



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST MICHAEL

Alive to the Spirit, Cares, Celebrates, Worships and Bears Witness to Christ

Vol.4/No.2

YEAR C

8/9 December 2018

St Michael's Parish

268 High Street

Ashburton 3147

Tel: (03) 9885 2498

www.stmichaelsashburton.org

E-mail: ashburton@cam.org.au

Parish Office Hours:

Monday – Friday: 9 am – 2.30 pm

Parish Staff

Fr. Laurence Cortez

Parish Priest

Gail Ryan

Pastoral/Sacramental Coordinator

Valerie Scholast

Office Administrator

St Michael's Primary School

Marisa Matthys

Principal

9885 3105

Parish Pastoral Council

John Whitehouse

Chair 0411 091 338

Catherine Davis

Secretary 9889 4730

Parish Finance Committee

Paul Shallue

Chair 9889 6596

Mass Times

Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am

Saturday Vigil: 6:30 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am and 10:30 am

Baptism: *Every Sunday by appointment at 11:45 am except the 3rd Sunday of each month.*

Reconciliation: Saturday 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm

Wedding: By appointment

Anointing of the Sick: Every first Friday of the month at 11 am Mass or by appointment.

Care Group: Enquiries ring Carolyn 9885 2483.

East Timorese Coffee \$8, available 3rd Sunday of every month.

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Jerusalem – God will show you splendour.

Psalm Response:

**The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.**

Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11

Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!**

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

All people shall see the salvation of God.

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Tuesday:	10:00 am Mass	Isaiah 40:1-11/Matthew 18:12-14
Wednesday:	10:00 am Mass	Isaiah 40:25-31/Matthew 11:28-30
Thursday:	10:00 am Mass	St. Lucy
Friday:	10:00 am Mass	End of the School Year Mass
Saturday:	6:30 pm Mass	3 rd Sunday of Advent
Sunday:	9:00 am Mass	10:30 am Mass

Parish Prayer to St Michael

St Michael Archangel, manifestation of God's infinite strength and glory and limitless care for humankind, Take us under your constant protection; help us to overcome evil and do good; to reject lies and live in the truth.

Steady our steps in faith and hope and come to the help of those who are in distress and do not know how to pray. Intercede for our parish and for all who live here that we may live together in peace and good will. Amen

Living the gospel

Make way!

Today's gospel is a reminder to us that Advent is a season of preparation. In this case, the preparation is all about making way for the love of God in our lives. The love of God surrounds us all the time. It's like a rapidly flowing stream and sometimes we have placed boulders in the stream that send the water flowing around us. The call to make a way for the Lord is a call to clear the rocks out of the stream; to remove the obstacles that are directing the love of God around us and allow it instead to flow directly through us.

Reflection

The advent of God's coming with its promise of fulfilment happens within world history. The first reading locates God's act of restoration in the city of Jerusalem. The gospel situates the ministry of John within a particular period of world history. They point us to historical experience as the place and the time of restoration, of incarnation, of redemption. They show us that God works within everyday life, in conventional places, during regular time. In fact, from a human point of view, the extraordinary events of salvation took place within what was quite ordinary.

John proclaims the kind of transformation that results in a change of heart. Reversals characterise such transformation: the robe of mourning is replaced by the splendour of glory; tears are turned into rejoicing; those led away by enemies are brought back by God; valleys are filled, mountains are levelled, winding roads are made straight; even nature offers itself as shelter for the people of God. Those who are shamed and discarded are made glorious; those who suffer are comforted; the oppressed are freed; all of life's obstacles are removed; the way to God is made straight; the natural world enjoys peace and harmony.

The transformation or repentance of heart takes place within human life, within relationships of justice between people and with the earth, in right living, in genuine unselfish love. It produces the fruits of righteousness of which Paul speaks. Advent is the time to prepare ourselves for this.

