

St Michael's Parish Good News



PARISH SUPPORT CENTRE: 121-123 High Street, Berwick 3806 Ph: 9707 1355

WEB: www.stmichaelsparish.org.au **FACEBOOK:** fb.me/StMichaelsBerwick

Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri: 9.00am-4.30pm, Tue: 1.00pm-4.30pm, Thurs: 9.00am-12.00pm

St Michael's Catholic Parish acknowledges that we are on the traditional land of the Bunurong People.

We pay respect to all elders, past, present, and future, and we are committed to achieving Reconciliation.



Welcome to St Michael's Parish, where we foster the wellbeing and safety of all children and adults at risk. Since we take the safety of our young and vulnerable parishioners seriously, we have a zero-tolerance policy when it comes to abuse. All our parishioners have the right to feel safe and welcome at St Michael's Parish. Any concerns, please contact the Safeguarding Officer on 9707 1355 or secretary@stmichaelsparish.org.au

TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A 22/23 AUGUST 2026

COMING WEEK'S MASSES

Saturday: 6.00pm

Sunday: 7.30am, 9.00am,
10.30am, 6.00pm

WEEKDAYS

Tues: 9.30am

Wed: 7.30am

9.30am Communion Service

Thu-Fri: 9.30am

Sat: 10.00am

All preceded by the Rosary

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 8.30am

5.00pm

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Confidence Masvosva

confidence.masvosva@cdsale.org.au

SECRETARY

Dorota Shields (Safeguarding Officer)

Geraldine Martin

Phone: 9707 1355

secretary@stmichaelsparish.org.au

PASTORAL/SACRAMENTAL TEAM

Pastoral Associate

Tara Bau

Phone: 9707 4072

associate@stmichaelsparish.org.au

Sacrament Co-Ordinator

Diana Bernal

Pastoral Team Member

Tina Nicholson

Phone: 9707 1355

Sacrament enquiries:

sacraments@stmichaelsparish.org.au

PRESBYTERY

119 High Street, Berwick

Phone: 9769 7430

PARISH INFORMATION

BAPTISMS

Please contact the Parish Centre

MARRIAGES

At least six months' notice requested

FACEBOOK:

www.facebook.com/StMichaelsBerwick/

CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

<https://www.cdsale.org.au/safeguarding-resources>

JUBILEE YEAR of ST FRANCIS PRAYER

Saint Francis, our brother, you who eight hundred years ago went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace, intercede for us before the Lord.

You recognized true peace in the Crucifix of San Damiano, teach us to seek in Him the source of all reconciliation that breaks down every wall.

You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world raises up boundaries

In this time afflicted by conflict and division, intercede for us so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ. Amen



ST MICHAEL the ARCHANGEL FEAST DAY

Everyone is warmly invited to join us for a special celebration in honour of our Patron Saint, St Michael.

After 10.30am Mass on September 20 in the St Michael's School Stadium.

The whole parish family is invited to come together in fellowship, friendship and community.

Come along to this special day and get to know your fellow parishioners.

THE L.A.M.P

'FAITH IN ACTION' CHANGE STARTS WITH YOU.....

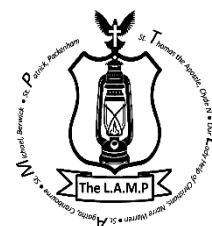
At St Michael's School Stadium, Saturday, November 21, 11am – 4pm, followed by Mass, celebrated by Bishop Greg and concelebrated by Fr Confidence and clergy from Sale Diocese.

All young parishioners from 13 to 30 years old are invited to a Fun and Faith filled day.

QR code for sign-up coming shortly.

Following in footsteps of St Francis of Assisi, we ask that you bring 2 or more non-perishable goods, that will be donated to John Mc Foundation

(started by our own St Michael's parishioner to help our community)



MEETINGS

MONTHLY CUPPA

2nd Sunday after 9.00am Mass – Sep 13

3rd Sunday after 10.30am – Cancelled

RCIA

Wednesday 7.30pm

MONTHLY PRAYER MINISTRY:

1st Sun of each month from 10.00am

FILIPINO MASS

3rd Sunday at 3.00pm – September 20

INDONESIAN MASS

1st Saturday at 5.00pm PSC – Sept 6

LEGION OF MARY

Tuesday 10.15am - 11.45am PSC

Prayer Box in foyer for intentions

MENS GROUP

Tuesday 7.30pm PSC

PARISH ROSARY:

Monday 2.30pm

Zoom 829 9519 6798

SVDP CONFERENCE

2nd Tuesday of the month 4.30pm PSC

CBS BIBLE STUDY

Thursday 7.00pm PSC

MEDITATION SESSIONS

1st Tuesday of the month 7.30pm PSC

September 1

RISEN LORD COMMUNITY

Friday 7.15pm

PARISH SCHOOLS

ST MICHAEL'S PRIMARY

16 Scanlan Street, Berwick

Phone: 8794 2400

ST CATHERINE'S PRIMARY

73 Ridgemont Drive, Berwick

Phone: 9702 1466

ST BRIGID'S PRIMARY

25 Bayview Road, Officer

Phone: 5943 2447

ST FRANCIS XAVIER COLLEGE

Phone: 9707 3111

SERVICES AVAILABLE

SHALOM WORLD: Catholic channel.

