

# ST MARY OF THE ANGELS - GEELONG

150 Yarra St, Geelong 3220 Ph: 03 5222 1977

**Website:** [www.stmarysgeelong.com.au](http://www.stmarysgeelong.com.au)

E-mail: [admin@stmarysgeelong.com.au](mailto:admin@stmarysgeelong.com.au)

**Parish Priest:** Fr James Clarke PP

E-mail: [frj@stmarysgeelong.com.au](mailto:frj@stmarysgeelong.com.au)

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Email: [j.johnson@stmarysgeelong.com.au](mailto:j.johnson@stmarysgeelong.com.au)

**Business Manager:** Mrs Diane Read

Email: [dianer@stmarysgeelong.com.au](mailto:dianer@stmarysgeelong.com.au)

**Parish Secretaries:** Mrs Joanne McMahon  
Mrs Vivienne Adamko

Email: [joannem@stmarysgeelong.com.au](mailto:joannem@stmarysgeelong.com.au)  
Email: [viva@stmarysgeelong.com.au](mailto:viva@stmarysgeelong.com.au)

**Pastoral Worker:** Ms Anna Demetriou

Email: [AnnaMarieD@stmarysgeelong.com.au](mailto:AnnaMarieD@stmarysgeelong.com.au)

**RCIA Coordinator:** Mr Kevin Mark

Email: [Kevin@stmarysgeelong.com.au](mailto:Kevin@stmarysgeelong.com.au)

**Bulletin Notices:** Due by: Thursday 1.00pm Email: [rhay@stmarysgeelong.com.au](mailto:rhay@stmarysgeelong.com.au) or call Parish Office: 5222 1977



## MASS TIMES

### WEEKDAY MASSES

10.00am Tuesday - Saturday  
ROSARY recited prior to Mass

### RECONCILIATION

After 10.00am Mass Saturday

### SATURDAY

6.00pm (Vigil)

### SUNDAY

7.30am; 9.30am; 11.00am;  
12.30pm (Polish)

Third Sunday of Advent - Year B - December 17, 2023

### Readings for this week:

Isaiah 61 :1-2.10-11; 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24; John 1: 6-8. 19-28

### REFLECTION ON THE SCRIPTURES

© Diane Bergant CSA

Traditionally, the third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday. The Sunday of Joy.

The joy of this Sunday comes both from the message of the readings and from the anticipation that Christmas is nearing. As described in the Isaian passage, the Messiah is the one imbued with the spirit and with the power of the prophet, the one who will fulfill the promises of God. It becomes obvious in the Gospel that the Messiah is the one proclaimed by the Baptist. John cleared a path for the coming of the anointed one, and from that time on the lives of believers have been the pathway through which the Messiah has entered the world.

### Have you thought? A time to Rejoice!

© Greg Sunter

This Sunday is traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word for Rejoice! Advent was originally celebrated as a five week season and with the same fasting and penitential nature as the season of Lent.

The third Sunday, Gaudete, was like a break for rejoicing in the midst of the fasting. When Advent was reduced to four weeks and the nature of the season altered, Gaudete Sunday was retained.

The colour of this Sunday is rose – a celebratory colour – and it is usually reflected in the vestments worn by the priest, and in the colour of the third candle used in Advent wreaths.

### NOVENA to OUR LADY of PERPETUAL HELP

Wednesdays after 10.00am Mass

### NOVENA to ST. ANTHONY

Tuesdays after 10.00am Mass

### ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT & DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Thursday at 9.00am

### PIETY GIFT STALL

**OPEN Tuesdays to Fridays:**

10.30am - 1.00pm,

**Sundays:** 10.15am -12.15pm.

Closed on Saturdays.

The **PIETY GIFT STALL** will be open on December 24; 10.15am - 12.15pm.

After that date, for Christmas and the New Year, it will be closed. It will open again in the first week of February 2024 - on Tuesday February 6 at 10.30am.

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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.

## **CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL MASS**

**TUESDAY December 19th - 7.30pm.**

All parishioners are warmly invited to attend.

## **CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

### **Christmas Eve December 24, 2023**

6.00pm Family Mass; 8.00pm Mass; 9.30pm Polish Mass; 11.45pm Pre-Mass Christmas Carols; Midnight Mass (12am)

### **Christmas Day December 25, 2023**

7.30am Mass; 9.30am Mass; 11.00am Mass; 12.30pm Polish Mass.

### **Boxing Day December 26, 2023**

There will be no 10am Weekday Mass. A Polish Mass will be held at 12.30pm. *(after which the Basilica will be closed for the rest of the day)*

### **Weekday Masses between Christmas & the New Year**

The Basilica will be closed all of Wednesday Dec. 27 and Thursday Dec. 28. It will open on Friday Dec. 29 for the 10am Weekday Mass only.

