

Holy Family  
St. Joachim's  
St. Anne's

Parish Priest:  
Parish Secretary:

Frankston North  
Carrum Downs  
Seaford

Fr. Benneth Osuagwu  
Annette White



**Parish Office:** 84 Austin Road, Seaford (Closed Monday & Wednesday)  
**Office Hours:** Tues & Thu 9.00am—3.00pm, Fri 9.00am—4.30pm, Sat 10.00am—12.00pm

**Telephone:** 9785 2580 **Mobile:** 0403 718 624 (Emergency Only)

**Email:** [stannesparish@gmail.com](mailto:stannesparish@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.stannes.com.au](http://www.stannes.com.au) **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/stannesseafordvic/>

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT—YEAR C

### A THOUGHT FROM FR BENNETH FOR THIS WEEK

Mary was a young woman when she was pregnant with Jesus. Her Jewish religion told her that God had not forgotten His people, even though they suffered under Roman occupation. She grew up hearing the Hebrew Scriptures proclaim that God liberates His people. Then Gabriel's message to Mary challenged her to think the unthinkable – that she would bear the child who would bring God's liberating power into the world. She believed.

In this week's Gospel, Elizabeth, Mary's relative and the mother of John the Baptist, calls Mary blessed, because she believed God's promises to her, as wild as they might seem to some. **Blessed** is another way to say that Mary was closely connected to God. That connection brought her a sense of confidence, purpose, and serenity. That connection brought us Jesus.

How about you? God's promises still seem unbelievable to many. Peace to all people. Enemies forgiving and reconciling. Justice for the poor. But those promises are fulfilled in our world when people like you and me do what others consider unthinkable. It seems crazy to forgive that person who disrespected you. But if you do it, God's promise is fulfilled. Why waste your time helping those on the margins or being these for someone who is alone in a nursing home? Because if you do it, God's promise is fulfilled.

Be like Mary this Advent. Do the unthinkable, and you'll experience the sense of purpose, confidence, and serenity that comes with being blessed.

**What's something you could do this week that would be unthinkable to many?**

Please return your Christmas offering envelopes this week.

After much hard work, our very first magazine is ready! Many thanks to our Editor—Angel Cuerpo, Javie D'Souza who prepared our magazine for publication, and to all those parishioners who contributed. It is a wonderful reflection of joy in our Parish during 2018. We also gratefully thank our sponsors for printing our magazine.

Please take **one per family**.

4th  
Sunday  
of  
Advent



*Our parish recognises the Bunurong people, who are the custodians of the Boon Wurrung land on which we worship.*