Seaford Parish Newsletter

Sunday 29th November 2020

Holy Family Frankston North St. Joachim's Carrum Downs St. Anne's Seaford



Parish Priest: Fr. Benneth Osuagwu Parish Secretary: Annette White

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First Sunday of Advent—Year B

REFLECTIONS FOR THIS WEEK



Today we begin the season of <u>Advent</u>, which marks the start of a new liturgical year for the Church. With this year's first Sunday of Advent, we begin Cycle B of the Lectionary, which focuses our attention on the Gospel of Mark. This week and next week, our readings from Mark's Gospel present two important Advent themes: the Lord's return at the end of time and John the Baptist's preparation for Jesus.

Today's Gospel is taken from the end of Mark's Gospel, the chapter that immediately precedes Mark's account of Jesus' Passion. Having been questioned repeatedly by the scribes and the Pharisees, Jesus is now questioned by his disciples—Peter, James, John, and Andrew—who want details about his prediction of the destruction of the Temple. Jesus answers with many warnings about the difficulties that the disciples will face.

Today's passage comes at the conclusion of Jesus' warnings to his disciples. Jesus emphasizes the need for watchfulness. The Son of Man will come without warning; only the Father knows the exact hour. The disciples must not be caught unprepared when this time comes.

Scholars believe that Mark's Gospel was written around the time of the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70. Mark's audience consisted of Christians who were living in difficult social and political times, times of conflict. They were likely beginning to face persecution as followers of Jesus. In this difficult time, it helped to recall that Jesus had foretold of such difficulties. Early Christian communities took courage from Jesus' warning to remain alert and watchful, and they found in his words a way to persevere through suffering.

Today's Gospel reminds us that Advent is about more than our preparation for the Church's celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. Advent is also about preparing ourselves for Christ's return in glory at the end of time. Like the disciples and the faithful in Mark's community, we must also stay alert and watchful. Our faithfulness to God, through the good times as well as the difficult times, shows us to be ready for the coming of the Son of Man.

Parish Update:

Welcome back to so many parishioners here for the first time in months. A very big thank you to Tony & Ida, Val & Brian & Rosie & Peter for decorating for Advent, constructing our beautiful crib & helping to get our new banner up. We have so much to look forward to as we reconnect in the coming weeks and Advent Season!!



Collection envelopes are in the foyer. Please collect when you are next at Mass. Our Tap & Go is again available from this weekend. Have a blessed week!



An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

THANKSGIVING OPTIONS

If you are able to send your thanksgiving offerings via direct debit to: St. Anne's Church, National Australia Bank/CDF Account, **BSB Number: 083 347, Account No: 64340 4615.**

Please include your Thanksgiving Number if you have one and/or your name, also your banking reference marked as "Col1" (Collection 1) for parish expenses and "Col2" (Collection 2) for our parish priest/and retired priests in the Archdiocese. Online direct contributions, either one-off or recurring, can be made through CDFPay (NEW LINK): https://bit.ly/CDFpaySeaford

MASS/ONLINE COLLECTIONS:

Thanksgiving \$315.00 + Loose \$325.00 + CC = \$1,613.00 = \$2,253.00

With sincere thanks from a grateful parish.

Watch Mass at Home

Weekend Mass by Fr. Andrew, and also an https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UCblcO7ZsfLYaed14YrMcXNw

St. Patrick's Cathedral Mass—11.00am Sunday http://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass Daily Readings

Channel 10: Mass For You at Home at 6.00am https://10play.com.au/mass-for-you-at-home

CHILD SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE: WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK (WWCC)

All adult volunteers who will be assisting at future Masses must have a WWCC and sign a Code of Conduct Declaration. If you have not yet provided these to the parish, please do so ASAP. If you need to apply for a WWCC, go to

https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY—Year B First Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1, 3-8
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 79:2-3,15-16,18-19
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY—