

ST MARY OF THE ANGELS - GEELONG

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Bulletin Notices: Due by: Thursday 1.00pm Email: 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)

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

CURRENTLY CLOSED
FOR ALL OF JANUARY 2024

Re-opens on Thursday February
1st, 2024. 10.30am - 12.30pm

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph - Year B - December 31, 2023

Readings for this week:

Sirach 3: 2 - 6. 12 - 14; Colossians 3: 12 - 21; Luke 2: 22 - 40

GOSPEL REFLECTION

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Look at any newspaper, magazine, television current affairs program or social commentary and you will be bombarded with the notion that the institution of family is under attack. Rather, what appears to be under attack is a particular view of what it means to be 'family'. Society in general and governments in particular are recognising the reality that 'family' is a much more fluid term than it used to be. Rather than an attack on family, it might be argued that there is in fact an embracing of the concept of family by making its definition much broader.

In this feast we celebrate the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The model of family that we have in this Holy Family is a model that would not be entirely out of place in the 21st Century. Mary was a very young woman; possibly no more than 13 or 14 years old. Joseph was an older man; possibly on his second marriage. There was a degree of scandal about the conception of their child and Joseph seriously contemplated whether or not he would go ahead with the marriage. They were forced to flee their homeland and seek protection as refugees in Egypt.

We see from today's passage that the parents are doing their best to be faithful to their religious and cultural traditions whilst worrying about what the future holds for their son. It is a picture that is not too different from the situation in which many families today find themselves. So while we celebrate today the feast of the Holy Family, it is very much a celebration of every family.

LIVING THE GOSPEL – Faithful

A strong image that emerges from this passage is the faithfulness of Mary and Joseph. Their whole purpose in visiting the Temple is to fulfil the requirements of their faith. They are faithful to the Jewish tradition and it is into this tradition that they initiate Jesus. The faithfulness of Mary and Joseph is a hallmark of their life as a family. Their faithfulness is a significant element of what we celebrate in the feast of the Holy Family and their faithfulness to God and to one another is a model for all families and for all people.



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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.



Weekday Masses between Christmas & the New Year

Saturday Dec. 30 - 10am Mass. Reconciliation will be available after the Mass (around 10.30am).

Saturday Dec. 30 - 6.00pm Vigil Mass.

Sunday Dec. 31 - 7.30am; 9.30am; 11am; 12.30pm (Polish Mass) will be celebrated.

Sunday Dec. 31 - Please note: there is no evening Mass scheduled for New Years Eve.

New Years Day - the Solemnity of Mary

Monday January 1, 2024

Mass will be celebrated at 10am, and there will be a Polish Mass at 12.30pm. After these 2 Masses the Basilica will close for the day.

Tuesday January 2, 2024. The weekday 10am Masses, Rosary and Adorations will resume as per regular schedule. (*details on the front of the Bulletin*) The Basilica will be open 9am - 5pm (Tues - Fri)

PARISH OFFICE CLOSING TIMES

The Parish Office is currently closed. It will re-open from Tuesday January 2, 2024. Office hours for 2024 will be: Monday - Friday; 8.30am - 5.00pm.

If you need to contact our priest/s for an emergency end of life or hospital visit, please call 5222 1977. Listen to the voicemail message, which includes the after hours mobile number. Have a pen and paper ready to take down the number. Thank you.

CONFIRMATION - ENROL NOW

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be held on Wednesday March 20 and Thursday March 21.

Our after-school classes commence in Term 1, 2024. If you are in the public school system, have a child in Grade 6 in 2024, and you would like them to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, please contact Anna as soon as the Parish Office opens in 2024, so you don't miss out. (*see notice above for open hours*)

Warning: You will be required to have copies of the certificates of your child's Baptism and First Eucharist at the time you place your enrolment.

RADIO MASS from St Mary's Parish, Geelong

Due to pre-recorded programming, to allow time off for volunteer broadcasters, the Mass will not be Broadcast at the usual time of Sunday 10am on PULSE FM 94.7 for 3 weekends - December 31, 2023; January 7 & January 14, 2024.

Broadcast of the Mass from St Mary's will resume on Sunday January 21, 2024 - 10am.

COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS AND DIVINE MERCY CALENDARS

We now have these calendars available for purchase from the Parish Office, whilst the Piety Gift Stall is closed. Limited copies available.

Divine Mercy Calendars 2024: \$12.00 each

Columban Art Calendars 2024: \$10.00 each

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

The Parish receives no funding for the much required maintenance and upkeep, and being heritage listed makes it more difficult. For various reasons 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 we encourage you to bring along your loose change or cash to put in with the First and Second Collections at our Sunday Masses. Every little bit helps! Thank you for your kind consideration and continued generosity.

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's cemented walkways. Please direct all enquiries/interest to Diane (Business Manager) at the Parish Office. Call: 5222 1977 or you can email: dianer@stmarysgeelong.com.au

KEEP VIGILANT - a friendly reminder!

