



ST MARY OF THE ANGELS - GEELONG

150 Yarra St, Geelong 3220 Ph: 03 5222 1977



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BULLETIN NOTICES:	DUE BY: Thursdays @ 1.00pm	Email:	rhay@stmarysgeelong.com.au Phone: 5222 1977

MASS TIMES
WEEKDAY MASS 10.00am Tuesday – Saturday ROSARY recited prior to Mass
RECONCILIATION After 10am Mass Saturday
SATURDAY 6.00pm (Vigil)
SUNDAY 7.30am; 9.30am; 11.00am; 12.30pm (Polish)
NOVENA to OUR LADY of PERPETUAL HELP Wednesdays after 10am Mass
NOVENA to ST ANTHONY Tuesdays after 10am Mass
ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT & DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET Thursday at 9.00am

Prepare the Way of the Lord

Second Sunday of Advent - Year C – December 8, 2024

Readings for this week:

Baruch 5:1 - 9; Philippians 1:3 - 6. 8 - 11; Luke 3:1 - 6

REFLECTION (*Francis' Focus*)

© Nick Brodie

'The voice of the Baptist still cries in the deserts of humanity today', says Pope Francis. There is, the Pope observes, a desert of indifference in our world filled with 'closed minds and hardened hearts.'

During Advent we are all called to heed the Baptist's cry. Christians, the Pope suggests, should therefore repent from any selfish inaction on our part. We cannot simply affirm that 'we're okay' because we are Christian and that 'things are fine as they are and we don't need any kind of conversion.'

Rather, the Pope encourages us to ask ourselves whether 'we have within us the same feelings that Jesus has? Is it true that we feel as Christ feels?'

Do we see the needs of others – for forgiveness, companionship, or aid – or are we focused on ourselves?

Having heard the cry, we are also called to share the Baptist's mission to make Jesus known. And the best way to preach the Gospel, the Pope advises, 'is to open a door.'

We open a door to belief when our faith is lived authentically and we are attentive to those around us. We must 'lay low the mountains of pride', the Pope affirms, 'fill in the ravines dug by indifference and apathy', and 'make straight the paths of our laziness and our compromises.'

PIETY GIFT STALL

OPEN Tuesdays to Fridays
10.30am – 1.00pm
CLOSED ON SATURDAYS
OPEN Sundays
10.15am – 12.15pm

The **Piety Stall** will be open regularly up until (& including) Sunday Dec. 22nd. After which it will close until Tuesday February 4th, 2025, when it will open at 10.30am. So, get your sacramental/religious Christmas shopping done now!

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In the spirit of reconciliation, the Parish of St Mary of the Angels, Geelong acknowledges the Waddawarrung people, the Traditional Owners and Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

ST MARY'S ADVENT-CHRISTMAS DIARY DATES

Saturday December 14th – 10am:

Seniors' Anointing Mass & cuppa following.

Tuesday December 17th – 7.30pm:

Christmas Memorial Mass

Wednesday December 18th – 7.30pm:

2nd Rite Reconciliation Service

Christmas Eve Mass Times: December 24th

6pm Family Mass; 8pm Mass; 9.30pm Polish Mass;
11.30pm Carols & 12am Midnight Mass.

Christmas Day Mass Times: December 25th

7.30am; 9.30am; 11am; 12.30pm Polish Mass

Boxing Day – December 26th – 12.30pm Polish Mass

NEW YEAR 2025 There is no New Years Eve Mass

New Year's Day The Solemnity of Mary

January 1st - 10am Mass & 12.30pm Polish Mass

ST MARY'S PARISH RCIA UPDATE

Last Sunday at the 11.00 am Mass nine people from our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) group were welcomed into the parish as Catechumens or Candidates.

Please pray for these new Catechumens – Dan, Deb, Ella, Januk and Jason – and our new Candidates – Alicia, Breanna, Luke and Marina.

This Sunday we will be welcoming some additional Catechumens and Candidates who were unavailable last weekend.

Attending Sunday Mass regularly is a key element of the preparation of the Catechumens and Candidates for initiation into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil next year.

CENSUS FORM RETURN If you have not yet returned, or even filled out your Parish Census Form, we ask you to attend to it. Please return the forms to the Basilica Narthex Collection Box or the Parish Office by: Friday December 20th. Thank you.

CONFIRMATION DATES are early in March 2025 with classes commencing on Tuesday Feb. 4th 2025.

Attention all students who attend non-Catholic private Schools or Government state schools!

