



ST MARY OF THE ANGELS - GEELONG

150 Yarra Street Geelong 3220 | 03 5222 1977 | www.stmarysgeelong.com.au

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9am-4.30pm
Closed on Public Holidays

Basilica Opening Hours

Monday 10am-3pm*
Tuesday - Friday 9am-3pm
Saturday-Sunday: Mass Times
Please note change of hours

BASILICA CLOSED- MONDAY 24th AUG

MASS TIMES

Weekday Mass

10.00am Tuesday - Saturday
ROSARY recited prior to Mass

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

LITURGICAL CALENDAR DATES

August 24- St Bartholomew
August 25- St Louis & St Joseph Calasan
August 27- St Monica
August 28- St Augustine
August 29- Passion of John of Baptist
September 3- St Gregory the Great
September 4- Spring Ember Day

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A- AUGUST 23, 2026

PARISH PRIEST

Fr James Clarke
frj@stmarysgeelong.com.au

ASSISTANT PRIEST

Fr Vinoth Santiago
jpvinoth@stmarysgeelong.com.au

Christ,
Our Foundation



Reflection:

Fr James Clarke

This Sunday's scripture readings focus on leadership. The prophet Isaiah describes the demise of Shebna, the Master of the Palace and the elevation of Eliakim, as his more deserving successor. The office of Master of the Palace is a position of trust and responsibility requiring of its holder to be a person of unimpeachable integrity. The story in the Gospel continues with the theme of first reading.

Jesus understands that in continuing his journey to Jerusalem, he will eventually meet his death. He poses the question of his identity to his disciples. They respond with answers which relate to past and recent events in the history of Israel. These being the prophets, Elijah and the late John the Baptist. It is Peter who correctly identifies Jesus as the "promised one, the Messiah, the Son of God".

As a reward for his insight, Jesus makes Peter the "Rock", the corner stone on which Jesus will build his community, his "Church". In this gospel passage we have the genesis of that which we call the "Petrine Office". The universal leadership of the Church. The universal pastor who is the Bishop of Rome, the one we refer to as the Pope, the Holy Father.

Each successive occupant of the office of the Bishop of Rome sits in the Chair of Peter. The occupant receives the same commission which Peter received from the Lord himself. "You are Peter", the Latin phrase, "Tu es Petrus". The current occupant is Pope Leo XIV. He is the Vicar of Christ, the Universal Pastor. We, the members of the Church of Melbourne, are in communion with the Church of Rome and as such, we acknowledge the authority of the Bishop of Rome, Pope Leo and his role as Pastor of the universal church.

The commissioning of Peter as leader of the "Church" fulfils the promise of Jesus that he would not leave us orphan, and that he will be with us until the end of time. The Holy Father acts in the name of Jesus which is why we give him our loyalty and obedience.

We pray for him and ask for the Lord's continued blessing on his ministry.

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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.

Liturgy of the Word

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First Reading: Isaiah 22: 19-23

A reading from the prophet Isaiah-

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiyah.

I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority;

and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah.

I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder;

should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open.

I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 137: 1-3. 6. 8. R. v. 8

(R.) Lord, your love is eternal;

do not forsake the work of your hands.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.

Before the angels I will bless you.

I will adore before your holy temple. (R.)

2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.

On the day I called, you answered;

you increased the strength of my soul. (R.)

3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.

Your love, O Lord, is eternal,

discard not the work of your hands. (R.)

Second Reading: Romans 11: 33-36

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans-

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.



Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 4: 23

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church;

the gates of hell will not hold out against it.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 16: 13-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew-

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.



**We warmly welcome Zara
into our parish family following her
Baptism this weekend!**

**Let's pray that she continues to grow in
God's love and grace throughout their lives.**

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Parish News

Parish Office Team

Business Manager

Diane Read
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Pastoral Worker

Anna Demetriou
annamariad@stmarysgeelong.com.au

RCIA Coordinator

Kevin Mark
kevinm@stmarysgeelong.com.au

Bulletin Notices

Due by: Thursdays at 1.00pm
admin@stmarysgeelong.com.au

NOTICE BOARD

Faith and Light

Geelong Christian community for people with a disability, family and friends. This month's theme is:
The wonder of Light. Tuesday August 25th at St. Mary's Hibernian Hall, 1.30 to 4.30pm.
Shared news, Gospel, prayer, music, friendship & afternoon tea. RSVP essential by 24th.
Tricia O'Keeffe- Coordinator : 0414 672 267

Basilica Choir

Come and enjoy! New members are welcome to join, with practice held each Thursday evening.
A current WWCC is required. Contact Jane:
jbashiruddin@bigpond.com

Safeguarding Essentials

St Mary's is committed to the safety of children, young people and vulnerable adults in our Parish. All volunteers and Ministry members are required to have a current WWCC, a signed Code of Conduct Declaration and completed the online Safeguarding Training. For more information please contact the Parish Office- 5222 1977

Thank you

Thank you to our small but dedicated Radio Mass team. Your commitment, talent, and dependability make this ministry possible each week, and your efforts are truly appreciated.

The Feast of Bartholomew 2026

Feast of Saint Bartholomew - next Sunday: August 30th at 2.30pm. Holy Mass in Italian will be celebrated by Fr Sijeesh. Followed by afternoon tea in the Pioneer Room; everyone is welcome.
Festa di San Bartolomeo Giorno 30 di Agosto, alle ore 2.30pm Ci sarà la Santa Messa in Italiano celebrata da Padre Sijeesh. Seguirà il te pomeridiano nella Pioneer Room; tutti sono i benvenuti.