Please be aware, and take care to keep all personal belongings well at hand whilst in the Basilica; whether visiting or attending Weekday-Sunday Masses.

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IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST JAMES THE APOSTLE

The 2024 Pilgrimage *the journey in-between*
 Barcelona-Montserrat-Camino Pilgrimage-Santiago de
 Compostela-Madrid-Toledo

Tuesday September 3 - Wednesday September 25

Small group, fully-escorted pilgrimage for 2024
BOOK YOUR PLACE TODAY!

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CD - "I CALL YOUR NAME" by Rebecca Hay -
 the Music/Liturgy Coordinator here at the Basilica.
 The CD is currently available for purchase from the
 Parish Office. CDs are: \$20 per copy.
 It features the song Rebecca wrote especially for
 Fr Jim's 30th Anniversary of Ordination to the
 Priesthood (Aug. 2023): "*I will be your Shepherd*",
 and many other beautiful self compositions.

We look
 forward
 to
 hearing
 from you

VOLUNTEERS FOR SUNDAY MASS

Become a Volunteer in 2024

Please contact us via email:

rhay@stmarysgeelong.com.au

Or you can call the Parish Office
 during the week on 5222 1977.

JOKE OF THE DAY ...



ST MARYS PARISH PANTRY
 Address: 150 Yarra St. Geelong.
CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR OPERATING HOURS
 The Pantry is currently closed and will open for regular
 hours on Tuesday January 9th, 2024 at 1pm.
 Pantry operating days and times in 2024 will be:
 Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday
 between 1.00pm - 3.00pm.

ST MARY'S PARISH JUNIOR CHOIR

Next Mass: Feb. 25, 2024 - 11am. The Parish Junior
 Choir breaks for the School Holidays. Practices resume
 on Friday, Feb 9, 2024. Practices take place in the
 Hibernian Hall (Café) on Fridays of the school term.
 3.30pm - 4.30pm. New members are most welcome.
 Email: rhay@stmarysgeelong.com.au for enquiries or
 more details.

MIXTURES ADULT CHOIR **Next Mass:** February 11,
 2024 - 11am. The Mixtures Choir is currently on break.
 Practices resume Sunday Feb.11 at 9.30am, prior to
 scheduled 11am Mass. If interested to join please
 email: rhay@stmarysgeelong.com.au

BASILICA CHOIR The Basilica Choir is on break for
 the month of January. Practices resume Thursday Feb.
 1, 2024, in the Sodalties Room (at the rear of the
 Basilica). Starting at 7.30pm. **Next Mass:** Feb. 4, 2024 -
 9.30am. New members welcomed.
 Contact Jane at jbashiruddin@bigpond.com



A huge heartfelt thankyou to the many volunteer
 singers, choir members, and musicians who prepared
 and presented their Music Ministry for our parish
 Christmas Masses last week: The Junior Choir,
 Mixtures Choir, Basilica Choir and the Hay family trio.
 Thank you to Frank DeRosso for his continued input to
 the choral direction of the Basilica Choir, and a special
 thank you to the parents and families of the Juniors,
 for their dedicated support of the children, as they
 share their talents and grow within this ministry.

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK You are never too old to set
 another goal, or dream a new dream - C.S Lewis.

*May God bless you all and guide you well into the New
 Year, bringing you hope, joy, good health and prosperity.*

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AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Carmen Galea



CURRENT ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH: Absjorn Hansen, Antonietta Ficca, Andrew Carroll, Joy "Zoe" Samas, Bernadyn "Benny" Pawlak, Alexander Mitchell, Maria Balla, Gaetana Inturrisi, Damian Boyle, Zolenka Dragicevic, Lucia Padula, Irene Jablonski

THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE UNWELL: especially those fighting Covid, Gastro and the Flu

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

NO BROADCAST on 94.7 PULSE FM TILL Jan 21, 2024



The Epiphany of the Lord - Year B - January 7, 2023

Readings for next week:

Isaiah 60: 1 - 6; Ephesians 3: 2 - 3. 5 - 6; Matthew 2: 1 - 12

<i>TIMES</i>	<i>Commentator</i>	<i>Reader</i>	<i>Special Ministers</i>	<i>Welcomers</i>	<i>Main Collector</i>
6.00pm VIGIL	Gael Perry	Trish Nicholson	Vicki Zavaglia Margot Jarman	Diane Read	Vince Zavaglia
7.30am	Lesley Almond	Barry Leith	Rosa Marino Nola Schwidlewski	Carlo Werzac	Lachlan Buchanan
9.30am	Jennifer Guinane	Blake Drever	Rhonda Sullivan Des Guinane Erminia Ficca	?? TBC	Mick Stokes
11.00am	Rosemary Gador	Linda Stacchino	Pamela Cowdery Slavica Kulic	Liz Bauer	Klaus Bauer

<i>TIMES</i>	<i>6.00pm</i>	<i>7.30am</i>	<i>9.30am</i>	<i>11.00am</i>
AV-SOUND OPERATOR	Rebecca Hay	Keith Almond	Clevon Peris	Natalia Barber



'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

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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