



ST MARY OF THE ANGELS - GEELONG

150 Yarra St, Geelong 3220 Ph: 03 5222 1977



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RCIA Coordinator:	Kevin Mark	Email:	kevinm@stmarysgeelong.com.au
BULLETIN NOTICES:	DUE BY: Thursdays @ 1.00pm	Email:	rhay@stmarysgeelong.com.au Phone: 5222 1977

MASS TIMES

WEEKDAY MASS

10.00am Tuesday – 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

✠ OPEN Tuesdays to Fridays ✠
10.30am – 1.00pm
CLOSED ON SATURDAYS
OPEN Sundays
10.15am – 12.15pm

First Sunday of Lent - Year A - February 22, 2026

Readings for this week:

Genesis 2: 7 - 9; 3: 1 - 7; Romans 5: 12 - 19; Matthew 4: 1 - 11

REFLECTION

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Pope Leo says that 'we should set aside moments of silence, moments of prayer, times in which, quieting noise and distractions, we recollect ourselves before God in simplicity of heart.'

'This', he adds, 'is a dimension of the Christian life that we particularly need to recover today, both as a value for individuals and communities, and as a prophetic sign for our times.' Such silence and reflectiveness, the Pope suggests, helps us prioritise our 'relationship with God'. But such disposition should also, he adds, 'help us to be more open, more welcoming to others.' This active dimension of Christian contemplation is something the Pope wants us to remember. Even in our recreational moments, he suggests, we can find 'an opportunity to care for others, to get to know each other and to offer advice and a listening ear.' Caring and listening, he reminds us, 'are expressions of love, and that is something we all need.' We should therefore all love 'with courage'. As the Pope points out, such active love is transformative, because 'through solidarity, in the sharing of faith and life, we will help to promote a culture of peace.' Each of us, therefore, should respond to the Lord's call to start 'helping those around us to overcome divisions and hostility and to build communion.'

International Women's Day - MERCY EMPOWERMENT DINNER/FUNDRAISER

When? Thursday March 5th, 6pm – 9.30pm. **Where?** Sports and Wellness Precinct @ Sacred Heart College, Aphrasia St. **Cost?** \$65 per ticket – includes a 2-course meal, along with live music, student presentations & reflections from past immersion programs, silent auction & raffle.

The keynote speaker is Ornella Byak (*founder of BETTER Timor*).

Your contribution aids vital initiatives in environment protection, First Nation rights and educational support in East Timor. **RSVP using this link**

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1516410> by February 25 @ 12noon.

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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 ARE: Monday 10.00am – 5.00pm; Tuesday - Friday, 9.00am – 5.00pm.
Open on the weekend for 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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS on the Fridays of Lent (excluding Good Friday) Rosary will be recited at 9am followed by the Stations of the Cross at 9.30am prior to the 10am Mass.

PARISH LENTEN GROUPS The parish Lenten groups are underway. The evening group meets Mondays at 7.30 pm. The daytime group meets Tuesdays at 10.45 am. No need to register; just come along to the Pioneer Room (Parish Office Centre 150 Yarra St - upper level). Please use this link if you require more information.
https://www.stmarysgeelong.com.au/lent_2026

RCIA UPDATE This weekend, on the First Sunday of Lent, our parish Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) group will travel to the annual “Rite of Election” ceremony at St Patrick’s Cathedral, along with other Catechumens and Candidates from across the Archdiocese. Presided over by Archbishop Peter A. Comensoli, the event is a milestone for those preparing to receive the sacraments of initiation at Easter. With their godparents, sponsors, families and other parishioners, the catechumens and candidates will declare their intention to join the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil this year.
As part of your Lenten commitment, we invite you to regularly pray for our parish’s Catechumens and Candidates – Camila, Cassandra, Daniel F., Daniel W., David, Elly, Gayathri, Kim, Lawrence, Liezel, Melissa, Neve, Sarah, Sean, Tamika and Tomas – as they prepare for baptism and/or full initiation into the Catholic Church.

There are no more printed copies of the Lenten Reflection book “**Compassio**” available. It has been uploaded as a digital PDF online and can be accessed & purchased using this link:
<https://www.dow.org.au/product/compassio-lenten-program-2026-book-pdf-digital-download/>

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.
Any time you can offer will be welcomed.



