

*Sunday at
St Michael's*

8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
18 JULY 2021

FEAST OF ST MARY MAGDALENE

MINISTER: REV DR MARGARET MAYMAN

MUSIC: GEORGIA WILKINSON (SOPRANO)
& RHYS BOAK (ORGAN & PIANO)

CANTOR: GEORGIA WILKINSON

WELCOME TO ST MICHAEL'S

St Michael's is a vibrant, progressive, inclusive church with a long tradition of nurturing the spiritual well-being of the human person and working for the common good in society.

We are proud of our independent spirit; seeking continually to discover new ways to understand faith and to demonstrate it in our lives, and in the heart of the city.

As part of the Uniting Church in Australia, St Michael's is committed to involvement in social and national affairs. We hold foundational Christian values of the importance of every human being, the need for integrity in public life and concern for the welfare of the whole human race irrespective of race, creed, gender, sexuality, status or age.

OFFICE BEARERS

Chairperson: Laura Beckett

Treasurer: Ian Cox

Secretary: Maree McDonald

Deanery I: Household

Dean: Peter Anderson

Deputy Dean: Jack Morgan

Deanery II: Church Services

Acting Dean: Cheryl Power

Deputy Dean: Albert Phillips

Deanery III: Contact and Care

Dean: Lyndell O'Brien

Deputy Dean: Joy Arnot

Deanery IV: Programs

Dean: Lorraine Woolley

Deputy Dean: Neil Blood

Culture of Safety Contact Person

(Keeping Children Safe)

Val Gill

Organist & Manager of Music

Rhys Boak

ST MICHAEL'S UNITING CHURCH OFFICE

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 <https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelsmelbourne/>

 <https://www.youtube.com/user/StMichaelsChurch/videos>

Weekly eNews: reception@stmichaels.org.au

Please send notices to office@stmichaels.org.au

by 11.30am Wednesday.



♥ OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS! ♥

While the coronavirus pandemic continues,
Sunday Gatherings will be offered Online and at the Church.

Links for the Online Gathering

<http://www.stmichaels.org.au/>

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist/SundayatStMichaels>

MEDITATIONS

He blesses every love which weeps and grieves
And now he blesses hers who stood and wept
And would not be consoled, or leave her love's
Last touching place, but watched as low light crept
Up from the east. A sound behind her stirs
A scatter of bright birdsong through the air.
She turns, but cannot focus through her tears,
Or recognise the Gardener standing there.
She hardly hears his gentle question 'Why,
Why are you weeping?', or sees the play of light
That brightens as she chokes out her reply
'They took my love away, my day is night'
And then she hears her name, she hears Love say
The Word that turns her night, and ours, to Day.

"XV Easter Dawn," Malcolm Guite



Mary Magdalene Icon
Robert Lenz
Grace Cathedral,
San Francisco

ONLINE GATHERING NOTES

CANTORS

Jesika Clark, Christopher Watson & Georgia Wilkinson

MUSICIANS

Michelle Nelson & Meredith Connie (Guitars) & Rhys Boak (Organ)

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

“Crossing the Spheres” – Michelle Nelson

This work is the first Movement from Melbourne based composer Michelle Nelson’s 2020 work, ‘Crossing the Spheres’. This piece reflects on the spiritual dimension of migrating between cultures, inspired in part by the ancient notion of the 'music of the spheres'.
Meredith Connie & Michelle Nelson (Guitar duo)

POSTLUDE

Final from the 1st organ symphony – Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

The famous blind organist of Notre Dame de Paris published his first organ symphony in 1895. This joyous final movement of the symphony has become a celebrated piece in its own right.

Rhys Boak (Organ)

LITURGY VARIATIONS

On some Sundays, there may be an additional reading or hymn included in the service that is held at the church.

