



St Peter's Birregurra
St Joseph's Cressy



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

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 everyone can grow. **5th Sunday of Ordinary Times – 6th February 2022– Year C**

Responsorial Psalm

In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Come follow me, says the Lord,
and I will make you fishers of my people
Alleluia!

This Week's Readings

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 6:1-8. Corinthians 15:1-11. Luke 5:1-11.

Next Week's Readings

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 17:5-8. Corinthians 15:12,16-20. Luke 6:17,20-26

Deaths: Margaret Richardson, Bill Ermacora (formerly Simpson), Laurie Halloran, Michael O'Grady (Birregurra).

Anniversaries: Jim & Monica Martin, Theresa Simpson, Ettie Lanthier, Marty Breen, Arthur Hammett, Joe Franzini, Jim Rylance, Kath McGillivray (Kearns).

MASS TIMES

Tuesday	5.00pm	St Mary's
Wednesday	8.00am	St Mary's
Thursday	10.00am	St Mary's
*Friday	10.00am	St Mary's Anointing Mass
Saturday	6.00pm	St Mary's
Sunday	9.00am	St Mary's
	11.00am	St Mary's

SACRAMENTAL OF RECONCILIATION

*Each Friday after 10am Mass **Anytime by appointment

Diocesan Levies Paid this Month:

(Quarter: Oct/Nov/Dec.)

Parish Account

Diocesan Administration: \$ 7,227.00
Christmas Appeal: \$ 1500.00
BCSF \$ 380.00
Total: \$9,107.00

Presbytery Account \$ 5,569.00

Croft Family Group - Lunch and Planning Day.

This Sunday 6th February at Linda's. 25 Talbot St, Elliminyt. Please bring your own picnic lunch as we gather for the first time 2022. After two years of restrictions, we look forward to being able to enjoy the hospitality and companionship of Family Group. All welcome to participate in Family Group Activities.

Please contact Linda 0448 314 774 more information

CONGRATULATIONS

To Michael & Denise McCarthy celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary this weekend.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK:

*C.W.L. – Meeting Tuesday 8th February 1.30pm St Mary's Church Gathering Space.

Parish Sacramental Team: Meeting Wednesday 9th Feb at 4pm - Church Gathering Space.

Pastoral Pars:

Colac/ Apollo Bay – Lorne: Parish Co-Operations!

Today we welcome Fr John Pothiyittel to our Parish Masses in Colac. We are grateful Fr John will be the Assistant Priest in Apollo Bay, providing pastoral presence there, also Weekday Masses & Sunday Masses.

Fr John's presence enables Fr Michael to celebrate Masses in the Apollo Bay Parish on the 3rd Weekend of each month. (Today), the 1st Sunday of the new arrangement is an extra weekend). Fr John will continue to celebrate with the Indian Community in Colac on the 3rd Sunday evening. We continue to be grateful to Fr. Kevin Arundell who by being the Celebrant in Colac on the 2nd Sunday morning each month, enables Fr Michael to celebrate Mass in Cressy and Birregurra on that weekend. Fr Kevin also celebrates Mass with the Pirron Yallock Community on the 1st Sunday of each month. Fr Michael celebrates a 5pm Mass with St Brendan's Community on the 4th Sunday of each month.

We ask God's Blessing on each of our Parish Communities in this Colac Otway Shire / Surf Coast Region:

May the Spirit of Co-Operation, Understanding Patience & Good Grace be evident to all!!! - M O'Toole.

CONGRATULATIONS – BAPTISMS

This weekend, we welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Lewis Langenhuizen

"The Church gives the faith to your children through Baptism and you have the task to make it grow...."

- Pope Francis.

The Church in Australia will celebrate Word of God Sunday on February 6 this year.

Pope Francis, in instituting this event, set it down for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. In Australia, however, a date falling at the end of January risked being lost in the summer holidays and preparations for the return to school. Consequently, the Australian bishops have set down the first Sunday in February as Word of God Sunday.

**** After almost 2 Years when Covid Restrictions have had an impact on some Mass Procedures including the “Carrying in Procession the Word of God” – I ask that from next weekend February 5th & 6th the Lector (Reader) again report into the Sacristy before Mass and Carry the Lectionary in Procession with the Celebrant. Thus, the Celebrant will know we have a Lector etc. for the Masses.**

****We will also resume Procession of ‘Bread & Wine at the Offertory Time.**

****Holy Water always available in Sacristy for personal / home use.**

Homily of His Holiness Pope Francis Sunday of the Word of God

Third Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C Australia 5th/6th February 2022

Brothers and sisters: let us ask ourselves: do we bear within our hearts this liberating image of God, the God of closeness, compassion and tenderness, or do we think of him as a merciless judge, an accountant who keeps a record of every moment of our lives? Is ours a faith that generates hope and joy, or, among us, a faith still weighed down by fear, a fearful faith? What is the face of God that we proclaim in the Church? The Saviour who liberates and heals, or the Terrifying God who burdens us with feelings of guilt? Jesus shows us where to start from his word. That word, by telling us the story of God's love for us, liberates us from the fears and preconceptions about him that stifle the joy of faith. The word of God nurtures and renews faith: let us put it back at the centre of our prayer and our spiritual life! Let us put at the centre the word that reveals to us what God is like. The word that draws us close to God.

The Message of Pope Francis for the 30th World Day of the Sick – 11th February 2022

It is entitled “Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful” (Lk 6:36). Standing beside those who suffer on a path of charity.

"Jesus' invitation to be merciful like the Father - writes the Pope - has particular significance for healthcare workers. I think of all those physicians, nurses, laboratory technicians, the support staff and the caretakers of the sick, as well as the numerous volunteers who donate their precious time to assist those who suffer". People who have made their service a mission. Because Your hands, which touch the suffering flesh of Christ, can be a sign of the merciful hands of the Father". The Pontiff recalls "the progress that medical science has made, new technologies, research; rehabilitation medicine has greatly expanded its expertise and skills. None of this, however, must make us forget the uniqueness of each patient, his or her dignity and frailties Patients are always more important than their diseases. Even when healing is not possible, care can always be given. It is always possible to console, it is always possible to make people sense a closeness that is more interested in the person than in his or her pathology". "At a time in which the culture of waste is widespread and life is not always acknowledged as worthy of being welcomed and lived, these structures, like "houses of mercy", can be exemplary in protecting and caring for all life, even the most fragile, from its beginning until its natural end". Finally, because "the ministry of consolation is a task for every baptized person, mindful of the word of Jesus: "I was sick and you visited me"

Pope's Worldwide Prayer

The Pope offered his prayer intention for the month of February, which he dedicated to religious and consecrated women.

"Let us pray for religious sisters and consecrated women, thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times,"

The Pope said that without the presence of religious and consecrated women, the Church "cannot be understood," and he called on them "to discern and choose what is best for their mission in the face of the world's challenges that we're experiencing."

Pope Francis prayed that religious and consecrated women would continue "to show the beauty of God's love and compassion" not only through their work, "but above all through your witness of consecration".

Pope Francis encouraged religious sisters and consecrated women to continue to show courage amid difficulties, even if it means pushing back against the Church they serve faithfully.

"Thank you for what you are, for what you do, and for how you do it."