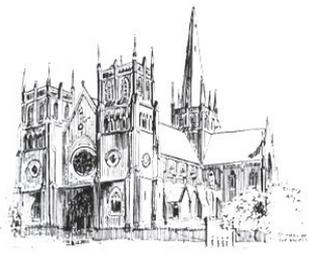




ST MARY OF THE ANGELS - GEELONG

150 Yarra St, Geelong 3220 Ph: 03 5222 1977



Website: www.stmarysgeelong.com.au

E-mail: admin@stmarysgeelong.com.au

Parish Priest:	Fr James Clarke	Email:	frj@stmarysgeelong.com.au
Assistant Priest:	Fr Vinoth Santiago	Email:	jpvinoth@stmarysgeelong.com.au
Business Manager:	Diane Read	Email:	dianer@stmarysgeelong.com.au
Parish Secretary:	Sam Pullin	Email:	samp@stmarysgeelong.com.au
Admin Assistant:	Viv Adamko	Email:	viviennea@stmarysgeelong.com.au
Pastoral Worker:	Anna Demetriou	Email:	AnnaMarieD@stmarysgeelong.com.au
RCIA Coordinator:	Kevin Mark	Email:	kevinm@stmarysgeelong.com.au
BULLETIN NOTICES:	DUE BY: Thursdays @ 1.00pm	Email:	admin@stmarysgeelong.com.au Phone: 5222 1977

MASS TIMES

WEEKDAY MASS

10.00am Wednesday – Saturday
 ROSARY recited prior to Mass
Fridays during Lent: 9am Rosary;
9.30am STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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

PIETY GIFT STALL

This week is OPEN
 Wednesday to Friday
 10.30am – 1.00pm
 CLOSED ON SATURDAY
 OPEN Sunday
 10.15am – 12.15pm



Third Sunday of Lent - Year A – March 8, 2026

Readings for this week:

Exodus 17: 3 - 7; Romans 5: 1 - 2. 5 - 8; John 4: 5 - 42

Reflection Leo's Lens

© Nick Brodie

'Walking together, walking with everyone,' Pope Leo declares, 'means being a Church that lives among the people, welcomes their questions, soothes their sufferings and shares their hopes.'

The Pope reminds us 'to be close to families, young people, the elderly and those who live in solitude. Continue to devote yourselves to the care of the poor', he adds.

Similarly, the Pope encourages us to pay 'attention to the smallest and most vulnerable, so that a culture of prevention of all forms of abuse may also develop.'

'I would like everyone to commit themselves to the challenge of effective communion,' he explains, 'so that the face of a collegial Church, which shares common steps and choices, may take shape.'

We are called, he reminds us, to adopt a 'synodal style', through which 'we learn to work together, and ... we all make an effort to build open, hospitable and welcoming Christian communities in which relationships are translated into mutual responsibility for the proclamation of the Gospel.'

'A synodal Church,' he explains, is one 'which walks the path traced by history while confronting the emerging challenges of evangelisation'. It also, he adds, 'needs to renew herself continually. We must avoid allowing inertia, even when motivated by good intentions, to slow down the necessary changes.'

BASILICA CLOSURE TIMES - UPDATE

Monday March 9th: Public Holiday **Tuesday March 10th:** Continued works

The Parish Office will also be closed on Monday March 9th

Monday March 16th & Tuesday March 17th: Continued works

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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.

BASILICA OPEN TIMES THIS WEEK ARE:

Wednesday - Friday, 9.00am – 5.00pm.
Open on the weekend for Saturday 10.00am Mass, followed by Reconciliation, Baptisms & Weddings, occasional weekend MAB concerts and for our regular Saturday Vigil & Sunday morning Masses. **See the front page for Mass time details.**

PARISH LENTEN GROUP Please note that the evening Lenten group will be meeting this coming Monday, March 9th, the Labour Day holiday (7.30 pm). The Tuesday morning group (10.45 am) will also continue to meet, even if the Basilica is closed.

On the third Sunday of Lent (*this weekend*), Archbishop Peter A Comensoli will formally convoke a Synod for the Archdiocese of Melbourne.



The synod calls the Melbourne Church to journey together in communion, participation and mission, echoing Pope Francis' vision of a 'listening Church' (*Evangelii Gaudium, p31*). Informed by Vatican II's teaching, the Church is 'a people made one with the unity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit' (*Lumen Gentium, p4*).

There are three themes about which the church of Melbourne is being invited to discern:

- young discipleship
- missionary leadership
- formation and participation.

The synod assembly will be held across the weekend of 4–6 December 2026. Over these next months, a range of opportunities will be available for Melbourne Catholics to be part of the consultation process toward the synod. In the meantime, further information can be accessed at melbournecatholic.org/synod2026.

In the synodal Church 'the whole community, in the free and rich diversity of its members, is called together to pray, listen, analyse, dialogue, discern and offer advice on taking pastoral decisions (ITC 68) for mission' (*Final Document, p87*).



PIETY GIFT STALL VOLUNTEERS

Are you looking for a great way to become involved in the Parish? Maybe helping at the Piety Gift Stall, once a month, is just the right thing for you. Please contact the Parish Office on 5222 1977 with your details.

GEELONG CATHOLIC DINERS CLUB

You are warmly invited to join for a social get-together for food and friends for the dinner for March.

Date: Tuesday March 10th, 2026.

Time: 6.00pm. **Venue:** Great Western Hotel, Western Room” access from the bar, cnr Aberdeen St & Shannon Ave, Newtown. **Cost:** Purchase of meals and drinks at your own cost. If you wish to come along to the dinner, please phone or text Joan 0429 215 111 or Michael 0431 959 584 by Sunday March 8th.

