

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
9.30am FRIDAYS IN LENT

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

OPEN Tuesdays to Fridays:
10.30am - 1.00pm,
Sundays: 10.15am - 12.15pm.
Closed on Saturdays.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - Year B - February 18, 2024

Readings for this week:

Genesis 9: 8 - 15; 1 Peter 3: 18 - 22; Mark 1: 12 - 15

REFLECTION ON THE SCRIPTURES

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Have you ever noticed that Jesus begins and ends his public ministry in the wilderness? These deserts are the geographical bookends of the greatest story ever told. In today's Gospel we have Jesus in the desert for forty days. Much later, when condemned to death, Jesus is led out of the city and crucified at Golgotha, another dry and desolate location. In both places Jesus is tempted. In Mark we are never told what Satan's temptations in the desert were about. Luke and Matthew fill in those details. On the cross, however, Mark tells us that the crowd tempts Jesus to work a miracle, come down from the cross and save himself. In the first desert Jesus is ministered to by the angels and emerges to proclaim that the kingdom of God is close at hand. In the later desert Jesus is ministered to by his women disciples and is put to death as a consequence for the way he lived out the Kingdom he proclaimed.

It's clear from all the Gospels that the desert and the temptations stayed with Jesus throughout his life. What a comfort this is to us. Many of us do not need to go out and find a physical desert to know its claim on our lives. Temptations do not know geographical limitations. Indeed, the greater the number of options, the more temptations we have to take a destructive path. When we look at how the desert is used in the Bible, mythology, art, literature and the cinema two competing images emerge. The first is that the desert can be a place of loss and ruin where some great heroes have gone and not returned. In another equally venerable tradition journeys to the desert, while filled with a mixture of pleasure and pain, are abundant with revelation, transformation and recreation.

These two descriptions do not have to be contradictory. As we find in Jesus' example, we do not have to give in to the temptation that the desert is only about loss, but we need to find a path there to negotiate a way out of it so that we can emerge recreated, the richer for the experience.

(continued on the next page)

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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.



This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women: Ronita from the Philippines, Leaia from Samoa and Memory from Malawi. While from three different corners of the world and facing vastly different challenges, they are all united by one dream: to create a better world *for all future generations*.
Please donate to Project Compassion. Your generosity is appreciated.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

Gospel Reflection (continued from the front page)

It's important to remember in our own particular deserts that temptation is not sin. To be tempted by something is not the same as doing it. Temptations are the allures that make destructive choices look good. In one sense, the bad news is that we know from the lives of the saints that the closer we get to God, the more temptations increase. The good news is that we can learn how to deal with them.

Usually, temptations have a context and a history. They can come when we are feeling most deserted and vulnerable and they normally strike us at the most susceptible points in our character. To deal with them we need to be aware of their pattern, the way they con us into believing that the destructive behaviour is 'not that bad', will be 'just this once', or 'for the last time'. As well, it helps if we are aware of the danger signs in our lives that can weaken our defences. Tiredness, boredom, anger, alcohol and drug use, lack of good communication and a poor self-esteem are common realities that can leave us more exposed than usual. This Lent, as we venture with Christ into our figurative deserts, let's do anything that helps our self-esteem, deal with our anger, attend to why we might work or drink too much, and ensure that we are less stressed. Contrary to what we might think, these activities could be the most helpful ways we can make sure we emerge from our desert the better for having been there.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be recited each Friday in Lent. Starting at 9.30am and finishing in time for the 10.00am weekday Mass. The Rosary will be recited after the Basilica opens at 9.00am.

CAFÉ LIGHT & PLAZA THEATRE MOVIE NEWS

The Café will be open **TODAY Sunday February 18** at 10.30am - 12.30pm. Cost is \$5 per serve.

All are most welcome to come along.

Our apologies: the MOVIE screening has been CANCELLED due to projectionist unavailability.

STONEMASON WORK AT THE BASILICA

The workers will be in the Basilica on Monday **Feb. 19** (all day) and Tuesday **Feb. 20** (all day) The building will remain open on Monday (10am - 5pm) and Tuesday (9am - 5pm). The work will cease for 10.00am Mass on Tuesday.

The **Basilica is closed all day on Wednesday Feb 21**. There will be no 10am Mass on the Wednesday.

PARISH LENTEN GROUPS

St Mary's Parish is offering two Lenten groups this year: evening and daytime. Both have commenced, but new attendees are very welcome. **The evening group is meeting on Mondays at 7.30pm. The daytime group is meeting on Tuesdays at 10.45 am.** The Lenten groups meet in the Pioneer Room (upstairs, parish office building, 150 Yarra Street, Geelong), which can be accessed via the lift at the Yarra Street end of the building or the ramp at the other end of the building. For further information see: www.stmarysgeelong.com.au/lent-2024

The PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL is holding its next general meeting on Tuesday 12 March.



If you would like to raise an issue for the consideration of the council you can email them at: pastoralcouncil@stmarysgeelong.com.au or contact the Parish Office 5222 1977.

The council inbox is managed by volunteers and is checked just prior to meetings, please note that it may not be possible to discuss all matters at the immediate meeting and some matters may be referred to a more appropriate forum.

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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.

