

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, 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 14/15 March 2026

COMING WEEK'S MASSES

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

WEEKDAYS

Tue: 9.30am
Wed: 9.30am
Communion Service
Thu: 9.30am
Followed by Adoration
Fri-Sat: 9.30am
All preceded by Divine Mercy & Rosary

RECONCILIATION

Sat: 10.00am
5.15pm

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>

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER LITURGIES

LENTEN RECONCILIATION: March 26

7.00pm

HOLY THURSDAY: April 2

7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

GOOD FRIDAY: April 3

Stations of the Cross: 10.00am St Michael's School Stadium

Passion Service: 3.00pm St Michael's School Stadium

HOLY SATURDAY: April 4

Easter Vigil: 7.30pm

EASTER SUNDAY: April 5

Mass: 7.30am
9.00am
10.30am
6.00pm



Life was hard for Manaini and her children living in rural Fiji. With support from FRIEND, Caritas Australia's partner, she learnt food processing, gardening skills, how to improve nutrition and create new income opportunities to support her children's education.

You can support Project Compassion through the donation boxes or envelopes.

Sponsor the Parish Staff who are taking up the challenge to walk daily on <https://www.projectcompassion.org.au/fundraisers/BerwickSuperWalkers>



HEALING AND ANOINTING MASS

Thursday March 19 at 10.30am, followed by light refreshments in the Parish Support Centre. Please invite those suffering in body, mind and spirit, the elderly, those who are housebound and their carers.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY &
ANNIVERSARY**
To everyone celebrating
in March



MEETINGS

MONTHLY CUPPA

2nd Sunday after 9.00am Mass-April 12
3rd Sunday after 10.30am Mass-March 15

RCIA

Wednesday 7.30pm

FILIPINO MASS

3rd Sunday at 3.00pm – March 15

INDONESIAN MASS

1st Saturday at 5.00pm PSC – May 2

LEGION OF MARY

Tuesday 10.00am – 12.30pm 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 7.30pm PSC

CBS BIBLE STUDY

Thursday 7.00pm PSC

MEDITATION SESSIONS

1st Tuesday of the month 7.30pm PSC
March 3

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: 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: Corry Van Dieman, (Funeral March 30 at 11.00am)
John Hodgson-Williams, Ben Clark, Shannon Garrett, Peter Southorn and all those who died recently and for Cedric Wilson, Elizabeth Cerni, Rita Thompson, Ann Clark, Joan Quigley, Denise Saliba, Jean-Pierre Canal, Kerrie Stock and all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

THOSE WHO SEEK OUR PRAYERS: Rex Clair, Bobby Cullen, Colin Goldsmith, Solange Duivenvoorden, Robert Addison, Maureen Donnelly, Anthony Morril, Adam Finlay, Rob Nelson, Mario D'Costa, Samantha Kirchner, Rita Rowland, Graeme Hall, Maureen Dalai, Dianne Devries, Nathaniel Byers, Jeremy Fahie, Joan O'Shea, Ann Kroon, Kath Angrave, Ivor Silvapulle, Betty Guerin, Julia Torelli, 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.

BAPTISMS: Our parish welcomes Lewis Kaczmariski, Chase and Luka Goddard, Amara Willis, Ares O'Connor, Belinda and Beau Martinez baptised recently. We pray that they will continue to be a special part of our parish.

CUPPA AFTER 10.30AM MASS: In the St Michael's School Stadium.
Everyone welcome.

ST MICHAEL'S YOUTH GROUP: We would like to invite teenagers and young adults to be part of our Youth Group. Youth leaders will be talking during Masses. If you interested in being involved, please see one of our leaders in the foyer after Mass.

EASTER:

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT: Tuesdays after 9.30am Mass and Fridays at 7.15pm.

PALM SUNDAY / EASTER ROSTERS: If you would like to help with any of the ministries, please add your name to the rosters 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 March 27. Please let the Parish Support Centre know if you are able to help.

ALTAR OF REPOSE: We are seeking donations of white flowers and assistance in setting up. Please place in the buckets in the church on Wednesday April 1. If you are unable to purchase flowers, but would like to contribute towards them, please hand it to the priest, or drop into the Parish Support Centre.