NEXT SUNDAY @ ST MICHAEL’S ONLINE

9th Sunday after Pentecost – 25 July 2021

“Feeding the 5000”

Minister: Rev Dr Margaret Mayman

Music: Georgia Wilkinson (Soprano), Rhys Boak (Organ)
& The Academy of St. Michael

PROCESSIONAL

*The candles are lit.
The chimes call the hour of worship.
The people stand, as they are able, as the Bible is carried in.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY & WELCOME

We meet on the land of the Wurundjeri and Boon Wurrung peoples of the Kulin Nation; on land that was taken from them without consent, treaty, or compensation.

We acknowledge, with respect, Wurundjeri and Boon Wurrung elders – past, present, and emerging, the ones who carry the traditions and the dreaming. With them we yearn for justice and for reconciliation.

*Wherever you are on your spiritual journey,
wherever you've come from, wherever you're going to;
whatever you believe, whatever you do not believe;
you are welcome here.*

GATHERING WORDS

Come into this sacred time and space.
Come in bringing all of who you are.
Rest and quiet your week-worn spirit,
for you are here to touch again
eternal springs of hope and renewal.

On this feast day of Saint Mary Magdalene
may we see the feminine face of divine reality in our female ancestors
and in the women in our lives.
May we open our hearts, like Mary of Magdala to the Risen One.
May we, like Mary of Magdala, proclaim the Good News with courage.
May the God of love, inspire our trust in Spirit Sophia moving with us,
in us, and through us, leading us to courage, healing and
empowerment.

HYMN: WOMB OF LIFE AND SOURCE OF BEING

CANTOR: GEORGIA WILKINSON



Womb of life, and source of being,
home of every restless heart,
in your arms the worlds awakened;
you have loved us from the start.
We your children, gather 'round you,
at the table you prepare.
Sharing stories, tears and laughter,
we are nurtured by your care.

Word in flesh, our brother Jesus,
born to give us second birth,
you have come to stand beside us,
knowing weakness, knowing earth.
Priest who shares our human struggles,
Life of Life and Death of Death,
Risen Christ, come stand among us,
send the Spirit by your breath.

Brooding Spirit, move among us;
be our partner, be our friend.
When our memory fails remind us
whose we are, what we intend.
Labour with us, aid the birthing
of the new world yet to be,
free of servant, lord and master,
free for love and unity.

Mother, Brother, holy Partner:
Father, Spirit, only Son:
We would praise your name forever,
one in three, and three in one.
We would share your life, your passion,
share your world of world made new,
ever singing, ever praising,
one with all, and one with you.

Words: Ruth Duck

Tune: Hymn to Joy.

Adapted from Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

PRAYER OF AWARENESS

We open now to the mystery of Life,
to the Holy One and Holy Oneness,
infinitely greater than words can express,
and yet the Heart of our hearts,
and the Mind of our minds,
and whose love for us and all creation exceeds our capacity to
imagine.

based on Revelation 21: 1-8

We open now to the mystery of Life,
to the Holy Oneness,
the web of life that holds all beings in intimate embrace,
making it possible to distinguish
but never disconnect any part from the whole,
or whole from the parts, making us kin in the kin-dom of life.

We open now to the mystery of Life,
knowing this adventure to be a journey
back to the ever-present source—
discovered in our own depths—
and a forward journey toward a new heaven and a new Earth,
which is being born through us,
and know above all and below all that this is not a path to God,
but a path in God.
In joy and in peril, we celebrate this great adventure.

JESUS PRAYER PARAPHRASE

*Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
loving God, in whom is heaven.
The hallowing of your name echo
through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed
by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
come on earth!
With the bread that we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever, Amen.*

SHARING A SIGN OF PEACE

May the Peace of Divine Presence be with you.
And also with you.

*People are invited to offer a greeting
and share a sign of peace.*

HEBREW BIBLE: SONGS OF SONGS 3: 1-4

NEIL BLOOD

For passionate love celebrated in ancient tradition,
We give thanks.

GOSPEL: JOHN 20: 1-2, 11-18

For the witness of Mary Magdalene, apostle to the apostles,
We give thanks.