AN EVENING CELEBRATING TIMOR-LESTE

Geelong-Viqueque Friendship Schools, in conjunction with Deakin University, invites you to come along to a special evening on **Friday March 13th** 6.00pm – 10.30pm to listen to Keynote Speaker **Ornella Byak**, Founder and CEO of BETTER Timor and Bakhita School of Excellence and Same Order of Timor recipient. This fundraiser, to be held at Waurin Ponds Estate, will bring together schools, universities, community organisations and individuals who are committed to strengthening education, opportunities and partnership in Timor-Leste. Tickets \$85 adults, \$65 students (under 18). Price includes dinner and dessert. Drinks at bar prices. Visit <http://www.trybooking.com/DIXRV>



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - Friday March 6th at Wesley Uniting Church, 100 Yarra St, Geelong @ **11am**. This year the theme is “I will give you rest: Come” and is prepared by the WDP COMMITTEE in Nigeria. Guest Speaker: Mr Dempeh Daboer, a board member at Cultura.
Everyone is welcome. For more details please call: Heather Watson 0412 139 295 or Sue Donoghue 0412 784 331.

WALKING TOGETHER - Pilgrimage of Justice

Acting for Justice Fr John Petrus was appointed Episcopal Vicar for Justice and Social Services for the Archdiocese of Melbourne in 2025. In this role, he is listening to and supporting the many ways parishes and Catholic social services respond to the needs of our local communities.

As part of Walking Together, Acting for Justice, the Archdiocese will soon launch an initiative on www.melbournecatholic.org entitled, **Pilgrimage of Justice**. Under this banner, we hope to share stories of justice, service and faith in action from across parishes and agencies. Parishioners, groups and ministries are warmly invited to share stories of hope - whether a long-standing outreach, a new initiative, or a quiet act of accompaniment that reflects the Gospel in action. Stories can be shared via John.Petrulis@cam.org.au.

Together, we continue our pilgrimage - listening, serving and acting for justice.

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To book a personal tour or
find out more

52297453

Visit us:

<https://www.smgeelongeast.catholic.edu.au/>

OPEN DAYS – ST MARGARET'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

A place to learn, grow and be inspired. Thursday February 26th @ 9.15am & @ 12noon. Thursday March 12th @ 9.15am & 12noon. To book a personal tour or find out more call: 5229 7453. Visit the school website online: <https://www.smgeelongeast.catholic.edu.au/>

ENROL TO LEARN. GRADUATE TO LEAD.

St Ignatius College, Drysdale – Year 7 2027
This College is a Catholic co-educational secondary college located on the Bellarine Peninsula, a proud Jesuit Partner School that shares the spiritual and educational philosophy of Saint Ignatius of Loyola. The College is now welcoming Year 7, 2027 applications for families wishing to seek an outstanding Ignatian education for their children.

Applications close on Friday the 8th of May, 2026.

<https://www.ignatius.vic.edu.au/>

Music Ministry - Parish Choirs

Junior Choir New members are very welcome.

Practices are Fridays after school @ 3.30pm in the Café/Hibernian Hall – 150 Yarra Street.

Next Mass: Sunday February 22nd @ 11am

Mixtures Choir will sing at 11am Mass on Sunday March 15th with practice prior, on the day @ 9.30am in the Café/Hibernian Hall. New members are welcome.

Contact Rebecca: rhay@stmarysgeelong.com.au

Basilica Choir Next Mass: 9.30am February 22nd.

New members are welcome. Practices are held in the Sodalities Room on a Thursday evening.

For more details please email Jane:

jbashiruddin@bigpond.com

Both adult choirs require volunteers to hold a current Working with Children Check. (WWCC)

FAITH AND LIGHT FRIENDS Geelong Community.

Christian sharing for those with disability, their families and friends. You are invited to the next gathering. **When?** Tuesday **February 24th, 2026**

Where? at St Mary's Parish Centre - Hibernian Hall – 150 Yarra St. **Time?** Welcome from 1.30pm to 4.30pm – for sharing about the Feast of Light and Lent.

