Lunch December 5th 12.30 at Colac East Hotel. Proof of double vaccination required. For confirmation of numbers please phone Winsome 52353203

***Crawford Family Group:** Dec 14th at 12 noon – East Hotel Details Catherine 0499022644:

***Croft Family Group:** Christmas Gathering in the 'Church Gathering space' on Dec 10 at 6pm – B.Y.O

**Walk with those experiencing
depression: Pope**

People experiencing depression often need someone to talk to, and they can benefit from psychological counselling and reading what Jesus has to say, Pope Francis says.

"Let us pray that people who suffer from depression or burnout will find support and a light that opens them up to life," the Pope said. In a video message released by the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network yesterday, Francis offered his prayer intention for the month of November, which he dedicated to people experiencing depression. In his video message, the Pope said, "Overwork and work-related stress cause many people to experience extreme exhaustion – mental, emotional, affective and physical exhaustion." "Sadness, apathy and spiritual tiredness end up dominating the lives of people, who are overloaded due to the rhythm of life today," he added.

"Let us try to be close to those who are exhausted, to those who are desperate, without hope. "Often, we should just simply listen in silence because we cannot go and tell someone, 'No, life's not like that. Listen to me, I'll give you the solution.' There's no solution," he said.

"And besides, let us not forget that, along with the indispensable psychological counselling, which is useful and effective, Jesus' words also help," he said, words such as, "Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest".

Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre (MMHC) 'Advent with Mary MacKillop' - The Education Team at MMHC will be delivering an online Advent reflection program consisting of 4 one-hour sessions that will be held on Wednesdays from 7.00 – 8.00pm on November 24, December 1, 8 & 15. The sessions will be based on the Advent readings and will be combined with reflections on St Mary of the Cross. To register go to <https://www.mmhc.org.au/advent-with-mary-mackillop/>

XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops

In March 2020, Pope Francis announced that the theme for the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops would be "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission".

The journey towards the celebration of the Synod in October 2023 solemnly opened on October 9-10, 2021 in Rome, and on October 17 in each particular Church.

On September 7, 2021, the preparatory document and the vademecum (handbook) for the synodal journey were released. With the convocation of the Synod of Bishops on the themes of communion, participation and mission, Pope Francis invites the entire Church to reflect on a theme that is decisive for its life and mission: "It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium. This journey, which follows in the wake of the Church's 'renewal' proposed by the Second Vatican Council, is both a gift and a task."

For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission The period of local consultation as part of the global journey to the 2023 XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops has commenced.

<https://catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>.