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Ave Maria - J.S. Bach (1685-1750) and Charles Gounod (1818-1893)
This intriguing work, by two composers who never met, and whose lives did not even overlap, dates from 1853. The accompaniment part is actually a prelude by the German master, Johann Sebastian Bach, whilst the melody, written some 137 years after the accompaniment, is by one of the great operatic composers of the 19th century, Charles Gounod. Like many works, the words Ave Maria were given to it, as they are easy to set and carried great appeal in largely Roman Catholic 19th Century Paris. Gounod originally published the work as 'Méditation sur le Premier Prélude de Piano de S. Bach'.
Georgia Wilkinson (Soprano) & Rhys Boak (Piano)

NEW NEW TESTAMENT: GOSPEL OF MARY (FROM CHAPTERS 4, 5 & 10)

For Wisdom that was in the beginning,
for Wisdom that invites and inspires
for Wisdom made known among us.
We give thanks.

REFLECTION

“Re-imagining Mary Magdalene”

HYMN: ST MARY MAGDALENE (OUT OF THE NIGHT)



Out of the night where hope had died,
to tomb once sealed, now gaping wide,
the Magdalene made haste, to mourn
and bring her spices through the dawn.

She gazed in disbelief and pain
where Jesus in his death had lain,
until the radiant angel said,
Seek not the living with the dead.

Soon trusting love cast out her fears;
she rose and brushed away her tears.
As first apostle, Mary ran
to tell God's resurrection plan.

Jesus is risen! Mary cries,
Lift up your hearts and dry your eyes,
Jesus is risen—come and see—
and goes before to Galilee.

All glory be to God above,
for Mary's apostolic love,
all praise to God whom we adore
for ever and for evermore. Amen.

*From The Saint Helena Breviary, Church Publishing 2006
Matins of St Mary Magdalene
Tune: Melcome
Samuel Webbe (1740-1816)*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In thanksgiving and solidarity

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Pie Jesu from Requiem in D minor- Gabriel Faure (1845-1924)
This haunting movement from Faure's "Requiem" is one of the most sublime moments in all church music. Today it is sung not in its original orchestration, but with organ accompaniment.
Georgia Wilkinson (Soprano) & Rhys Boak (Organ)

OFFERING

*A prayer dedicating the retiring offering
and gifts given in other ways to support the work of the church.*

***Surprising God,
we give thanks for the many blessings of our lives,
and pray that these gifts and our lives
will be used to bless others
in wild, risky and imaginative ways.
Amen.***

HYMN: A PROPHET WOMAN BROKE A JAR



A prophet woman broke a jar,
by Love's divine appointing.
With rare perfume she filled the room,
presiding and anointing.
A prophet woman broke a jar,
the sneers of scorn defying.
With rare perfume she filled the room,
preparing Christ for dying.

A faithful woman left a tomb
by Love's divine commission.
She saw, she heard, she preached the Word,
arising from submission.
A faithful woman left a tomb,
with resurrection gospel.
She saw, she heard, she preached the Word,
apostle to apostle.

Though woman wisdom, woman truth,
for centuries were hidden,
unsung, unwritten and unheard,
derided and forbidden,
the Spirit's breath, the Spirit's fire,
on free and slave descending,
can tumble our dividing walls,
our shame and sadness mending.

The Spirit knows, the Spirit calls,
by Love's divine ordaining,
the friends we need, to serve and lead,
their powers and gifts unchaining.
The Spirit knows, the Spirit calls,
from women, men and children,
the friends we need, to serve and lead.
Rejoice and make them welcome!

*Words: Brian Wren
Tune: Megerran
Walter Kendell Stanton (1891-1978)*

BLESSING

Go in the peace of the Risen One.
May Mary of Magdala be our model of courage and faithful solidarity.
May God the heart of life be deep within us,
God in Christa/Community be present in our every day,
and God the Spirit empower us
to sing and dance and celebrate.

BLESSING SONG

May the blessing of God go before you,
May her grace and peace abound,
May her spirit live within you,
May her love wrap you 'round,
May her blessing remain with you always,
May you walk on holy ground.