SWTV via

<https://www.stmichaelsparish.org.au>

CATHOLIC CARE: 1800 522 076

SVDP SOUP VAN THUR/SUN:

Narre Warren IGA - 6.30pm / 6.45pm

Hampton Park Baptist Church

- 7.30pm / 8.00pm

MOBILE PANTRY VAN: 1st & 3rd Tue

Narre Warren IGA - 11.30am-11.45am

Hampton Park Baptist Church

- 12.00pm-12.30pm

Vinnies Welfare Assistance

Mon-Fri - 1800 305 330

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELP

ORANGE DOOR: 1800 319 354

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.00pm

1800RESPECT: 1800 737 732

SAFE STEPS: 1800 015 188

NO TO VIOLENCE - MEN'S

REFERRAL SERVICE: 1300 766 491

Mon-Fri: 8.00am – 9.00pm,

Sat-Sun: 9.00am – 6.00pm

MULTI-CULTURAL CENTRE AGAINST

FAMILY VIOLENCE: 1800 755 988

WAYS Emergency Accommodation:

9703 0044 or after 5.00pm 1800 825 955

LIFELINE: 13 11 14

BEYOND BLUE: 1300 22 4636

or <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>

PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF: Robert Glenton, Joyce Panther and all those who died recently and for Anthony Bernard, Gracia Suarez, Aldegonda Lammeretz and all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

THOSE WHO SEEK OUR PRAYERS: Baby Leon, Joan O'Shea, Danielle Tobin, Heath O'Loughlin, Jenny Chevalier, Judith Van Es, Brian & Christine Homewood, Mary Hughes, Kath Angrave, Marielle Steinhage, Marie Restituto, Robert Cullen, Hilda Newstead, Maureen Donnelly, Jeremy Fahie, Rita Rowland, Jackie Otoole, Anna Tekin, Rex Clair, Betty Guerin, Mary Clarke, Ivor Silvapulle.

[Names will be removed after one month, unless we are advised otherwise]

GOOD NEWS: Notices required by 10.00am, Thursday. Thank you.

BAPTISMS: Our parish welcomes Xavier Domingo, Nora Devine, Amara Heng, Axton Munro, Arabella Munro, Rosalind Lillis and Leon De Silva baptised recently. We pray that they will continue to be a special part of our parish.

THE WELCOME GROUP MINISTRY: Helps create a warm, caring environment where parishioners and visitors feel seen, and connected within our parish community. Volunteers are needed at all Masses, especially the 6.00pm Sunday Mass. No special skills are required, just a willing heart and a desire to serve.

If you are called to help others, feel at home in our church community, please email Tina at associate@stmichaelsparish.org.au

YOUTH NEWS

Archangel Meetings: August 30, outing - details to be advised.

World Youth Day 2027: Parishioners from age 16 (1.1.2027) - 35 year-olds are invited to express their interest to attend the next WYD in South Korea (approx. dates July 30 to August 8).

Please contact the Parish Support Centre if interested.

RCIA DIOCESAN DAY: Clergy, RCIA Coordinators, RCIA teams and parishioners are warmly invited to an upcoming workshop that aims to deepen your understanding of the RCIA journey. At St Joseph's Church, Warragul on Saturday September 5 at 9.30am-2.00pm

Presented by Dr Alice Youlden & Joan Robertson. See flyer.

SEASON OF CREATION: CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME:

To better understand what Pope Francis calls "integral ecology," and to explore how, as people of faith, we are called to care for the Earth in practical ways, as both a spiritual and ethical responsibility.

Join Fr Jeff Kleynjans online on Wednesday September 16 at 7.00pm-8.00pm.

Register: 5614 5163 or QR Code or

<https://www.cdsale.org.au/events/season-of-creation-care-for-our-common-home> See flyer.



POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST: Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

POSITION VACANT: At St Agatha's Parish, Cranbourne, gardening and property support. This role is to provide gardening and general maintenance work for the Parish grounds and properties. The position is part-time, 2 days a week 8.30am to 4.00pm. Applications are to be addressed to the Parish Priest and emailed to parishoffice@stagathas.org.au by Monday August 31. Please submit a cover letter along with a current resume.

For a copy of the job description please contact the parish office via email or directly on 03 95996 1985.

