

PLEASE TURN YOUR MOBILE PHONE OFF OR TO SILENT MODE

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 9.00am-4.30pm, Tue: 1.00pm-4.30pm, Thurs: 9.00am-12.00pm Fri: **CLOSED**
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 FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A 19/20 SEPTEMBER 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 - 9.45am
5.00pm - 5.45pm

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>



PARISH PRAYER

St Michael the Archangel,
patron of our parish, be with us as we strive
to be faithful to our Baptismal call,
to love God and our neighbours.
Spread your protective wings over us
and our entire parish.
Protect us from fear, lies and everything
that prevents us from experiencing
God's love for us in all its fullness.
Help us to always choose what is
good, right, and true and nurture within us
the courage, love, and respect
we need to face our fears
and to protect all of God's creation. Amen.

THE L.A.M.P YOUTH EVENT: At St Michael's School Stadium, Saturday, November 21, 11.00am-4.00pm, followed by Mass, celebrated by Bishop Greg and concelebrated by Fr Confidence. All young parishioners from 13 to 30 years old are invited to a Fun and Faith filled day. For sign up scan QR code.



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).

L.A.M.P Volunteer Sign-Up Sheets to help on the day are in the foyer.

Collection to help cover costs will be taken up this weekend.

LIVING WATER – SEASON OF CREATION

The Biblical text for this year is drawn from Ezekiel 47: 1- 12, which portrays God's life-giving water flowing from the temple of God. The river grows deeper and deeper restoring barren land, reviving waters, and sustaining flourishing ecosystems. The vision invites human responsibility - recognising ecological damage, embracing interconnectedness. We are called to immerse ourselves in the water, and actively safeguarding and working for the renewal of creation so that environmental healing and human well-being may flourish together.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

To everyone celebrating in September



MEETINGS

MONTHLY CUPPA

2nd Sunday after 9.00am Mass – Oct 11

3rd Sunday after 10.30am – October 18

RCIA

Wednesday 7.30pm

MONTHLY PRAYER MINISTRY:

1st Sun of each month from 10.00am

FILIPINO MASS

3rd Sunday at 3.00pm – October 18

INDONESIAN MASS

1st Saturday at 5.00pm PSC – Oct 3

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

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: Bernard Coyles, Peter Marshall and all those who died recently and for John Thomson, Glenn Rawlins, Lauryn Ferreras, Holly Henman, Daniel Daly and all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

THOSE WHO SEEK OUR PRAYERS: Josie & Bobby Richardson, Baby Leon, Michael Trottor, Veronica Ogilvie, Rex Clair, Sue McVicar, Elmo Silvapulle, Danielle Tobin, Heath O'Loughlin, Jenny Chevalier, Mary Clarke, Judith Van Es, Brian & Christine Homewood, Mary Hughes, Joan O'Shea, Kath Angrave, Marielle Steinhage, Marie Restituto, Betty Guerin, Jeremy Fahie, Robert Cullen, Hilda Newstead, Rita Rowland, Maureen Donnelly, Anna Tekin, Jackie Otoole, Ivor Silvapulle. [Names will be removed after one month, unless advised]

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

NEW ALTAR SERVERS: Are always welcome! Servers are needed for Saturday 6.00pm and Sunday 9.00am and 6.00pm Masses. Monthly training offered. Any questions please contact Tara associate@stmichaelsparish.org.au

NEPAL COLLECTION: \$1,667.20 was donated, thank you for your generosity. To support the Caritas Nepal Floods Appeal, visit www.caritas.org.au/nepal.

MIGRANT AND REFUGEE SUNDAY: On September 27 at Our Lady Help of Christians. Mass at 1.30pm celebrated by Bishop Greg Bennet. Dress code – cultural attire. See poster.

DIOCESAN WOMEN'S EVENT: Navigating the Unseen – Women Leading with Resilience. Women from across the Diocese are invited to gather for an evening dinner and talk celebrating the strength, resilience, and expanding horizons of women in the mission of the Catholic Church. Speaker Dr. Kim Daniels-Director of the Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life at Georgetown University and member of the Vatican Dicastery for Communication-will share insights on leadership, faith, and renewal. Wednesday, October 14, 7.00pm at St. Patrick's Parish Hall, Pakenham. \$30.00 per person (includes dinner & soft drinks). Bookings essential by Oct 4. Book at trybooking.com/DOZKU See flyer.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT: *Living the Gospel in Times of Social Division* In the lead-up to Social Justice Sunday, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has released its latest Social Justice Statement, *Living the Gospel in Times of Social Division*. 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, access resources, and watch the launch recording, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/yc3m9d2v>