Children going into Grade 6 in 2025 must enrol into the Parish Sacramental Program for Confirmation before Christmas. Please contact the Parish Office 5222 1977 or email AnnaMarieD@stmarysgeelong.com.au
To enrol for Confirmation your child must have already received Baptism, Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

ANNUAL PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Date: Sunday December 8th - **THIS WEEKEND**

Time: 12 noon – 3pm. Venue: Parish Centre

@ 150 Yarra St - Hibernian & Pioneer Rooms.

Free **BBQ** sausage sizzle, Free **Face Painting**, Free **Activities for the kids**, Free **Tea/Coffee** served in the Pioneer Room. ***EFTPOS AVAILABLE*** Soft drinks and water will be sold at \$1 each. You can purchase from the **Christmas Gift Stall & Cake/Treats Stall**, and we are running fantastic multi prize (12+) **Raffle** @ \$1 per ticket (or 6 for \$5) At 12.30pm we begin **Christmas Performances & Karaoke**, which is open to children and adults. Space will be left at the front of the stage, for those who wish to present a Christmas dance.

What a fun way to start our Christmas season – celebrating together as a Parish. See you there!

Thank you!
TO OUR SPONSORS

Tuckers Funeral Services, Kings Funeral Services, Baré Legal - see Bulletin Advertising for details of these 3 business. **Soul Pattinson Chemist** – cnr Myers & Yarra Sts, Geelong, **Apollo Music Academy** – Clarendon Rd, Drysdale, **APCO Newcomb** – Wilson's Road, **East Geelong Fruit Market** - Ormond Road, **Wombat Gully** – Townsend Rd, and **Jonathan Hepner Funerals** – cnr Boundary & Ormond Rds, East Geelong. Please remember these companies as you go about your daily business, and if you need their help or assistance, support them as they have so generously supported us.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS NIGHT

Come Along ~ Join Together – Sing a Song!
Thursday December 19th @ 6:30pm Holy Family Church 147 Separation Street Bell Park.
Celebrating the diversity of our parish with songs performed in English, Vietnamese, Sri Lankan, Croatian, Swahili & more! St Michael's Parish Performers include: Holy Family Church Choir, HKUD LADO Choir Geelong, Sri Lankan Community Choir, Community members from the Congo in Africa, Vietnamese Community Choir, Filipino Community Choir, Alpha Group Choir & Fr Minh.

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**GOD'S WORD – DAILY REFLECTIONS 2025:
\$20 per copy @ PIETY STALL & PARISH OFFICE**

A life-changing companion to nourish you, help make God's Word the foundation of your life, and empower you to pray, to live and to share your faith with others.
We will also be selling them at the Carols Event.

FAITH AND LIGHT FRIENDS GEELONG

COMMUNITY Christmas gathering will be on Wednesday Dec. 18th. Venue: St Marys, 150 Yarra St. In the Hibernian Hall on ground level.
Friendship & Sharing; Gospel activity, Songs and shared prayer. Shared festive Afternoon tea and small gifts. Community for those with Disabilities, family, carers and friends. New members always welcome.
Theme: Leading up to welcome The Nativity. RSVP essential to Tricia O'Keeffe 0414 672 267.

Why this Catholic-born scientist is still Catholic?

Dr John Long from Deakin University will talk about the work of Rev. Fr Stanley Jaki OSB on science and faith. Fr. Jaki was a theologian and a renowned scientist. All are welcome on Sunday, December 8th, 12 noon - 1 pm at **Holy Spirit Church Hall, Manifold Heights**. Detailed flyers are available in the Narthex

COME & JOIN A CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS!

The Mixtures Adult Choir and Basilica Choir warmly invite you contact them if you wish to join (*see details in the Music Ministry notice*)

Mixtures sing at 8pm Mass on Christmas Eve with practices on Thurs. December 12th & 19th @ 6pm – 8pm in the Hibernian Hall (Café Light)

Basilica Choir sings at Midnight Mass with Carols sung prior. (*see details of practice times here)

MALE SINGING GROUP All interested male singers are invited to join a male only singing group that practices once a month and sings 'golden oldies' at various Aged Care Nursing Homes around Geelong area. Lots of fun! Please contact: Les Pomeroy for more details and to express your interest. 0414 442 471

Last week's answer is: PAVLOVA. (PA-V-LO-VA)

St Mary's Parish - 1% CLUB QUESTION

What 2 letter word can be added to the end of these words to create another correct English word?
UNDER...FOR...MAN...CAR...TAN...
The answer will be printed in the Bulletin next week.