*Miriam Therese Winter (1938 -)
Tune: Blessing Song
©Medical Mission Sisters. 1987*

POSTLUDE

Tuba Tune – Dulcie Holland (1913-2000)

The title of this piece has nothing to do with the orchestral instrument called the tuba, rather, it is a piece written for the organ's Tuba or Trumpet stop. Dulcie Holland is a name familiar to most students of music in Australia, being the author of the ubiquitous 'Master Your Theory' textbooks. Dulcie was also a prolific composer and wrote this work in 1978.

Rhys Boak (Organ)

OFFERINGS

Offerings to support the ministry and shared life of St Michael's received with gratitude.

In church, in addition to the offering boxes placed by the doors, people may give electronically and securely in church at two Donation Points: one at the entrance on the corner of Collins and Russell, the other in the St Michael's Walk Colonnade. Tap your credit or debit card, smartphone, or wearable on the 'tap and go' device where indicated. Donations are set at \$10. If you wish to give more, you can tap multiple times. On our website there is a 'Giving' button with instructions for online giving. A downloadable donation form is also available. Cheques may be mailed to St Michael's Office. Online banking: St Michaels Uniting Church. BSB: 083004. A/C: 515113338

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Prayer of Awareness by Bruce Sanguin. in *If Darwin Prayed*.

“A Version of the Lord's Prayer” from *Prayer at Night* by Jim Cotter, Cairns Publications. Used in *Uniting in Worship 2*.

“The Gospel of Mary” from *A New New Testament: A Bible for the 21st century combining traditions and newly discovered texts*. Edited with commentary by Hal Taussig. First Mariner Books. 2013.

“Womb of life and source of being.” Words: Ruth Duck. Tune: Hymn to Joy. Adapted from Ludwig van Beethoven.

“St Mary Magdalene (Out of the night)”. From *The Saint Helena Breviary*, Church Publishing 2006. Matins of St Mary Magdalene. Tune Melcome. Samuel Webbe.

“A prophet woman broke a jar.” Words: Brian Wren. Tune: Megerran. Walter Kendell Stanton.

“The Blessing Song,” Miriam Therese Winter. Tune: Blessing Song ©Medical Mission Sisters. 1987

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GUEST MUSICIANS IN CHURCH

Georgia Wilkinson

With over 14 years of experience performing, Georgia Wilkinson is making a name for herself as one of Australia's most versatile young sopranos. Since beginning her classical voice training at the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School, Georgia has progressively built her repertoire of operatic and musical theatre credits. Companies she has worked with include Victorian Opera, Left Bauer Productions, Gippsland Opera, Weimar Lyric Opera Studio (Germany) and Gertrude Opera. Georgia has had the pleasure of performing alongside some of Australia's most celebrated and illustrious artists, including Yvonne Kenny, Marina Prior, David Hobson, Sylvie Paladino, Roy Best, Kahmahl, and James Morrison. She also works regularly with Teddy Tahu Rhodes. In addition to opera, Georgia has also taken on many musical theatre roles. These include the roles of Christine in *Phantom of the Opera*, Belle in *Beauty and the Beast*, and Maria in *West Side Story*. For her impressive musical theatre performances, Georgia has been recognised with a Guild Award and four Lyrebird Awards. Georgia graduated from the University of

Melbourne's Conservatorium of Music with a Bachelor of Music and has studied opera abroad in Italy, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States. Georgia's studies in London and New York, where she had the opportunity to learn from some of the world's most renowned vocal coaches, were supported by grants from the Ian Potter Foundation and the Australia Council for the Arts.