We need to know exact numbers of attendees for our booking. Thank you.

OUR LADY’S P.S. - MANIFOLD HEIGHTS

You are invited to a reunion of Our Lady’s Prep class of 1960. If you were part of this class at any stage through primary school, we would love to see you. It is in the Great Western Hotel, cnr Shannon Ave and Aberdeen St. in the Western Room on Saturday March 28th, 11.30am - 2.30pm. Lunch available from 12noon for those who wish. Toilets and bar close by. To confirm attendance please RSVP to kane2jb@gmail.com

RCIA UPDATE Our parish RCIA group attended the Rite of Election at St Patrick’s Cathedral on February 26th. This year’s ceremony had record numbers, with around 550 people preparing to receive the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist) this Easter. It’s the largest number ever recorded for the Archdiocese, and reflects a 57 per cent increase from 2025, which was already a 40 per cent increase from 2024. You can read further about the ceremony here: <https://melbournecatholic.org/news/a-real-hunger-for-god-record-numbers-at-this-years-rite-of-election>



Pictured is our parish RCIA & sponsors group with Archbishop Peter Comensoli at the Rite of Election.



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PLEASE BE VIGILANT & aware at all times. Phishing emails & texts (spams & scams) are currently circulating, saying they are from Father Jim, and asking for your help. **Ignore, delete, block and be certain not respond to these messages. Never give out your personal details or bank account numbers.** These are false requests for help. If Father Jim wishes to communicate with you, he will do so in person.

CHAMBER PHILHARMONIA COLOGNE

at the Basilica 136 Yarra St, Geelong.

MONDAY MARCH 16th at 7.00pm

Bookings at: www.trybooking.com/DHSJJ

Tickets will be available at the door (30 minutes prior to the concert) – cash sales only!

General: \$55; Seniors \$50;

Students (age 10-25) \$35

Under 10 free. Proof of age will be required.

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10 months	3.75% p.a.
11 months	3.75% p.a.
12 months	4.30% p.a.
24 months	4.00% p.a.

St Mary's Parish - 1% CLUB QUESTION

The answer to last week's question is:

The gentleman was feeling "under the weather"

New 1% CLUB QUESTION I have been told I come to work wearing my top backwards way too often. Which of these words below is the odd one out?

1. PMUJSUIT
2. DRACIGAN
3. SKIBIDIE
4. DNAHBAGS
5. UORTSERS

ST MARY'S PARISH PANTRY

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MUSIC AT THE BASILICA

@ 136 YARRA STREET, GEELONG presents

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Join Frank De Rosso, organ, and associate artists in a journey of music leading up to Easter.

Sundays 5.00pm to 5.30pm. **Admission is free.**

Join us for refreshments after each presentation.

Sunday 8th March: Vicki Hallett, clarinet

Sunday 15th March: Greg Dikmans, baroque flute

Sunday 22nd March: Shannon Ebeling, saxophone

Music at the Basilica

136 Yarra St, Geelong presents

EASTER CONCERT

Sunday March 29th at 4.00pm.

Tickets \$50 full; \$40 Concession; available from

www.trybooking.com/DIJNV

Or available at the door. Cash and credit cards accepted. Children and school students - free

menALIVE (a national Catholic Ministry for Men)

invite you to a MEN'S WEEKEND on May 2nd – 3rd, 2026.

Encouraged by Fr Joseph Panackal and men of St Joseph's Parish, Meredith, this is an opportunity for men to rediscover God's presence and purpose in their life - to explore what makes them feel fully alive.

Cost: \$50 pp – includes workshops, morning & afternoon tea, lunch & dinner on both days. Register by April 27th. **Pamphlets are available in the Narthex.**

For more information and details on the even you can visit: <https://bannockburn.menalivevic.au>

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy" - *St. Francis of Assisi*

JOKE OF THE DAY

At first it was amusing that whenever our mother played the piano, our poodle would sing along enthusiastically, at the top of his 'voice'. We would all laugh out loud, but after a while, my Dad couldn't see the humour in it anymore.

"For Pete's sake!" he begged. "Could you please play something the dog doesn't know?"



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AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:



RECENTLY DECEASED: Noel Hassett, Lorraine Maher, Lisa Cammarlo, Concetta Gingitta

CURRENT ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH: Monica Sells, Rosa Raimondo, Maureen Evans, Michael Glennen, John Henderson, Nancy McGuane, Bernard Clancy, Margaret Penny, John Harper, Zvonko Novosel, Ray (Harry Raymond) Wilby Snr, Ray (Raymond Joseph) Harvey, Giovanni Stranieri, Francesco & Francesca Isgro, Domenic La Spada, James (Jim) O’Keeffe

Month Mind: Ray (Harry Raymond) Wilby Jnr.

THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE UNWELL: ...

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 10am on The Pulse FM 94.7



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] All 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.



Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year A - March 15, 2026



Readings for next week:

1 Samuel 16: 1. 6 - 7. 10 - 13; Ephesians 5: 8 - 14; John 9: 1 - 41

Children’s Liturgy	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
11.00am MASS	Ella Liz	Slavic Lina	Maria Kerry	xxx No CLOW Junior Choir

TIMES	Commentator	Reader	Special Ministers	Welcomers	Main Collector
6.00pm VIGIL	Caroline	Brendan	Gael Trish	Yvette	Vince
7.30am	Annette	Antonia	Barry Margi	Carlo	Glenn
9.30am	Peter	Jennifer	Geoff M Ann S Clare	Anna D	Geoff J
11.00am	Georgia	Slavica	Georgia Maria Lina	Prue	Klaus
AV	OPERATOR	6.00pm VIGIL	7.30am	9.30am	11.00am
		Rebecca	Jack	Teresa	Elle

‘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/>



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