

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](https://www.facebook.com/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

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR C 26/27 APRIL 2025

COMING WEEK'S MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 7.30pm

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

WEEKDAYS

Tue-Wed: 9.30am

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-standards2

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.

THE PASSING OF POPE FRANCIS

Throughout his papacy, Pope Francis walked in the footsteps of Jesus, extending compassion and dignity to the poor, the homeless, refugees and asylum seekers, the sick, those in prison, and all who were marginalised. His deep empathy and commitment to social justice inspired people of all faiths and backgrounds.

In the final week of his life, Pope Francis visited a prison in Rome, an act that reflected his lifelong ministry to those on the margins.

Bishop Greg wrote:

'..... And so, Pope Francis now enters the promise of eternal life in this, the Year of Hope.

Welcomed, we pray, by the God who inspired his first breath and who accompanied his last. We will miss him as our spiritual father, our bridge of unity, and our leader of faith. We entrust him to the mercy of the Father. We give thanks for the life and ministry of Pope Francis who has shown us how to be pilgrims of hope. We offer our prayers for him, confident that the loving arms of his merciful God are opened for him: 'welcome, good and faithful servant.'

Copies of the Bishop's letter are available in the foyer.

We pray that as the Cardinals gather in Rome to choose a new Pope they will be guided by the Holy Spirit and choose wisely.



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 – May 18

INDONESIAN MASS

1st Saturday at 5.00pm PSC – May 3

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 7.00pm 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: Pope Francis and all those who died recently and for Brian Tobin, Joseph Kanja, Josef Varadi, Hendricus Henneman, John Vasko, Nunzio Marolda, Paolo Giuseffi, Sunil Wilfred and all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

THOSE WHO SEEK OUR PRAYERS: Ann Nichols, Fr Brendan Lane, Pat Deeker Debbie Sladden, Adam Voyer, George Fokchak, Mario De Costa, Doreen Buck, Nick Bowden, Betty Guerin, Colin Goldsmith, Jeremy Fahie, Kath Angrave, Nathaniel Byers, Pam Nelson, Joan O'Shea, Chris Olejarz, Antony LaRive, Carmel Stephens-Mullins, Ivor Silvapulle, Gill Vissenga.

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

BAPTISMS: Our parish welcomes Oscar & Rosalia Pierce, Oliver Rodriguez, Noah Hocking, Neja & Theja Warapitiya, Senan & Eamonn McDougall and Amelia Pao baptised recently. We pray that they will continue to be a special part of our parish.

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

A MESSAGE FROM FR PAUL: To my faithful parishioners of St Michael's, Berwick, it has been a blessing serving as your Parish Administrator, so with great delight I have the wonderful fortune of telling you that I have been granted permission to continue doing so till the end of the year. I have witnessed tremendous growth in this parish and with more certainty of my position I will be able to bring in more initiatives such as starting a youth group and will take much pleasure in collaborating with you. I look forward to this ongoing journey to building the Kingdom of God in our community and working with you in our mission as God's people. May the Spirit of Christ's Resurrection be with you this Easter Season and the joy of Christ fill your hearts. *Yours in Christ, Father Paul Zaher.*

PARISH BARBEQUE: On Sunday May 4 after 10.30am Mass to commemorate the consecration of our church on April 29, 1984. This Parish event will be organized by St Michael's Men's Group. Anyone wishing to join the Men's Group contact Parish Support Centre.

REINTRODUCING THE PRECIOUS BLOOD: As of Holy Thursday, the Sale Diocese returned to distributing the Blood (not wine) from the chalice. Offering both the Body and Blood of Christ will continue at all weekend Masses. Please note that in regard to child safety it will be the parents' responsibility to prevent their children from receiving the Precious Blood if that is their decision. Furthermore, we would like to remind you that it is also the parents' responsibility to ensure the children who haven't yet received their First Communion, refrain from taking the Body and Blood of Christ. The general norm for someone who is not receiving the Blessed Sacrament is to indicate this to the minister by placing their arms crossed with hands on opposite shoulders.

TRINITY FAMILIES' COLLECTION: Will be taken up next weekend.

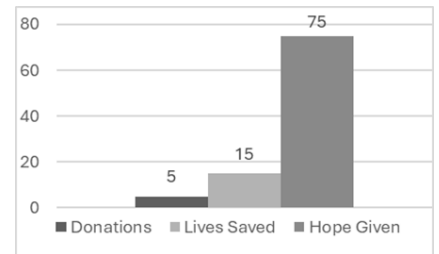
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER & VACUUMING ROSTERS: Will be prepared shortly. If you would like to join this ministry or your availability has changed, contact Geraldine at the Parish Support Centre. Thank you.