Through her operatic career, Georgia has received various awards, including 'Opera Scholar of the Year' through the illustrious Opera Scholars Australia program and first place in the Ringwood Aria Competition. She was the youngest Opera Scholar of the Year and Robert Salzer Voice Awardee. Georgia's career highlights of 2018 included being a part of Victorian Opera's 2018 Young Artist program, performing in Gertrude Opera's Yarra Valley Opera Festival, performing on her first Bravo Cruise: Radiance of the Seas, and being featured in Sydney's Carols in the Domain in December 2018 (televised on Channel Seven) as one of Australia's finest upcoming opera singers. 2019 has seen Georgia perform in Victorian Opera's Parsifal, become a young artist with Gertrude Opera, star in her 5th Opera by the Lakes, perform at Sydney Town Hall, present the title role in Victorian Opera's Alice Through the Opera Glass, and perform at Opera Under the Stars in Broome. She will soon be stepping onto the stage of Hamer Hall for the first time in Concert Work's production of Jekyll and Hyde starring Anthony Warlow, before taking part in Opera Australia's production of Turandot. On October 23rd, Georgia won Australia's prestigious Herald Sun Aria competition.

GUEST MUSICIANS ONLINE

Meredith Connie has been active as a Classical Guitar performer, composer and teacher for over thirty years in the USA and in Australia.

In 2017 she released her most recent CD on Move Records Fairy Tales Monsters and Wild Animals, a solo recording of her own compositions and fantasy themed works. Previous releases include Sol Y Sombras (Light and Shadow), a recording of solo and chamber works, and Imaginary Landscapes (duo with flute as Duo Rubicund). Meredith is very pleased to be working with Michelle Nelson as a duo, exploring the vast riches of guitar chamber music.

Michelle Nelson, a professional musician since the early 1980s, has extensive experience in performing and composing, teaching, assessing and guitar education writing. As a composer Michelle has written several works that have been featured and broadcast regularly on Australian classical music radio networks. These include the Brolga Dances suite recorded by the Melbourne Mandolin Orchestra on their 2009 album Brolga Dances [Move MCD 410], Sonata for Flute & Guitar on Michelle's 2012 album After The Fire [Move MCD 492], The Guitarist's Bach from her 2016 album Return To The Dance [Move MCD 531], and the popular Midsummer Dance and Strawberry Fair, from the Midsummer Bagatelles suite, on the 2017 album Ringing The Strings [Move MCD 557] by the Concordia Mandolin & Guitar Ensemble. Current projects include writing duet material for the Nelson Connie Duo.

NEXT SUNDAY @ ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

9th Sunday after Pentecost – 25 July 2021

“Feeding the 5000”

Rev Dr Margaret Mayman

Music: Max Riebl (Countertenor), Rose Riebl (Piano) & Rhys Boak (Organ)

SUNDAY GATHERINGS @ ST MICHAEL'S – IN CHURCH

St Michael's has a Victorian Government QR Code which you can scan, or alternatively a Welcomer will record your name and phone number. Collection of this information is required by law. It will only ever be used for COVID tracing. When entering St Michael's, please say hello to a Welcomer, scan the QR code or check -in.

[St Michael's COVID-Safe requirements](#) remain in effect. Please read before visiting.

SUNDAY GATHERINGS @ ST MICHAEL'S – ONLINE

Online Gatherings will continue for the foreseeable future. Links to videos, orders of service and the latest eNews are on the front page of our website.

NOTICES

AFTER SERVICE MORNING TEA

We will be serving tea and coffee in the hall after the morning service. Of course, we will be following strict COVID-19 safety rules. Please join us on this special occasion for tea or coffee and conversation.

ST MICHAEL'S AGM

The St Michael's AGM has been rescheduled for Sunday 1 August. All members and friends of St Michael's are invited to attend.

When: Sunday 1 August at 12:30pm.

Where: St Michael's Uniting Church.

CONTACT AND CARE

If you are going through difficult times or would like to have a chat with someone, a member of our Contact and Care Team would be very happy to have a talk with you.

Any personal information shared, would remain confidential.

You can speak with the Dean of Contact and Care, Lyndell O'Brien, on a Sunday at church, or leave your name and phone number or email address with the church office and she will get in touch with you.