LENT BOOK "PIETA" ** Very limited number (6) available. Call the Parish Office to purchase a copy. However, you can order a downloadable and printable PDF version directly from the publisher by using the link supplied here: dow.org.au/product/pieta-lenten-program-2024-book-pdf-digital-download/

RADIO MASS Broadcast brought to you by **St Mary's Parish, Geelong**. 10.00am Sunday morning on PULSE FM 94.7

UPRIGHT PIANO - FREE TO A GOOD HOME

The Parish has to rehome a piano which resides up in the Pioneer Room. You are most welcome to come into the Office Centre to check it out during the week. Removal costs are expected to be taken on by the interested party. Call 5222 1977

JOIN OUR TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS FOR OUR SUNDAY MASSES For more information or to indicate availability please contact us via email: rhay@stmarysgeelong.com.au or you can call the Parish Office during the week on 5222 1977.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER will be held on Friday March 1 at 11am. WESLEY UNITING CHURCH, 100 Yarra St, Geelong. The theme "I beg you... bear with one another in love" has been prepared by the Christian people of Palestine. The guest speaker will be Daryl Crowden, a retired representative of World Vision. For more information please contact: Heather Watson 0412 139 295 or Sue O'Donoghue 0429 784 331

'ASHES TO EASTER' LENTEN CONCERT- REFLECTION with Peter Kearney.

1. St Thomas Catholic Parish, Drysdale.
Date & Time: Saturday 24th February. 11.00am
Location: St. Thomas Church, 27 Peninsula Drive, Drysdale. **Admission:** gold coin donation.
Please direct all enquiries to Robert 0418 593 537.
2. St Michael's Parish, Holy Family Church, Bell Park
Date & Time: Tuesday 27th February 7.00pm.
To book your place, please contact on 5278 1343 or email to: bellpark@cam.org.au.



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Music at the Basilica 136 Yarra St, Geelong presents

Encounters 2024 "A VOICE, LENT TO MUSIC"

Join **Frank De Rosso (organ)** and associate artists in a journey of music and poetry, leading up to Easter. Sundays 5.00 to 5.30pm at the Basilica.

Admission is free.

Sunday 18 February **Allister Cox (clarinet)**

Sunday 3 March **Patrycja Radzi-Stewart (violin)**

Sunday 10 March **John Seal (marimba)**

Sunday 17 March **Helen Seymour (poetry)**

and

THE AUSTRALIAN MALE WELSH CHOIR

in concert on **Sunday 25 February**, 5.00pm

Celebrate St David's Day with the Australian Male Welsh Choir in a program of most-loved songs from Wales. Tickets \$35 Full and Seniors; \$30 Concession available from www.trybooking.com/CODSW or at the door. Children and school students – free.

ST MARY'S PARISH JUNIOR CHOIR

Next Mass: Feb. 25, 2024 - 11am.

New members are most welcome.

Email: rhay@stmarysgeelong.com.au for enquiries.

MIXTURES ADULT CHOIR The Mixtures will resume again after Easter. For more information or if interested to join please email: rhay@stmarysgeelong.com.au

BASILICA CHOIR **Next Mass:** Feb. 18, 2024 -

9.30am. New members welcome.

Contact Jane at jbashiruddin@bigpond.com

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless." - *Mother Theresa*

JOKE OF THE DAY



Kings FUNERALS

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AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Stan Stewart, Concetta Orioli, Margaret "Maureen" Pitcher, Roger Day, Lachlan Ricchina, Irene Rosalind "Ros" McIlvena



CURRENT ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH: Paciana Abellana, Jacqueline O'Toole, Norman Dixon, Bronislawa Pietrzak, Jeanette Devon, Raymond Neeson, Noelene Gray, Dezso Kotroczo, Margaret Carter, Sergio "Stan" Costa, Antonio Zavaglia, Jeanette Devon, Kevin McMahon, Edward Kornacki, Mieczyslaw Kornacki

THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE UNWELL: Henry Hay MB, Pam Firth

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

Second Sunday of Lent - Year B - February 25, 2024

Readings for next week:

Genesis 22: 1 - 2. 9 - 13. 15 - 18; Romans 8: 31 - 34; Mark 9: 2 - 10



<u>TIMES</u>	<u>Commentator</u>	<u>Reader</u>	<u>Special Ministers</u>	<u>Welcomers</u>	<u>Main Collector</u>
6.00pm VIGIL	Gael Perry	Trish Nicholson	Trish Nicholson Gael Perry	Diane Read	Vince Zavaglia
7.30am	Annette Wilkinson	Lesley Almond	Annette Wilkinson Rosa Marino	Brenda McGregor	Carlo Werzak
9.30am	Maree Ryan	Peter Mackinlay	Rhonda Sullivan Erminia Ficca Des Guinane	Joanne McMahon	Mick Stokes
11.00am	Alec Kulic	Santina Taranto	Lina Sidoti Liz Bauer Kirra	Liz Bauer	Klaus Bauer

<u>TIMES</u>	<u>6.00pm</u>	<u>7.30am</u>	<u>9.30am</u>	<u>11.00am</u>
AV-SOUND OPERATOR	Natalia Barber	Keith Almond	Marcia O'Brien	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/>



St Mary's Parish is hosting **CHAMBER PHILHARMONIA COLOGNE** (from Germany) **Monday March 11th 2024** in the Basilica DON'T MISS THIS RARE OPPORTUNITY to Experience one of Germany's finest Ensembles, performing a diverse programme ranging from VIVALDI, J. S. BACH and PAGANINI.

Tickets are available from www.ticketmaster.com.au and will be available at the door (cash only) 1 hour prior to the start of the concert. Tickets: \$45 [Adult]; \$40 [Conc.] \$34 [6 - 18 yrs] Please Note: Children 5 years and under enter free. General Admission Only - No seats reserved.

Approximate Running Times: Doors open - 6:00 pm Start - 7:00 pm Finish - 9:00 pm



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