Dianne Bergant CSS ©Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd

WEEKEND ROSTERS

<u>This Weekend 8/9 December</u>	<u>Next Weekend 15/16 December</u>
<p><u>Eucharistic Ministers:</u> 6:30 pm C. Zuccala, B. Kollegger 9:00 am S. Pettenon, M. Miranda, P. Walton, C. Barry 10:30 am B. Baker, V. Saldanha, M. Weberruss, A. Mackintosh</p> <p><u>Lectors:</u> 6:30 pm B. Marshall 9:00 am M. Attard 10:30 am P. Shallue</p> <p><u>Welcomers:</u> 6:30 pm M. & D. Marshall 9:00 am S. & P. Pettenon 10:30 am V. & K. Arthur</p> <p><u>Altar Servers:</u> 6:30 pm Jeremy B & Ben S 9:00 am Lauren E & Racheal M 10:30 am Volunteers Please</p> <p><u>Children's Liturgy:</u> Fletcher</p> <p><u>Communion to the Sick:</u> M. Miranda, V. Rezsneki, D. Kearney</p> <p><u>Counters:</u> Team 5: B. Marshall, J. Cain, M. Cain</p> <p><u>Linen Group Member:</u> M. Lambert</p> <p><u>Morning Tea Host:</u> 6.30 pm 9.00 am 10.30 am</p>	<p><u>Eucharistic Ministers:</u> 6:30 pm C. Zuccala, G. Soriano 9:00 am R. Roussety, G. Edwards, B. Lee 10:30 am Y. Mallampati, T. Pendrey, G. Petrone</p> <p><u>Lectors:</u> 6:30 pm M. Sesuraj 9:00 am N. Browne 10:30 am M. Kerr</p> <p><u>Welcomers:</u> 6:30 pm F. Cantone 9:00 am M. Miranda 10:30 am L. Cannata</p> <p><u>Altar Servers:</u> 6:30 pm Dean N, Lucy B & Sam B 9:00 am Hannah P, Lauren E & Racheal M 10:30 am David S, Mark S & Elyssa D</p> <p><u>Children's Liturgy:</u> Joe</p> <p><u>Communion to the Sick:</u> T. Pendrey, F. O' Halloran, M. Weberruss</p> <p><u>Counters:</u> Team 6: V. Perry, C. Owen, S. Lovette</p> <p><u>Linen Group Member:</u> M. Lambert</p> <p><u>Morning Tea Host:</u> 6.30 pm 9.00 am 10.30 am</p>

We include in our prayers this weekend the following:

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: John Kearney, Carmel Guest

The Sick: Michelle McMahon, Olga Tennison, John Ditty, Grace Bresolin, Paul Jensen, Sally Whyte, Joan Clarke

If you are new to St Michael's please introduce yourself to Fr Laurence, fill in a Parish Census form and take home a Parish Directory.

For those with an intolerance of wheat, please let Fr Laurence know so he may give you a low gluten host (0.4%) at Communion.

To access Hearing Loop facilities in the church please be seated in any of the free standing chairs in the front section of the church.

Church Toilet Access Code: C3147

PARISH NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

St Michael's Parish
Christmas 2018 Mass Timetable

Monday 24th December

4:00 pm Christmas Mass for the frail & elderly
6:00 pm Christmas Family Mass
10:30 pm Carol Service
11:00 pm Christmas Mass

Tuesday 25 December

10:00 am Christmas Day Mass

Saturday 29 December

6.30 pm Mass - Feast of the Holy Family

Sunday 30 December

9.00 am Mass - Feast of the Holy Family
10.30 am Mass - Feast of the Holy Family

Tuesday 1 January 2019

Mass - Mary, Holy Mother of God

Special Collection for Melbourne Overseas Mission Appeal during all masses **this weekend**. Since its foundation in 1969, Melbourne parishioners have supported Melbourne's own mission fund to help developing nations. This has marked our Archdiocese for its exceptional generosity. Currently, the major beneficiaries are people in Papua New Guinea, Vietnam, Gambia, Ghana, Pakistan, Botswana, Nigeria, Peru and Jerusalem. Archbishop Peter A Comensoli commends the fund to your continuing support.

A very big thank you to all parishioners who assisted with the Christmas Lunch for our senior parishioners on Friday, 7 December. The lunch guests had a wonderful time and we were especially appreciative of the St Michael's School children who served the lunch and sang Christmas Carols. St Michael's Parish is very grateful for the very generous support given by our friends Leanne and Geoff from the Corner Deli and Peter from Top Shelf Fruits. Thanks also to the many parishioners who donated items for the Christmas Hampers which provided the raffle prizes on the day.

"St Michael's Friendship Group will celebrate their Christmas Break Up with a lunch in the Gathering Space on Friday, 21 December at 12.30 pm. If you would like to join us, please phone Marline Cooper on 9571 3935 or Annette Mackintosh on 9885 4815 before 14 December."

2019 COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS are now available from the Piety Stall priced at \$10.00 each. \$1.00 from each calendar sold will be donated to the Columban Mission.

2018 Dates for your Diary

Mon 10 Dec	Social Justice Group Meeting in the Gathering Space at 7.30 pm
Tues 11 Dec	Prayer Group Meeting in the Gathering Space at 1.30 pm

Thank you to all of the St Michael's Ministry Groups who have provided refreshments after weekend masses throughout the year. Parishioners please note that there will be no 10.30 Welcome Masses during December 2018 and January 2019. Therefore, there are no more refreshments after Masses scheduled until February 2019.