GOOD FRIDAY: We are looking for young adults and youth from Year 7 and above to join our annual animated depiction of the Stations of the Cross at 10.00am. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Support Centre. Practice times to be advised.

GOOD FRIDAY READERS: 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.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING: Will be held March 19 and 23 at 4.30pm. There will be more dates closer to Easter.

We are still in need for more Altar Servers on Sunday Masses at 7.30am and 6.00pm. Training will be provided. See times above.

AGEING AND AWAKENING-LIFE'S SURPRISING GIFTS: 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.

St. Patrick's Parish, Pakenham, 10.00am-12.30 pm, Tuesday April 14, 21, and 28.

Register: Parish Centre 59417315 or parishoffice@stpatrickspakenham.com.au

For more information, see the flyer in the church foyer

AN INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN MEDITATION: Do you feel overwhelmed by the demands of a busy world? Join facilitator Chris Roga at the Heart of Life: Centre for Formation & Spirituality for a day dedicated to the "prayer of the heart". Date: Saturday March 21, Cost: \$90.00. Register at: Visit the Heart of Life website. See flyer.

ST FRANCIS XAVIER OPEN DAY: Will be held at both the Berwick and Officer Campuses on Saturday, March 21 between 10.00am - 2.00pm. Register your interest at: www.stf.vic.edu.au

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH: Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

FAMILY ENRICHMENT AUSTRALIA: Invites you to join our Pre-Adolescence Course, designed to equip you with practical tools and fresh confidence for this important stage. See flyer for more details. <https://tinyurl.com/hhw6u564> We look forward to journeying with you. When families thrive, communities flourish.

LENTEN CHARISMATIC RETREAT: "Return to Me with All Your Heart" – Joel 2:12 Will be held at St Agatha's, Cranbourne on March 26, 6.30pm-9.00pm with Fr Francis Otobo. All are welcome. See flyer.

REFLECTION - Greg Sunter

The question asked by the disciples at the opening of this event is an interesting one. They ask, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?' In Jewish culture at the time, any physical affliction was deemed to be punishment from God for sinful behaviour. As the man had been born blind, the suspicion falls on his parents as having committed such a terrible offence against God that their son is born blind. Jesus immediately rejects this interpretation of the man's affliction. Physical and mental illnesses or disabilities are in no way punishment from God.

Although the man's physical sight is restored by Jesus simply enough, his journey from darkness into light is a more complicated affair. He faces disbelief, ridicule and even abuse from the Jewish authorities as they try to discredit Jesus and diminish the impact of the miracle. In fact, their treatment of the man is what drives him along the road from recipient of an act of mercy to a confirmed believer. Furthermore, the Jewish authorities, despite their physical capacity for sight, are shown to be the ones who are truly blind and trapped in darkness because they deny the light that is before their very eyes.

Historical Context – Light of the World

The events of today's gospel passage occur within an extended passage of the gospel of John in which Jesus attends Jerusalem for the Feast of Tabernacles. A feature of the feast was the illumination of the Temple. Pilgrims would cover the Temple with lights and torches so that it shone out over the entire city. It was during this feast that Jesus declared himself to be the Light of the World and, a few verses later, healed the blind man and brought light into his world.

Living the Gospel – Lenten Light

The story of the man born blind is a perfect choice for the Lenten season. During this season we are invited once again to open our eyes to Jesus; to step out of darkness and into the light; to look towards the future with hope and not despair. When we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus at the Easter vigil, we celebrate the coming of the Light of the World into our lives. This annual call to turn away from darkness and walk in the light is a powerful and poetic call to focus our lives on the way of Jesus.

Gospel Focus – None so blind

There's a very old saying that has its roots in the Bible but is not a direct quote from the Bible: 'There are none so blind as those who will not see.' It would be a fitting summary of today's passage for there are two movements between darkness and light that are evident in the story. Firstly, there is the blind man who can see. He can see physically but can also see the truth of who Jesus is. Secondly, there are the Jewish authorities who have physical sight but are completely blind to the truth of Jesus.

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: 1 Samuel 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**
2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **R.**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me
In the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R.**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow
me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **R.**

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading: Ephesians 5: 8-14

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: John 9: 1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored. His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man. 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away. Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed,
I saw and I believed in God