Lyndell O'Brien: Dean of Contact and Care

Joy Arnot: Deputy Dean

PASTORAL CARE

Our minister, Rev Dr Margaret is available for pastoral care meetings by phone. Please phone the office to arrange a time for Margaret to call.

CARE AND PRAYER GROUP

We are a small group of people, part of the St Michael's Contact and Care team, known as The Prayer Tree.

We commit to prayer and support for you, or someone known to you, who is going through difficult times. All requests are treated with confidentiality, sensitivity, and respect.

To request our support, please phone the St Michael's office (9654 5120). Ask for your first name and phone number to be passed on to Catherine Jones, who will contact you. Or you can speak with Catherine following morning service. She will pass on your request to the remainder of the group.

We are here for you. Please don't hesitate to contact us.

Catherine Jones, Prayer Tree Leader

CAR PARKING


Discounted Sunday parking is available at the Grand Hyatt. Pick up your discount voucher after service at from the Bench Table in the Eastern Colonnade.

Validation ticket discount reducing Sunday rate to \$7 subject to conditions:

- a) Tickets will be valid for use on Sundays only between the hours of 6am and 5pm,
- b) Tickets will allow for \$7 discount for a maximum of 5 hours after which it will revert to the standard weekend rate of \$10.

ST MICHAEL'S SOCIAL MEDIA

 <https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelsmelbourne/>

 <https://www.youtube.com/user/StMichaelsChurch/videos>

Podcast www.soundcloud.com/stmichaelsunitingchurch

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

WOMEN'S POETRY DISCUSSION GROUP

Facilitator: Pamela Blood

A new program with the aim to combine the interests of women, spirituality and poetry.

Pamela's inspiration is the poetry Margaret has gifted us with, through the contemporary readings.

Will re-visit some of the poetry we have heard over the past year and more, and especially during Melbourne's long second lockdown.

We will consider the experience we had of the poems then, and what it is like for us now.

All women are welcome to share in the discussions of these wonderfully appropriate and insightful poems.

When: TODAY | 11:30am – 12:30pm

Where: Wellbeing Room, 1st Floor

MINDFULNESS MEDITATION SESSIONS

Presenter: Karen Ellis

Meditation has been an important part of Karen's life for 40 years. Sessions encourage slow breathing and an increased awareness of being in the present moment. If you haven't tried it, now is the time, so please join Karen in the after-church sessions.

When: 25 July | 11:45am sharp – 12:15pm

Where: Wellbeing Room, 1st Floor

SEARCHERS ZOOM PROGRAM

Six stand-alone sessions exploring "BEYOND BELIEF WITH PROF MARCUS BORG," a Living the Questions program.

Featuring Rev. Marianne Borg:

Watch the Trailer here: <https://vimeo.com/364098337>

Join just one session, a number of them or all of them.

When: Session 3: Wednesday 21 July via ZOOM | 7.30pm.

Duration: Approximately: 1 hr 15mins including discussions.

Register with St Michael's Uniting Church at office@stmichaels.org.au
ZOOM link and discussion questions will be sent to you.

THURSDAY LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITAL

Take some musical time out during your Thursday lunchtime. St Michael's Organ recitals featuring, St Michael's incredible grand pipe organ played by Rhys Boak and visiting artists. Free event.

When: Thursdays 1pm

Where: St Michael's Uniting Church

Visit www.stmichaels.org.au/music for more details.

MINGARY-CAIRNMILLAR COUNSELLING

The Mingary-Cairnmillar Counselling Service offers appointments for counselling and Vocational Assessments via telephone or video conference. For more information, please see our website at

www.mingarycounselling.org.au To make an appointment, please call 1800 391 393 (free call) or email clinic@cairnmillar.org.au

MCCIA 2021 SOCIAL

An informal gathering and conversation on new opportunities for MCCIA.

When: Wednesday 28 July | 6pm – 8pm

Where: German Lutheran Trinity Church 22 Parliament Place, East Melbourne 3002

RSVP: secretary@mccia.org.au by 26 July. A light supper provided.