

**** PLEASE TAKE YOUR COPY OF THE GOOD NEWS HOME ****

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR C 29/30 MARCH 2025

COMING WEEK'S MASSES

SUNDAY

Saturday vigil: 6.00pm

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

WEEKDAYS

Tue-Sat: 9.30am

All preceded by Divine Mercy and Rosary

RECONCILIATION

Sat: 10.00am - 10.30am

5.15pm - 5.30pm

EXPOSITION (Blessed Sacrament)

Wednesday: 10.00am - 11.00am

Cenacle Prayer: Subject to change

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Fr Paul Zaher

paul.zaher@cdsale.org.au

SECRETARY

Dorota Shields (Safeguarding Officer)

Geraldine Martin

Phone: 9707 1355

secretary@stmichaelsparish.org.au

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Peggy Harvey

Phone: 9707 4072

associate@stmichaelsparish.org.au

SACRAMENT CO-ORDINATOR

Tara Bau

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: St Michael's page, website

or www.facebook.com/StMichaelsBerwick/

CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

www.sale.catholic.org.au/professional-standards

KIDS HELPLINE: 1800 55 1800 or

kidshelpline.com.au

(Concerned adults can call for advice)



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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent - After Mass on Tuesdays morning,
approximately 10.15am, and on Friday evenings at
7.15pm. All are welcome!



Irene lives in the Kongolo Region in the
Democratic Republic of the Congo

(DRC) and faced immense challenges after losing her
father to war and raising her children in poverty. With
support from Caritas Australia, Irene received vocational
training in sewing and farming and can now support her
whole family.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes,
envelopes or by scanning the QR code. Or caritas.org.au/project-compassion



LENTEN RECONCILIATION: Thursday April 10 at 7.30pm.

EASTER TRIDIUM - ALL IN THE CHURCH EXCEPT GOOD FRIDAY PASSION

HOLY THURSDAY:

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7.30pm

GOOD FRIDAY:

Stations of the Cross: 10.00am

(St Michael's School Stadium) Passion Service: 3.00pm

HOLY SATURDAY:

Easter Vigil: 7.30pm

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES: 7.30am, 9.00am,

10.30am, 6.00pm



MEETINGS

MONTHLY CUPPA

2nd Sunday after 9.00am Mass

3rd Sunday after 10.30am Mass

RCIA

Thursday 7.30pm

FILIPINO MASS

3rd Sunday at 3.00pm – April 20

INDONESIAN MASS

1st Saturday at 5.00pm PSC – April 5

LEGION OF MARY

Saturday 10.15am - 1.00pm PSC

Prayer Box in foyer for intentions

MENS LEGION

Wednesday 7.00pm PSC

PRAYER GROUP: Monday 2.30pm

Zoom 829 9519 6798

ROSARY FOR PEACE

Monday 1.45pm Church

SVDP CONFERENCE

2nd Tuesday of the month 7.30pm PSC

CBS BIBLE STUDY

Thursday 7pm 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 Shops - 7.30pm / 8.00pm

MOBILE PANTRY VAN: 1st & 3rd Tue

Narre Warren IGA - 11.30am-11.45am

Hampton Park Shops - 12.00pm-12.30pm

Cranb Lyall St Bus Stop -12.45pm - 1pm

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: 8am - 9pm, Sat-Sun: 9am - 6pm

MULTI-CULTURAL CENTRE AGAINST

FAMILY VIOLENCE: 1800 755 988

WAYS Emergency Accommodation:

9703 0044 or after 5pm 1800 825 955

LIFELINE: 13 11 14

BEYOND BLUE: 1300 22 4636

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

PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF: Kerrie Stock (Funeral March 31 at 11.30am), Rita Thompson (Fun April 1 at 11.00am), Virginia Potts (Fun April 4 at 11.30am), Frank Sutherland, Dulcie Nyssen, Silman Perera, Cedric Wilson, Jurek Janik, Weymes Felthman, Elizabeth O'Callaghan and all those who died recently and for Michelle O'Shea, Christina Aulia, Roger Vamben, Ginette Babet, Tony Wride, Mihaljlo Pavlic, Marcello Fabbri, Margot Beech and all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

THOSE WHO SEEK OUR PRAYERS: Silvana Bernaudo, Alan Byrne,

Doreen Buck, Rob Addison, Pope Francis, Pam Nelson, Mario De Costa, Nathaniel Byers, Colin Goldsmith, Antony LaRive, Jeremy Fahie, Ann McKee, Elmo, Betty Guerin, Elvira Racelis, Michelle Wright, Joan O'Shea, Kath Angrave, Donald Burns, Pete Spance, Nick Bowden, Chris Olejarz, Ivor Silvapulle, Gill Vissenga, Carmel Stephens-Mullins.

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

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

THE SCRUTINIES: The Scrutinies are three special rites that help prepare the Elect, those participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), to enter the Catholic Church. They take place during the period of RCIA formation known as Purification and Enlightenment, near the end of their formation.

The season of Lent involves a more intense period of examination and preparation for the Elect, and hopefully for those of us already living the Catholic faith. Though they are meant for the RCIA Elect, the Scrutinies can help all Catholics seeking to live a life of continuous conversion. The Scrutinies are associated with three specific Gospel stories on the third, fourth, and fifth Sundays of Lent. **Jesus encountering the Samaritan woman at the well**, where He offers Himself as the Living Water, **Jesus healing the man born blind**, where He gives Himself as Light of the World, and **Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead**, where He reveals Himself as the Resurrection and the Life. Please keep Jacqui, Natasha, Adam, Michael, Regan and Avi in your prayers over the coming weeks.