On Saturday Dec. 30 there will be 10am Mass and Reconciliation afterwards. The regular 6pm Vigil Mass (Dec. 30) and Sunday Masses 7.30am; 9.30am; 11am; Polish 12.30pm (Dec. 31) will be celebrated. Please note: there is no evening Mass scheduled for New Years Eve (Dec. 31).

### **New Years Day - the Solemnity of Mary** **January 1, 2024**

Mass will be celebrated at 10am, and there will be a Polish Mass at 12.30pm. After these Masses the Basilica will close for the day.

**Tuesday January 2.** The weekday 10am Masses, Rosary and Adorations will resume as per regular schedule.

## **PARISH OFFICE CLOSING TIMES**

The Parish Office will close on December 22 at 5pm, and will remain closed over Christmas and the New Year. It re-opens on Tuesday January 2. Office hours for 2024 will be: 8.30am - 5.00pm; Monday - Friday.

**JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS** - a stocking filler  
The CD **"I Call Your Name"** by *Rebecca Hay* is now available for purchase at the Piety Gift Stall and Parish Office. CDs are: \$20 per copy. It features the song written for Fr Jim: *"I will be your Shepherd"*.

Her CD **"Melodies of Christmas"** - first released in 2006, is also available at the Piety Gift Stall. \$20ea.

## **ST MARY'S PARISH RCIA: An Update**

Those undertaking the Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) in the parish for 2022-24 have completed the first stage of their journey, known as the "Enquiry" phase.

This will be marked by a "Rite of Acceptance/Welcome" at the 11.00am Mass this Sunday. The enquirers will express their desire to continue their journey and it will be an opportunity for the parish to express its welcome and encouragement. Those who are unbaptised will begin the next stage of the RCIA journey, the "Catechumenate", as "catechumens". Those already baptised but seeking to join the Catholic Church are known as "candidates".

The catechumens and candidates will from then continue on the path to baptism and reception into the Catholic Church at next year's Easter Vigil. Please make the RCIA people welcome and include them in your prayers..

## **PARISH ADVENT GROUP**

The final session is this coming Tuesday, December 19, in the Pioneer Room (Level 2, Parish Office building, 150 Yarra Street, Geelong) at 10.45am.

This is also the final meeting of the parish's weekly Scripture Group for this year. The group will resume in 2024 with a Lenten program beginning on Feb 13. For further information please contact Kevin Mark via [kevin@stmarysgeelong.com.au](mailto:kevin@stmarysgeelong.com.au)

## **COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS AND DIVINE MERCY CALENDARS**

We now have these calendars available for purchase from the Piety Gift Stall and the Parish Office.

**Divine Mercy** Calendars 2024: \$12.00 each

**Columban Art** Calendars 2024: \$10.00 each

*There is only a limited amount of each available.*

## **CONFIRMATION - ENROLMENTS FOR 2024**

If you have a child who will be in Grade 6 in 2024, and you would like them to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, please contact Anna in the Parish Office on 5222 1977. Early warning: You will be required to bring along the certificates of your child's Baptism and First Eucharist at the time you place your enrolment.

*thank you*

To all involved in our Annual Parish Carols last Sunday and all those who supported the event. We raised well over \$1000 to go towards the Basilica maintenance.

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### ST MARYS PARISH PANTRY

Address: 150 Yarra St. Geelong.

Pantry operating days and times are: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday between 1.00pm - 3.00pm.

Friday December 22 will be the last day of operation for the Pantry in 2023. It will close over Christmas and the New Year. It will open for regular hours on Tuesday January 9th, 2024 at 1pm.

### ADVENT DAWN NOVENA MASS (SIMBANG GABI)

Begins on Saturday, Dec 16 - 24, at 5:30 am.

A Mass will be held every morning during that time at St Francis Xavier Church – 143 Bacchus Marsh Road, Corio. For more information please contact Adela Buaya at 0409 135 589. All are welcome!

### *We need your help to preserve St Mary's Basilica for future generations.*

The Parish receives no funding for required maintenance and upkeep, and being heritage listed makes it more difficult. Our thanksgiving offerings have diminished in recent years, and we find ourselves in a position where we need to ask for your help.

### *Together we can and will build for our future!*

Please consider joining our Thanksgiving program where you can automatically directly donate via bank, or use the envelope system, and bring along your loose change or cash to put in with the Collections at our Sunday Masses. Every little bit helps! Thank you.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to John & Lyn Cowell on reaching your 40th Wedding Anniversary. May God continue to bless your lives together.



Please ...

### VOLUNTEERS FOR SUNDAY MASS

*Become a Volunteer in 2024*

Please contact us via email: [rhay@stmarysgeelong.com.au](mailto:rhay@stmarysgeelong.com.au)  
Or you can call the Parish Office during the week on 5222 1977.