ST MARY'S PARISH PANTRY

Address: 150 Yarra St. Geelong

Pantry operating days and times are:
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 1pm – 3pm

CLOSURE: for the Christmas period and into the New Year. The Parish Pantry will be closed after the Friday December 20 operating time and will reopen on Tuesday January 8th, 2025.

Music at the Basilica 136 Yarra St. Geelong
FREE ORGAN RECITALS DURING ADVENT
Monday December 9th ; 16th & 23rd
12.30pm – 1.00pm in the Basilica

**Windfire Choir and
Vox Angelica Geelong Chamber Choir
CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Sunday December 15th 5.00pm

Combined choir conducted by Tom Healy also featuring guest choir "The Geelong Youth Choir"

Tickets: \$50/\$45/\$40. *Children and school students: FREE.* To book your tickets go to Trybooking: www.trybooking.com/CQYBA

Music Ministry - Parish Choirs

ST MARY'S PARISH JUNIOR CHOIR

Practices are held during the school term in the Hibernian Hall [Café Light] on a Friday after school [from 3.30pm - 4.30pm] *only 1 practice left.* **Next Mass: Christmas Eve: 6pm**

MIXTURES ADULT CHOIR

Next Mass: Christmas Eve @ 8pm

Practice is prior to the 11am Mass - starting at 9.30am upstairs Level 1 [Pioneer Room].

BASILICA CHOIR New members welcome

*Rehearsals are on Thursdays from 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm in the Sodalities Room – at the rear of the Basilica. Entry from Hay Market carpark

Next Mass: December 8th @ 9.30am

Contact: jbashiruddin@bigpond.com

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding. - *Anonymous*

JOKE OF THE WEEK *Getting in the mood...*

What do you call a snowman with a six-pack? An abdominal snowman.



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AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:



RECENTLY DECEASED: Kathleen Campbell, Louise Cartright, Zenona Romaniuk, Zoltan Farago

CURRENT ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH: Jocelyn Molina, Val Creece, Biagio Stefano, Abigail Forrest, Baby Ivy Forrest-Sohal, Zofia Grabowski, Sylvia Drought, Kerry Costelloe, Irene Lineen, Anthony MacLeod, Raymond John Finn, Elizabeth Biviano, Maria Polimeni, Patricia Wakefield

ALL THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE UNWELL: Grace McConvill

Loving God, we pray that you will be comfort in their suffering, and lead them to know your healing grace, As they place their trust in you, grant them peace of mind, body and spirit. Amen.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY [CLOW] - FILL OUT YOUR REGISTRATION TODAY!!

Scan this QR code to access the **CHILDREN'S LITURGY REGISTRATION FORM**. [For children Grade 2 – Grade 6] Children are required to be fully registered, and forms submitted prior to sessions. A form must be submitted at least once per year, and updated per school term, if any of your circumstances/details change.



ST. JOHN OF GOD HOSPITAL CHAPEL MASS: Every Thursday at 11.30am

RADIO MASS BROADCAST:

SUNDAY 7am on Light FM 89.9 & 10am on The Pulse FM 94.7



Third Sunday of Advent - Year C – December 15, 2024

Readings for next week:

Zephaniah 3: 14 - 18; Philippians 4: 4 - 7; Luke 3: 10 - 18

Children's Liturgy	December 8	December 15	December 22	December 29
11.00am MASS	Blake Liz	Maria ...	xxx No CLOW School holidays	xxx No CLOW School holidays

TIMES	Commentator	Reader	Special Ministers	Welcomers	Main Collector
6.00pm VIGIL	Gael Perry	Margot Jarman	Vicki Zavaglia Gael Perry	Diane Read	Vince Zavaglia
7.30am	Nola Schwidlewski	Philip DeRose	Barry Leith Margi Munk	Monica Pearce	Lachlan Buchanan
9.30am	Marita Fitzpatrick	Jennifer Guinane	Blake Drever Rhonda Sullivan Erminia Ficca	Anna Demetriou	Geoff Johnston
11.00am	Alec Kulic	Georgia Cowdery	Lina Sidoti Maria Monea Georgia Cowdery	Domenica Croce	Klaus Bauer
AV	OPERATOR	6.00pm VIGIL	7.30am	9.30am	11.00am
		Rebecca Hay	Barry Leith	Teresa Eadie	Cameron Brooks

'St Mary of the Angels Parish' is our official Facebook page for the people of our Parish

to stay connected. Receive updates and posts, and view & read daily reflections.

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Mary-of-the-Angels-Parish-103118478011107/>

'Follow' the page and like our updates & articles. A great way to keep in touch.

You can also visit our regularly updated and very informative webpage: www.stmarysgeelong.com.au




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