Friendship, Faith, Music and afternoon tea.

RSVP to Tricia O'Keeffe 0414 672 267 by Monday February 23rd. Thank you.

Pako Festa in Pako West

Saturday Feb 28th – 9am till 4pm

ALL ARE INVITED & WELCOME

THE EVENT IS FREE OF CHARGE

3 x PRIZES of \$1000 each to be won!



SUPPORTING FAMILIES THROUGH DIFFICULT TIMES

Whoever you are, we'd love to hear from you about how we can help or how you can contribute!

Bay Leaf Community Kitchen

24 Moorabool St, Geelong, 3220

0419 528 495

admin@bayleafkitchen.com.au

bayleafcommunitykitchen@gmail.com



ST MARY'S PARISH PANTRY

Address: 150 Yarra St. Geelong

Pantry operating days and times are:

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 1pm – 3pm.

Thank you to all who have been donating egg cartons to the Pantry. The shelves are fully stocked and overflowing. Please can you start recycling them instead. We will let you know when we require your help again. God bless xx

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.

MUSIC AT THE BASILICA

@ 136 YARRA STREET, GEELONG presents

“SUNDAY AFTERNOONS AT 5”

Join Frank De Rosso, organ, and associate artists in a journey of music leading up to Easter. Sundays 5.00pm to 5.30pm, at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, 136 Yarra Street, Geelong.

Admission is free. Join our artists for refreshments after each presentation.

Sunday 22nd February: Olivier Bonnici, violin

Sunday 1st March: Maximillian Rudd, guitar

Sunday 8th March: Vicki Hallett, clarinet

Sunday 15th March: Greg Dikmans, baroque flute

Sunday 22nd March: Shannon Ebeling, saxophone

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK "Forgiveness is not a feeling; it is a commitment. It is a choice to show mercy, not to hold the offense up against the offender. Forgiveness is an expression of love." - *Jesuit Resource - Xavier College*

JOKE OF THE WEEK

What's the difference between
an alligator and a crocodile?

You'll see one later
and the other in a while.



St Mary's Parish - 1% CLUB QUESTION

New 1% CLUB QUESTION If planet earth has a heart, which body part does mars have?



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AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Ann Marie Schneider, Michael Kearney, John 'Sean' Flood, Fe Barcelona

CURRENT ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH: Giuseppe Tumminello, Paciana Abellana, Benjamin Dones, Vincenzo Alo, Eufemia Alo, Hamish Parke, Antonio Zavaglia, Maria Cafarella, Margaret Carter, Pamela Sullivan, Giovanni Gumina, Marie Nielson, Jozef Skuza, Andrija Stefec, Elvino Lolait, Assunta Gherbaz, Angela Oddi, Terrence Morrissy, Antonio Romero, Kevin McMahon
Repose for the soul of: Chaiel Balcombe **Month Mind:** Robyn Lindermann

ALL THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE UNWELL: Joan French

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] - FILL OUT YOUR REGISTRATION TODAY!!

Scan this QR code to access the **CHILDREN'S LITURGY REGISTRATION FORM**.
 [For children Grade 2 – Grade 6] 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.

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



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Second Sunday of Lent - Year A – March 1, 2026

Readings for next week:

Genesis 12 :1 - 4; 2 Timothy 1: 8 - 10; Matthew 17: 1 - 9



Children's Liturgy	February 22	March 1	March 8	March 15
11.00am MASS	xxx No CLOW Junior Choir	Domenica Nina	Ella Liz	Slavica Lina

TIMES	Commentator	Reader	Special Ministers	Welcomers	Main Collector
6.00pm VIGIL	Januk	Trish	Trish Gael	Maree Q	Vince
7.30am	Corinne	Lesley	Barry Margi	Carlo	Glenn
9.30am	Geoff M	Marita C	Rhonda Ann Erminia	...	Geoff J
11.00am	Maria M	Santina	Pamela Domenica Linda	Liz	Klaus
AV	OPERATOR	6.00pm VIGIL	7.30am	9.30am	11.00am
		Natalia	Barry	Dominic	Charlene



'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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