St Michael's Tennis Club is a friendly, family club that welcomes parishioners and friends to join. Fees are very reasonable and there is the opportunity for all level of play. If you would like a membership form please email Catherine on peterdavis@netspace.net.au or Paul on ppettenon@bigpond.com

Tennis Players Wanted - Our Saturday team is looking for new men players from all ages, with the possibility of starting a new team as well. Interested contact Luis on luis.hidalgo@hydrochem.com.au.

St Patrick's Cathedral Christmas Concert on Wednesday 12 December, 7 pm. Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/ZEUH>

New copies of Melbourne Catholics magazine are available in Gathering Space. Please place a donation of \$2.00 in the Candle box near Our Lady's Altar.

Stewardship Reflection - "And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..."
Philippians 1:9-10
Glittery holiday ads can blind us to our stewardship values and distort our needs and wants. It is important that during this season of endless buying we remember that each of us also has the need to give back to God and to those that are in need.

Protect the Miracle of Motherhood (Caritas Australia) - When you choose a Global Gift card to give to family or friends this Christmas, you are ensuring more women can access the support they need for a safe birth and healthy child. Order Global Gift cards online at www.globalgifts.org.au or 1800 024 413.

St Michael's Parish Sacramental Program 2019: Reconciliation, First Eucharist, Confirmation

St Michael's Parish Ashburton is currently seeking to enrol students for our 2019 Sacramental Programs for Baptism, Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation.

2019 Dates for Reconciliation

Parent Child Formation Sessions: Thursday 14 & 28 February 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm & Thursday 21 March 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Celebration of Reconciliation Sacrament: Tuesday 26 March OR Thursday 28 March at 7.00 pm attendance at one celebration only)

2019 Dates for First Eucharist

Parent and Child Formation Sessions: Thursdays 2, 9, 16 & 30 May 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Family Prayer Service & Supper: Tuesday 11 June & Thursday 13 June 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm (attendance one prayer service only)
Child Reflection Day: Thursday 20 June 8.50am to 3.30pm
Celebration of First Eucharist Sacrament: Weekend Masses 22 & 23 June (attendance at one Mass only)

2019 dates for Confirmation:

Parent and Child Formation Sessions: Thursdays 8, 15, 22 & 29 August & 5 September 7 pm to 8.15 pm
Parent and Child Home Mass: Tuesday 10 September, Thursday 12 September & Tuesday 17 September 7 pm to 8.00 pm (attendance one Home Mass only)
Child Reflection Day: Thursday 17 October 8.50am to 3.30pm
Celebration of Sacrament of Confirmation: Saturday 19 October at 2.00pm

For more information about the sacramental programs and for enrolment forms please log on to St Michael's Parish website at: www.ashburton@cam.org or copies are available from the Gathering Space.

ALL ENROLMENT FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 25 January 2019.

<p>Herbert King FUNERALS</p> <p>364 Warrigal Road, Ashburton Phone: 9885 5288</p>	<p>STRATEGIC WEALTH SERVICES Accountants, Business Advisors, Taxation, Financial & Retirement Planning, Superannuation & Personal Insurances Contact Mark: 9896 5100 or strategicwealthservices.com.au</p>	<p>Back to Back Retail Butcher of the Year ASHBURTON MEATS Phone: 9885 8118</p>
<p><u>Space for Advertisement</u> Please ring the Parish Office 9885 2498 or email: ashburton@cam.org.au</p>	<p>THE CORNER DELI For a wide selection of delicious gourmet foods 229 High St, Ashburton Phone: 9885 1808</p>	<p>M & A PAINTERS Experienced painters No job too big or too small Phone: 0434 002 991</p>
<p>Villa Maria Catholic Homes Fully accredited aged care for your loved one Corpus Christi Aged Care Residence 80 Clayton Road, Clayton Call 1300 845 526 vmch.com.au</p>	<p>LILY SUPER & TAX Personalised self- managed super fund & tax return service at reasonable rates. Contact: Liliana Restrepo Ballek, MIPA 0433 983 057 or miclil@hotmail.com (Home Visits Available)</p>	<p><u>St Michael's Parish School Hub</u> is available for hire. Please contact the Parish Office or visit www.stmichaelsashburton.org and go to Venue Hire</p>
<p><u>Space for Advertisement</u> Please ring the Parish Office 9885 2498 or email: ashburton@cam.org.au</p>	<p><u>Space for Advertisement</u> Please ring the Parish Office 9885 2498 or email: ashburton@cam.org.au</p>	<p>JA CAIN REAL ESTATE</p> <p>9805 2900 Bryan Cain jacain.com.au 0418 320 525</p>

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