THE RITUAL AND THE REASON: Exploring The Parts of The Mass. Every ritual in the Mass has a purpose. Come and learn what we do and why we do it, from the Sign of the Cross to the Final Blessing, so we can listen, respond, and be transformed by God's presence. Sessions at Our Lady Help Of Christians: Saturday October 10, 10.00am-3.00pm and St Michael's, Traralgon: Saturday, October 17 10.00am-3.00pm Register at cdsale.org.au/events or newsonline@sale.catholic.org.au

YOUTH NEWS

Archangel Meetings: October 4 meeting after 10.30am Mass, in the Parish Support Centre.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027: Are you 16 (01.01.2027) - 35 year-old? Would you like to attend WYD in South Korea (approx. dates July 30 to August 8, 2027). Please contact the Parish Support Centre if interested.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER: Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

BEYOND THE WEDDING THRESHOLD: A Survey for Catholics in the First Decade of Marriage. The Australian Catholic Bishops are funding a study into the experience of married Catholics. The results will help inform the development of pastoral responses and resources. If at least one spouse is Catholic and you were married in the last 10 years, by completing this short survey, you will provide valuable insights for their work. Answers are anonymous and confidential, and you can contact the researchers directly if you have any questions. <https://thepmrc.org/survey>

HOLY HOURS FOR VOCATIONS: *"A prayer today... A shepherd tomorrow..."*

Come and spend time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life across our diocese. Sunday, October 11, St Joseph's Catholic Church, Foster. Holy Hour 10.00am-11.00am followed by Mass at 11.00 am. Saturday October 31, St Patrick's Church, Pakenham. Mass & Holy Hour Commencing at 9.30am. All are warmly welcome to join us in prayer!

AGEING & AWAKENING - LIFE'S SURPRISING GIFTS: Will be held at St Patrick's Pakenham weekly from October 13-27, 10.00am-12.30pm. Growing old is a unique experience, one we share with many others in society today. It is a time of life that both challenges and benefits us, a time that invites us to grow personally as we manage changes such as retirement, having more time and fewer demands, and experiencing physical and psychological limits. The ageing process is enriched if we take stock of our lives and take charge of how we might live now and into the future. Three two-hour sessions invite participants in their 60's, 70's, 80's and 90's to explore the many aspects of growing older in today's Australia. Cost \$10.00 per session. Register at 5941 7315 or parishoffice@stpatrickspakenham.com.au For more information, see flyer.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE: Jubilee of St 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. This sacred journey is not about physical distance, but a journey of the heart. 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*)

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 great and small (restrained) are welcome to receive a special blessing following Mass.

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 for final prayers and departure. To help the host parish at Benambra, (which is a small parish with about 10 parishioners) plan the sausage sizzle, if you are planning to attend register via the link: <https://www.cdsale.org.au/year-of-saint-francis-of-assisi> The link provides full details about the pilgrimage schedule, route maps, sign-up forms, and future updates. See flyer.

18TH ANNUAL MARCH FOR THE BABIES: On Saturday, October 10 at 1.00 pm at Treasury Gardens. Please call Gerardine 0425 751 297 for more details, flyers in the foyer.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE: October 12-27. Engaging Your Faith is a series of short online presentations. For more information: ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith

REFLECTION - Nick Brodie

'We are used to calculating things', Pope Leo reflects, adding that 'at times it is necessary – but this does not apply in love!' This God's endless generosity with love is the message at the heart of the parable in today's Gospel passage. As the Pope puts it, God 'always generously gives us his word.' God's love comes to us without condition, before any act on our part is even possible. We can never love God before God loves us.

Because our hope is, as the Pope says, 'founded on the rock of God's generosity and mercy' then we are called to be generous and merciful too. Part of that means being inclusive in our attitude towards others. Our challenge is to recognise within ourselves that God is always inviting everyone.

Our treatment of any seeker of truth should therefore reflect God's endless generosity. Our prejudices and judgments must not become obstacles to God's love. As members of the Body of Christ we are called to generously welcome others and accept that they too are loved by God. Indeed, we are called to become an expression of God's love to them.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55: 6-9

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured. **R.**
2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
Compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**
3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. **R.**

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

SECOND READING: Philippians 1: 20-24, 27

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake. Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our hearts, O Lord,
To listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 20: 1-16

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.