Fr Denis Ryan- 40th Year Priestly Ordination

This weekend, we give thanks for Fr Denis Ryan as he celebrates the 40th Anniversary of his Priestly Ordination. We are grateful for his faithful leadership, pastoral care, and dedication to God's people over four decades of Ministry. May the Lord continue to bless him with health, joy, and strength in his vocation.



Leading in a Synodal Church: Lessons from Pope Francis and Pope Leo XIV

Join the Global Centre for Catholic Leaders as we welcome Gerard O'Connell & Elisabetta Pique to the University of Notre Dame as we explore the unfolding synodal journey. Whether you are enthusiastic, curious or new to understanding synodality, this session offers an opportunity to better understand its origins, purpose and significance for the Church today. Tuesday 25 August 2026 9.30am Sheraton Melbourne Hotel, 27 Little Collins Street Melbourne \$75 per ticket. For more information, email gccl@nd.edu.au

St Mary's RCIA 2026-2027

Are you, a family member or friend considering becoming Catholic? Then the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the pathway. St Mary's Parish RCIA for 2026-27 begins at the start of October. Please email our RCIA Coordinator, Kevin Mark kevinm@stmarysgeelong.com.au for further information or to register your interest.
We'd love to have you join us for the journey!



Catholic Earthcare -Season of Creation Gathering 2026

Caritas Australia and Catholic Religious Australia warmly invite you to participate in the Catholic Earthcare Season of Creation Gathering 2026: Listen, Reflect, Act, a national online event on 3-4 September 2026. The Gathering offers inspiring keynote presentations and practical workshops to help participants deepen their faith and respond to the call to care for our common home.
Learn more and register: www.caritas.org.au/soc-gathering



St Mary of the Angels Parish Survey Report

Thank you to everyone who completed the Parish Survey in May. The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) team have now read through all the responses and are working on next steps to deliver a parish planning day to build on the great suggestions and feedback we received. You can pick up a copy of the survey summary report from the Parish Office during business hours, or from the Narthex following mass during August.
www.stmarysgeelong.com.au/files/2026%20Parish%20Survey%20Report%20Summary.pdf



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Next Week - August 30th 2026:



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time : Readings

Jeremiah 20: 7-9, Romans 12: 1-2, Matthew 16: 21-27

6.00pm VIGIL

Welcomer: Maree

Commentator: Gael

Reader: Jude

Main Collector: Vince

Special Ministers: Vicki / Margot

AV Operator: Natalia

WELCOME

A warm welcome to all who join us at St Mary's today—whether you are visiting or returning, we are grateful to share this Mass with you as one community in faith.

To receive the bulletin by email, or to suggest a notice for the weekly bulletin, please contact the Parish Office on admin@stmarysgeelong.com.au

7.30am

Welcomer: Monica / Nola

Commentator: Antonia

Reader: Corinne

Main Collector: Glenn

Special Ministers: Annette/ Barry

AV Operator: Jack

St Marys Parish Pantry



150 Yarra Street, Geelong

Open 1-3pm

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday



9.30am

Welcomer: Anna / David

Commentator: Peter

Reader: Jennifer

Main Collector: Geoff

Special Ministers: Rhonda/ Vicki/ Ann

AV Operator: Teresa

THE PULSE 94.7 FM RADIO MASS BROADCAST: Every Sunday 10am



HOSPITAL CHAPEL MASS: Every Thursday at 11.30am

Weekly Quote:

"The keys of the Kingdom are entrusted to those who listen, believe, and serve."

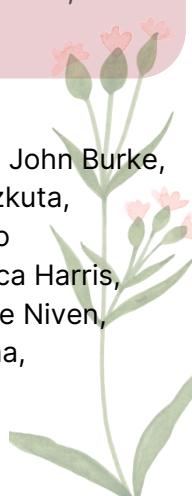
As a community, we pray for:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Dan Aguas, Soring Sapasap, Mill Gattoe, John Burke, Domenico Sposaro, , Lorraine Simpson, Stanley Reid, Jadwiga Szkuta, Lepasava Jokic, Austin Kerr, Kathleen Hogan, Emilija 'Milla' Sutalo

CURRENT ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH: Veronika Leban, Veronica Harris, Noreen Mathieson, Giovanna 'Gina' Ziino, Ruperto de Leon, Bernie Niven, Paula Jerinic, Michael DeVercelli, Clare Mary Moore, Anita Medina, Richard Vincent, Angelina Scopacasa, Elizabeth Leorke

MONTH MIND: Paolo Surdich

THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE UNWELL: John Borys



11.00am

Welcomer: Ivan / Karlo

Commentator: Maria

Reader: Alec

Main Collector: Klaus

Special Ministers: Liz/ Nina

AV Operator: Charlene



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORLD [CLOW]

For children Grade 2 – Grade 6

Children's Liturgy 11am Mass

August 23rd- CLOW | August 30th - CLOW | September 6th - CLOW

Neve

Domenica & Lizzie

Ella & Kerry



'St Mary of the Angels Parish' is our official Facebook page. 'Follow' the page and like our updates & articles. <https://www.facebook.com/St-Mary-of-the-Angels-Parish-103118478011107/>



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