FIXED TERM WORLD YOUTH DAY PROJECT OFFICER: The Diocese of Sale Catholic Education Limited (DOSCEL) is seeking a World Youth Day Project Officer who will ensure the success of the pilgrimage from planning and preparation, helping ensure the pilgrimage is purposeful, well governed, financially responsible, safe, inclusive and grounded in Catholic mission. The Project Officer assists in providing project coordination, administrative, logistical, communication, stakeholder liaison, formation, risk and finance support for the Diocese of Sale World Youth Day 2027 pilgrimage. This position will commence at FTE 0.4 from Oct 2026 and full-time (FTE 1.00) from Jan 2027 through to Sept 2027. For further information regarding this opportunity or to submit your application please contact the Human Resources team via talent@doscel.catholic.edu.au
Applications close Monday August 31 at 2.00pm

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE: Jubilee of St Francis of Assisi. For info: cdsale.org.au/year-of-saint-francis-of-assisi
Bishop Greg Bennet invites all parishioners across the Diocese of Sale to join in a special pilgrimage celebrating the Franciscan Jubilee Year. Together, we will travel to Benambra, nestled amidst the scenic Omeo High Plains - home to the only church in our diocese dedicated to St Francis of Assisi.

Friday, October 2 6.00pm – Transitus (*St Mary's, Bairnsdale*)

A Transitus Service is a special prayer service celebrated on the vigil of the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi. The word transitus is Latin for "passing over", It commemorates St Francis' passage from earthly life into eternal life.

Saturday, October 3 8.30am - Morning Prayer (*St Mary's, Bairnsdale*)

12.00pm - Jubilee Mass (*St Francis of Assisi, Benambra*), Solemn Mass celebrated by Bishop Greg and the Clergy of the Diocese.

Blessing of Pets (*St Francis of Assisi, Benambra*) - All creatures (restrained) are welcome to receive a blessing.
Shared Lunch & Sausage Sizzle (*Benambra Footyclub*) - Fellowship and food for all. *Please bring a plate to share.*

3.00pm - Conclusion (*Immaculate Conception, Omeo*)

Our pilgrimage draws to a close as we gather at Omeo Parish. All are warmly welcomed.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT – CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE: Living the Gospel in Times of Social Division in the lead-up to Social Justice Sunday. The bishops call on all faithful to help foster a more cohesive and peaceful Australia by cultivating a "culture of encounter" - choosing forgiveness over enmity, hospitality over isolation, and active listening across differences. To read the full statement visit: <https://tinyurl.com/yc3m9d2v>

SCHOOL CORNER

SCHOOL ART COMPETITION 2026 Primary and secondary students are invited to take part in Catholic Earthcare's Annual Art Competition, exploring the theme of 'Living Water'. Bishop's Award (primary and secondary Art supply vouchers will be awarded as prizes.). For more information visit: <https://tinyurl.com/5bbjwamu>

St Michael's Catholic Primary School: Students have recently supported the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal. Families were very generous in providing non-perishable food items for the SVDP Society. Students then had a PJ day at school to end the appeal, raising awareness of homelessness and the work of the SVDP Society. Students in Grade 4 are celebrating their First Reconciliation this week and next week. Many thanks to Fr Confidence, parish staff, parents and school staff for all their preparation and support of this sacrament. The whole school is currently preparing for our biennial concert at Robert Blackwood Hall at the end of the term. The school is alive with music, dancing, acting, costume preparation and excitement.

St Francis Xavier College Pilgrimage to St Mary's Cathedral Sale. Tuesday August 11.

This year's for our Catholic Identity Staff Retreat, we undertook a pilgrimage to St Mary's Cathedral in Sale. We explored the beautiful Cathedral under the guidance of Bishop Greg Bennet. We heard stories from staff about their connection to, or experience of, this wonderful sacred place. We learned new information about St Mary's Cathedral and our Diocese:

The first stained glass window on the sanctuary is St Francis Xavier.

The Cathedral has gone through three phases of significant growth.

St Michael's Berwick became part of the Sale Diocese in 1959.

Many staff were moved by the beauty and the history of the Cathedral, and the welcome and insights given to us by Bishop Greg. Mass was a wonderful celebration, made more so by the Staff choir. We filled the Cathedral with people and song!

It was a pilgrimage that drew us closer to Christ, and one we will now always remember - an experience of joy and nourishment for our souls.

We are grateful to Bishop Greg and the parishioners of St Mary's who looked after us so well through our day.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 22: 19-23

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 Hilkiah. 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.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

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.**

R. Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

SECOND READING: Romans 11: 33-36

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.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

Next Week's Readings:

First Reading: Jeremiah 20: 7-9

Second Reading: Romans 12: 1-2

Gospel: Matthew 16: 21-27