



ST MARY OF THE ANGELS - GEELONG

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

MASS TIMES

WEEKDAY MASS

See the notice for Mass times available after Christmas

RECONCILIATION

Dec. 20th & Dec 27th

SATURDAY

6.00pm (Vigil)

SUNDAY

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

NOVENA to OUR LADY of PERPETUAL HELP

Disrupted – see detailed notice.

NOVENA to ST ANTHONY

Disrupted – see detailed notice

ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT & DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Disrupted - see detailed notice

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year A – December 21, 2025

Readings for this week:

Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29; Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24; Luke 14:1. 7-14

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE (from Fr Jim)

“Christmas comes but once a year, and when it comes it brings good cheer.”

This is the rhyme most people know,
and we hope that the sentiment will be fulfilled.

For many of us, this year has been a year filled with joy and sorrow, tragedy and grief. No more so than the appalling shooting atrocity which occurred at Bondi Beach on Sunday, 14th December during festivities celebrating the Jewish feast of Hanukkah.

The feast of Hanukkah, which coincides with our Christmas feast of the Incarnation, celebrates the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem by the Jewish “freedom fighters”, the Maccabees, who liberated the Temple and the city from their pagan oppressors.

As people of the “New Covenant”, we stand in solidarity with our Jewish brothers and sisters, the people of the “Old Covenant”. We hold them up in prayer to the God who has never abandoned them and to the God who loves us all.

For those of us who have lost a beloved member of our family, I hope that this Christmas will fill you with the peace which the Christ child brings.

I pray that you may find solace from your pain and grief and that the message of Jesus, the “Prince of Peace”, will bring you healing and comfort.

On behalf of Fr. Vinoth, our Parish Team and myself, I wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas.

- God Bless - (Fr.) Jim Clarke P.P.

PIETY GIFT STALL
OPEN on Sunday Dec. 21st
10.15am – 12.15pm

Closed after business on Dec. 21st.

Opens again in 2026 on
Tuesday February 3rd.



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delta
carpets
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South Geelong
Phone: 5221 4222

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 ARE:

There is disruption to regular Basilica open hours due to Christmas and the New Year break.

Please read the details below to understand when the Basilica will be open during this period.

CHRISTMAS AT THE BASILICA - 2025

The Basilica will open during the Christmas/ New Year break, for Weekday and Sunday Masses only. It will remain closed at all other times.

WEEKDAY MASSES PRIOR TO CHRISTMAS

Tues. December 23rd & Wed. December 24th – 10.00am

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES: Wed. December 24th

5.45pm Carols followed by 6.00pm Family Mass

7.45pm Carols followed by 8.00pm Mass

9.30pm Polish Mass

11.30pm Carols followed by 12.00am Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES: Thurs. December 25th

7.30am; 9.30am; 11.00am

12.30pm Polish Mass

MASS TIMES DURING THE CHRISTMAS BREAK

Boxing Day: Friday Dec. 26th - 12.30pm in Polish

Saturday Dec. 27th – 10.00am Mass

Tuesday Dec. 30th – 10.00am Mass

Wednesday Dec. 31st – 10.00am Mass

New Year's Day: January 1st – 10.00am Mass in English, 12.30pm in Polish

SUNDAY MASS TIMES for the weekend of Dec. 27th & 28th will be as per regular Mass schedule.

Saturday Vigil – 6.00pm; Sunday Mass – 7.30am; 9.30am & 11.00am. Polish Mass – 12.30pm

The PARISH OFFICE will close at 3pm on Dec. 24th, reopening on Monday January 5th 2026, at 9.00am.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL CLASSES 2026

PLEASE ENROL NOW !! IMPORTANT REMINDER !!

These classes are intended for Catholic families with children who attend non-Catholic Primary schools. If you would like to enrol for any of our programs in 2026, please immediately contact the St Mary's Parish Office on 5222 1977 or email "Attention Anna" to: admin@stmarysgeeleong.com.au

Celebration of Confirmation for St Mary's Parish will occur on Wednesday March 25th & Thursday March 26th, and our Parish classes start up on Tuesday February 3rd at 4pm - 4.50pm.

It is strongly advised that you enrol as soon as possible, preferably by the end of the school term, **prior to Christmas**, if you have not already done so. *FYI: The Parish Office closes for the Christmas break from 3pm Dec. 24th, 2025 – 9am Jan. 5th, 2026.*

HELP US REJUVENATE AND BEAUTIFY THE ST MARY OF THE ANGELS' BASILICA GARDEN

Our community is truly blessed to have the St Mary of the Angels Basilica as a central part of our spiritual life. The Basilica grounds are in need of beautification. The project is to rejuvenate and beautify the Myers Street and Yarra Street gardens. We invite you to contribute to this parish community-led effort to refresh this special space. Your financial support, no matter the size, will help ensure the garden is a welcoming and peaceful environment for parishioners and visitors alike. **If you are able to assist, cash donations can be made at the St Mary's Parish Office. Please ensure contributions are clearly labelled for the "Basilica Garden Project".**

Thank you to all who have donated/ helped already - your generosity and support is greatly appreciated.

A PRAYER OF REFLECTION – by Michael McGirr (Caritas Australia)

God of compassion, we come before you full of confusion and grief in the aftermath of the inhumane massacre at Bondi Beach – a beach we love - a place where the world usually shines.

We embrace the way our brothers and sisters celebrate Hanukkah, a festival of light and family joy. Yet now all joy seems fragile. As we witness the pain caused by hatred and violence, we give thanks for those with the grace and courage to stand up in the moment.

We pray too that we have the courage to stand up and find our voice, to work for the peace that Jesus teaches. Hanukkah means "Dedication" and today, in our sorrow, we dedicate ourselves to a more loving future. Let us create rather than destroy; build rather than knock down. Let us choose the more difficult path as we help to heal this terrible atrocity; as we wait in active hope for the coming of your kingdom.