EASTER:

PALM SUNDAY/EASTER ROSTERS: If you would like to help with any of the ministries, please add your name to the roster in the foyer.

PALM SUNDAY GREENERY: We require cut pieces of palms/olives/other suitable greenery for blessing on Palm Sunday. If you are able to help, please bring them in a box, already pre-cut, so as parishioners can collect them before Mass. We will need them by Friday April 11. Please let the Parish Support Centre know if you are able to help.

GOOD FRIDAY: We are looking for young parishioners (Grade 4 and above) to Read, Commentate and Altar Serve during the Passion. Please contact the Parish Support Centre. Practice times to be advised.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Any youth or young adults who would like to be involved please contact the Parish Support Centre.

STADIUM SET UP: Help is needed on Wednesday April 16, at 5.00pm, to prepare St Michael's Stadium for Good Friday. Please contact the Parish Support Centre if you are able to assist.

COMMUNION MINISTERS NEW AND EXISTING: On Sunday April 6 after 6.00pm Mass, there will be a training for ministers who serve at Mass or visit the sick. If you would like to join our roster, please contact the Parish Support Centre. The training will be offered again on Tuesday April 15 at 7.00pm at St Patrick's Pakenham if you are unable to attend.

ST MICHAELS TEAM: Parish donors can join the St Michael's Berwick Parish Team via the Teams tab at www.lifeblood.com.au or in the app.

HONOURING CARMEL MCKENNA OAM: The new road bridge in Beaconsfield will be named McKenna Drive in memory of the late Carmel McKenna OAM, whose dedication to our community was unmatched. After community consultation, McKenna Drive was chosen from over 300 submissions as the name, reflecting the love and respect for Carmel's legacy. Carmel and her husband Desmond were instrumental in establishing SFXC in 1978. What a fitting tribute to a remarkable woman.

MARIAN MOVEMENT FOR PRIESTS, RELIGIOUS AND LAY MEMBERS RETREAT: Will be held at the St Clement's (Redemptorist) Retreat Centre at Galong NSW from August 18-22. The retreat is open to all Priests, Religious and Lay Members. Further information see flyer.

LENT 2025 ONLINE MISSION WITH BRUCE DOWNES: From April 5, we invite you to take part in an online mission, a chance to reflect, grow spiritually, and prepare your heart for Easter. It is online, easy to access, and available to everyone, families, and parish groups. Register at missionevent.thecatholicguy.com

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE: Engaging Your Faith online presentations from \$25.00 per session. More information and to register: ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith/

CDF COMMUNITY FUND: Save with CDF Community Fund – it's in everyone's best interest. By opening a savings account or Term Investment, not only will you receive a competitive financial return, your savings will also help build parishes, classrooms, hospital wings, aged care homes and social service facilities. With competitive interest rates available across a range of savings accounts, including 5.10% p.a.* on a 6-month Term Investment, it's a way to save while doing good.



To find out more, visit www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/offer, scan the QR code, or speak to us on 1800 134 135.

THE POPE'S MARCH PRAYER INTENTION: That families in crisis might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

THE JUBILEE OF THE SICK AND HEALTHCARE WORKERS: St John the Baptist parish, Koo Wee Rup invites you to for a special Healing Mass celebrated by Bishop Greg, where we will offer prayers for the sick members of our parish communities and their families on Sunday April 6, at 11.00am. This Mass will be a moment of grace and healing, where we will pray for those who are ill and acknowledge the dedication of healthcare workers who serve with compassion and care. We encourage all healthcare workers to attend in their uniforms as a sign of their vocation and the institutions they represent. We invite parishioners to send the names of sick individuals they wish to be prayed for during the Mass. Please send names to Fr. Avinash George at avinash.george@cdsale.org.au. Let us come together as a faith community to pray for healing, strength, and God's abundant blessings in this Jubilee Year of Hope.

DIOCESAN MISSION COUNCIL MEETING: On Saturday, March 22 the Diocesan Mission Council (DMC) began by reflecting on the experiences and outcomes of the recent Diocesan Assembly. DMC members worked in groups, and as a full council, to begin drafting a Diocesan Pastoral Plan Framework for 2026–2030. Members agreed on the reasoning and purpose of the Pastoral Plan framework and began to define the pastoral goals that will form its centrepiece. The next DMC meeting will be on Saturday, May 24.

A website to help Catholics celebrate the Jubilee year has been launched by the Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry. Please visit <https://pilgrimsofhope.catholic.org.au/>

REFLECTION - Nick Brodie

Pope Francis says that today's Gospel parable 'leads us to the heart of God'.

On the one hand, it shows us that 'God always forgives. We are the ones who tire of asking for forgiveness.' What the prodigal son's Father shows us is God's boundless mercy. On the other hand, the parable also shows how easily we humans can slip into what the Pope calls 'the indignation of the elder son'. If we do not see God as our merciful Father, then we can easily fall into 'living a distant religion, made of prohibitions and duties.' When we judge and exclude, we try to limit God's mercy. Falling into that mindset, we lose sight of our relatedness. We can become like the resentful elder son who calls his own brother 'this son of yours'. To combat this mindset of 'rigidity towards our neighbour' the Pope suggests that, like the Father, we 'make merry and rejoice'.

We should try to 'demonstrate our closeness to those who repent or who are on the way, to those who are in crisis or who are far away ... we have to offer them a warm welcome that encourages them to go ahead.'

In our lives, we should always treat others without judgment. And in our churches, we should always warmly welcome them home.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.' The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **R.**
2. Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. **R.**
3. Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. **R.**

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3. 11-32

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them: 'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery. 'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father. 'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate. 'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening." 'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

You must rejoice, my son,
for your brother was dead and has come to life;
he was lost and is found.