### CREATE A PLACE OF REMEMBRANCE FOR YOUR LOVED ONE/S

We invite any who are interested, to purchase a Memorial brick which is placed on St Mary's "Memorial Brick Pathway" around the edge of the Basilica grounds. Please direct all enquiries/interest to Diane (Business Manager) at the Parish Office. Call: 5222 1977 or email: [dianer@stmarysgeelong.com.au](mailto:dianer@stmarysgeelong.com.au)



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### ST MARYS PARISH PANTRY - OPEN

Address: 150 Yarra St. Geelong.

Pantry operating days and times are: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday between 1.00pm - 3.00pm.

### Music at the Basilica presents

### FREE LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITALS

12.30pm - 1.15pm on Mondays at the Basilica of St Mary of the Angels, 136 Yarra St, Geelong

Monday 18 December: Frank De Rosso

### ST MARY'S PARISH JUNIOR CHOIR

Next Mass: Christmas Eve (Dec 24) @ 6.00pm.

**MIXTURES ADULT CHOIR** Next Mass: Christmas Eve December 24 @ 8.00pm. Last practice for this Mass will be at 6pm-8pm [Wednesday: Dec 20] in the Hibernian Hall (Café Light). 150 Yarra St, Geelong.

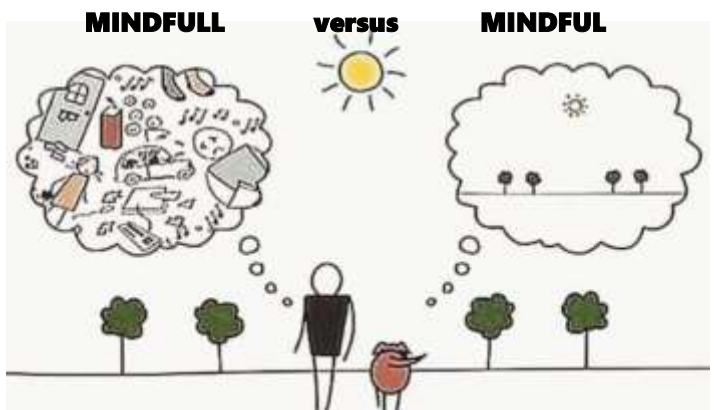
New members are very welcome.

**BASILICA CHOIR** Next Mass: Sunday December 17 @ 9.30am. Choir practices are held on Thursday nights in the Sodalities Room (at the rear of the Basilica).

Starting at 7.30pm. New members welcomed.

Contact Jane at [jbashiruddin@bigpond.com](mailto:jbashiruddin@bigpond.com)

**QUOTE FOR THE WEEK** Learn to be present and enjoy the moment.



### JOKE FOR THE DAY



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**AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:**

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Anthony Uchenna Npopu



**CURRENT ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH:** Brian Fredrick Chandley, Noreen Chandley, Domenico Stramondinoli, Caterina Costa, Norman Tomison, Natale Gulino, Margaret Stewart, Colin Hood, Anthony McFarlane, Giulio Zocco, Mary Sexton, Margaret Belleville, Isabella Inturrisi, Leo Jerinic, Rose Virgona, Ron Cox

**THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE UNWELL:** Macy Joy Holmes

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.

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



Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year B - December 24, 2023

Readings for next week:

2 Samuel 7: 1 - 5. 8 - 12. 14. 16; Romans 16: 25 - 27; Luke 1: 26 - 38

<i><b>TIMES</b></i>	<i><b>Commentator</b></i>	<i><b>Reader</b></i>	<i><b>Special Ministers</b></i>	<i><b>Welcomers</b></i>	<i><b>Main Collector</b></i>
<b>6.00pm VIGIL</b>	Gael Perry	Brendan Sullivan	Vicki Zavaglia Margot Jarman	Diane Read	Vince Zavaglia
<b>7.30am</b>	Annette Wilkinson	Lesley Almond	Rosa Marino Annette Wilkinson	Monica Pearce	Carlo Werzac
<b>9.30am</b>	Marita Fitzpatrick	Peter Mackinlay	Jennifer Guinane Des Guinane Erminia Ficca	Joanne McMahon	Mick Stokes
<b>11.00am</b>	Alec Kulic	Shirley Carroll	Pamela Cowdery Linda Stacchino Barbara Antony	Liz Bauer	Klaus Bauer
<i><b>TIMES</b></i>	<i><b>6.00pm</b></i>	<i><b>7.30am</b></i>	<i><b>9.30am</b></i>	<i><b>11.00am</b></i>	
<i><b>AV-SOUND OPERATOR</b></i>	Rebecca Hay	Barry Leith	Andrew DeAngelis	Joan Belleville	



'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 stay in touch.

You can also visit our regularly updated and very informative webpage: [www.stmarysgeelong.com.au](http://www.stmarysgeelong.com.au)

On the webpage we include updates & current Parish information, Daily Reflections, Prayers, images, links and even something for the kids. **Everything you need to know about our faith community.**

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