THE POPE'S APRIL PRAYER INTENTION: Let us pray that the technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crisis of our times.

Congratulations to
Liz & Tony Overdyk who are celebrating
50 years of marriage this week.
We wish them God's continued blessings.



MARCH BLOOD BANK DONATIONS: Pope Francis wrote that “Signs of hope should also be shown to the sick, at home or in hospital.” St Michael’s did this by making three donations during March bringing the annual total to 5. Through its blood donation team, St Michael’s has given life to up to 15 sick people and Hope to an estimated 75 people this year. Here we can see how small, simple actions build up to provide great amounts of hope.



STAY UPDATED ON DIOCESAN EVENTS: By visiting the Diocesan Events Page. It is a great resource to find details on upcoming celebrations, gatherings, and important dates. Visit: <https://www.cdsale.org.au/events>

ST AGATHA'S JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS: Welcomes all to join with them if you are celebrating your 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary this year on Saturday 31st May at 11.00am Mass for a special blessing. Please contact the parish office with your details on 03 5996 1985 or email parishoffice@stagathas.org.au
The Parish is hosting quite a few events during May, see flyer.

YEAR OF JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS:

Jubilee of Workers on **May 25** at St Mary's Cowes.

Jubilee of Families & Grandparents on **May 31** at St Agatha's Cranbourne.

Jubilee of Lay Ministers and Leaders: All Lay Ministers and Leaders, in the Diocese of Sale, are invited by the communities of St John's, Trafalgar, and St Jarlath's, Yarragon, to St John's on Sunday **June 15** from 2.30pm. 'Cuppa and conversation to follow'.

Further details for all celebrations to come.

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.

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

JOURNEYING WITH MARY: May is the month of Mary who has a special place in the hearts of the faithful. It is therefore fitting that we pay special attention to her and to her role in the history of salvation. Join others from around the diocese in a special 'Zoom' gathering, on May 7, as we celebrate Mary's significance through Art, Music, Song, Private Reflection, Scripture and Prayer. Led by Jane Mitchell and Mike Hansen.
To register go to: <https://tinyurl.com/45ftdtsu>

THE ART OF THE ASK: Overcome the fear of inviting and step out with bold faith by learning practical strategies that make invitation second nature. Join Michael Harvey, founder of *Back to Church Sunday*, for a powerful online event, on May 8, that will equip you to break through fear and embrace a culture of invitation. Drawing from decades of experience, Michael will challenge us to rethink evangelization and rediscover the simple, transformational act of inviting. Register at <https://divinerenovation.org/events/>

TO HELP CATHOLICS CELEBRATE THE JUBILEE YEAR: A website has been launched by the Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry. Please visit <https://pilgrimsofhope.catholic.org.au/>

REFLECTION – Greg Sunter

Historical Context – My Lord and my God

By the time the Gospel of John was written, in the last decade of the 1st Century, there were already diverse beliefs about Jesus. As is recorded in the gospels, there were those who regarded Jesus as one of the prophets of Israel; others recognised him as the promised Messiah; others still had come to believe in Jesus the Christ as the incarnation of God. That is certainly the theology expressed in the Gospel of John. Perhaps as a means to further his community's theology and correct other ideas, the gospel writer has Thomas declare, 'My Lord and my God!'

Have you thought? – Does he mean us?

When Thomas made his declaration of faith, Jesus said, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy (or Blessed) are those who have not seen and yet believe.' (v29) Because this gospel was written 60 years or so after the time of Jesus, there were indeed many who believed but had not ever seen him. The blessing is on all those who believe without the benefit of a physical encounter of Jesus. Whilst the gospel was written as an acknowledgement of those at the end of the 1st Century, it is also a blessing and encouragement for believers of today!

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Receive the joy of your glory, giving thanks to God, who has called you into the heavenly kingdom, alleluia.

FIRST READING: Acts of the Apostles 5: 12-16

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' **R.**
2. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. **R.**
3. O Lord, grant us salvation;
O Lord grant success.
Blessed in the name of the Lord
is he who comes.
We bless you from the house of the Lord;
the true God is our light. **R.**

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

SECOND READING: Revelation 1: 9-13, 17-19

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to

me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle. When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 20: 19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.