



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

Saturday January 3rd - 10.30am

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

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

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

* CURRENTLY CLOSED *

**Opens again in 2026 on
Tuesday February 3rd.**



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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.

**The PARISH OFFICE is currently closed.
It re-opens on Monday January 5th 2026, 9.00am.**

If you need to contact a priest for emergency end of life/ last rites or hospital visit, please call the Parish Office on: 5222 1977 to retrieve the emergency number from the voicemail message.

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL Leo's Lens
By Nick Brodie ©

'The Spirit', Pope Leo tells us, 'sends us to continue the work of Christ in the world's peripheries, marked at times by war, injustice and suffering.'

As followers of the Christ whose family fled persecution, we should always stand with the persecuted.

Our faith, the Pope reminds us, 'helps us to resist evil and to persevere in doing good.' But, he adds, it should also transform each one of us into 'an instrument of the salvation that even today God wishes to bring about in the world.'

The way of salvation which Christ calls us to follow, the Pope says, 'is fulfilled when we take responsibility and, with the compassion of the Gospel, care for the suffering of others.'

And we need not go far to do this, the Pope points out, because 'poverty, suffering and the desire for a greater hope have made their way to us.' The migrants we find in our communities, he says, who have fled violence and injustice and faced danger and sorrow 'cannot and must not find the coldness of indifference or the stigma of discrimination!'

In the face of hardening social attitudes towards migrants we Christians are called to 'open our arms and hearts to them, welcoming them as brothers and sisters, and being for them a presence of consolation and hope.'

VOLUNTEER ROSTERS January & February 2026

The current volunteer Rosters for January/February 2026 have been completed and emailed.

For those of you requiring a printed copy, there are some available in the Sacristy.

Please knock first before entering and wait for welcome/greeting before walking in. Thank you.

BASILICA OPEN TIMES ARE:

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

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 Traditional 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 December 26th - 12.30pm Mass in Polish.

Saturday December 27th - 10.00am Mass.

**** NO RECONCILIATION following this Mass****

Tuesday December 30th - 10.00am Mass.

Wednesday December 31st - 10.00am Mass.

New Year's Day: Thursday January 1st Solemnity of Mary - 10.00am Mass in English; and 12.30pm Mass in Polish.

Friday January 2nd - 10am Mass.

Saturday January 3rd - 10am Mass - followed by Reconciliation (approx. 10.30am).

SUNDAY MASS TIMES for the next 2 weekends.

Dec. 27th & 28th 2025 and Jan. 3rd & 4th 2026

will be as per regular Mass schedule.

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

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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.

REBECCA, KEVIN & EVA (the Hay Clan Trio):

Next Mass: December 25th @ 11.00am Christmas Day

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

RADIO MASS

The 'live' current Mass Broadcast will resume on Sunday January 18th, 2026. Thank you for your support and for listening over the past year. Season's Greetings.

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.

CAN YOU HELP?

End of lease – need to find new Rental. Geelong West, Newcomb or South Geelong preferred. 1-2 Bedroom; 1-2 Bathroom; near Public transport.

Please contact: CJ on 0426 790 998.

St Mary's Parish - 1% CLUB QUESTION

The answer to last week's question is: TINSEL

New 1% CLUB QUESTION What Christmas tradition is represented here? N I G M A S S H T

ST MARY'S PARISH PANTRY

Address: 150 Yarra St. Geelong

Pantry operating days and times are:
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 1pm – 3pm.

The Parish Pantry is currently closed.

**The Pantry will reopen on
Wednesday January 14th, 2026, at 1pm.**



Friends of Music at the Basilica Membership

You are invited to join this group of music-lovers helping to bring fine music to Geelong.

The annual Subscription is \$35.00

- Reserved seating at concerts.
- Invitation to "Friends" social events.
- A special "Friends" Bulletin will keep you up to date and informed.
- At the end of the concert series, there will be a friendly "Evening Gathering" with wine and cheese.

Simply complete the [Friends Form](#) save it and email it to info@musicatthebasilica.org.au

Join and Enjoy!!

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK



JOKE FOR THE DAY

Why do reindeer wear bells?

Because their horns don't work!



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AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Connie Cloverdale, Charlie Bartolo



CURRENT ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH: Wilma Diaz, Thomas Vincent O'Brien, Evangeline Bijoli Bashiruddin, Margaret Moody, Joan Dempsey, Anne Coffey, Alexander Mitchell, Sr Philippa (Flora McDonald), Ken Scanlon, Andrew Carroll, Frank Moylan, Marin Ivelja, Marinko Ivelja, Anica Ivelja, Anica Frlan, August Frlan, Margita Frlan, Kate Dwyer, Roy Stoneham

ALL THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE UNWELL: Graziano Marruso

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



No new Radio Mass Broadcasts until Sunday Jan. 18th, 2026



RADIO MASS BROADCAST: SUNDAY 10am on The Pulse



The Feast of the Epiphany - Year A – January 4, 2025

Readings for next week:

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



TIMES	Commentator	Reader	Special Ministers	Welcomers	Main Collector
6.00pm VIGIL	Gael	Caroline	Margot Gael	Maree Q	Vince
7.30am	Barry	Nola	Barry Margi	Carlo	Lachlan
9.30am	Geoff	Jennifer	Clare Ann Erminia	...	Mick
11.00am	Alec	Maria	Liz Pamela Maria	Liz	Klaus
AV	OPERATOR	6.00pm VIGIL	7.30am	9.30am	11.00am
		Rebecca	Jack	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