We ask this through Christ our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

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Music Ministry - Parish Choirs

ST MARY'S PARISH JUNIOR CHOIR

Next Mass: December 24th @ 6.00pm Christmas Eve
Pre-Mass Carols at 5.45pm

MIXTURES ADULT CHOIR

Next Mass: December 24th @ 8.00pm Christmas Eve
Pre-Mass Carols @ 7.45pm

BASILICA CHOIR:

Next Mass: December 24th with Carols @ 11.30pm
followed by Midnight Mass @ 12.00am.

Following the Christmas Masses the Junior Choir, Mixtures Choir and the Basilica Choir, will be on break until 2026. Please keep an eye out for the "We're Back" details in the Bulletin closer to those start dates.

RADIO MASS This broadcast on PULSE FM 94.7 @ 10.00am on a Sunday, is brought to you from St Mary of the Angels Basilica, Geelong.

December 21st will be the final Radio Mass recording for 2025. The 'live' current Mass Broadcast will resume on Sunday January 18th, 2026. Thank you for your support and for listening over the past year.

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED FOR 2026

Young female student requires accommodation for the 2026 school year in Geelong and Greater Geelong area. Can pay board. Can arrange own transport. If you, or anyone you know, can assist please contact Sr Anne Lourey on 0452 161 937

ACCOMODATION REQUIRED PLEASE

Young Catholic professional, employed full-time, is seeking accommodation in Geelong. If you can help out, please contact via mobile: 0466 715 407.

St Mary's Parish - 1% CLUB QUESTION

The answer to last week's question is: **C. Rectangle.** It has the largest amount of letters.

New 1% CLUB QUESTION

What Christmas item completes the list:
ENLIST, LISTEN, SILENT, INLETS, _____?

ST MARY'S PARISH PANTRY

Address: 150 Yarra St. Geelong

Pantry operating days and times are:

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 1pm – 3pm.

The final day of operation for the Pantry is Friday December 19th, after which it will close for Christmas and the New Year. The Pantry will reopen on Wednesday January 14th, 2026 at 1pm.

MUSIC AT THE BASILICA

136 Yarra Street, Geelong

FREE ADVENT ORGAN RECITALS

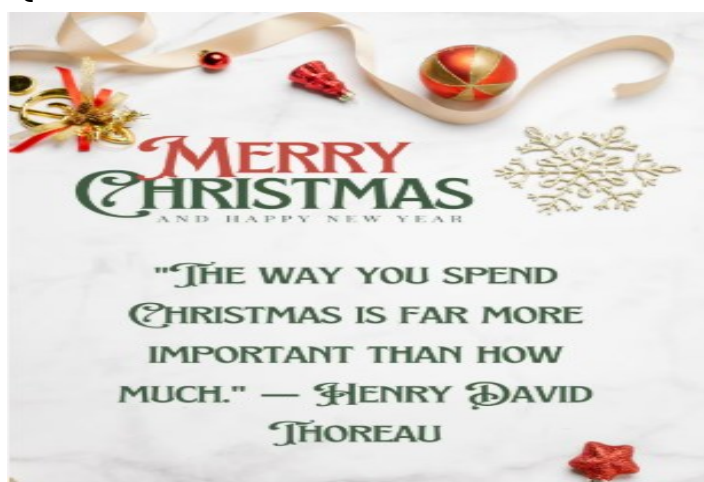
MONDAY 12.30pm - 1.15pm

at the Basilica of St Mary of the Angels.

FINAL PERFORMANCE

Monday December 22nd - Frank De Rosso

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK



JOKE FOR THE DAY



Our patients have voted us first in Emergency Care

St John of God Emergency Department
Open 7.00am to 10.00pm
7 days a week



AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Christopher Laurence O'Connor, Caterina Scaffidi, Fr Michael Shadbolt, Moya Fleming (nee Walsh), Anthony David Dowling, and all those who tragically lost their lives on December 14th at Bondi Beach.



CURRENT ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH: Fr Leonard Thomas, Margaret Belleville, Isabella Inturrisi, Rose Virgona, Anthony Borg, Josephine Snowling, Geza Lajos, Martin Nolan, Casey Hardiman, Anthony McFarlane, John Spurdle, Brian Chandley, Norm Tomison, Gabrielle Shanahan, Leo Jerinic

THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE UNWELL: Jim McTernan, Anne-Maree Villanti

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] – SESSIONS HAVE FINISHED FOR 2025.

Children's Liturgy of the Word will resume at 11am Masses in the New Year.

At this time, the proposed start date is: Sunday February 1, 2026.



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



December 21st is the Radio last broadcast till Sunday Jan. 18th 2026



RADIO MASS BROADCAST: SUNDAY 10am on The Pulse FM 94.7



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph - Year A - December 27, 2025

Readings for next week:

Sirach 3: 2 - 6. 12 - 14; Colossians 3: 12 - 21; Matthew 2: 13 - 15. 19 - 23



Children's Liturgy	December 21	December 28	January 4	January 11
11.00am MASS				

TIMES	Commentator	Reader	Special Ministers	Welcomers	Main Collector
6.00pm VIGIL	Margot	Samina	Margot Mario	Tim	Brendan
7.30am	Barry	Philip	Nola Annette	Carlo	Lachlan
9.30am	Geoff M	Peter Mc	Marita C Ann Erminia	...	Geoff J
11.00am	Linda	Domenica	Barbara Slavica Lina	Liz	Klaus Michael
AV	OPERATOR	6.00pm VIGIL	7.30am	9.30am	11.00am
		Rebecca	Barry	Teresa	Joan

'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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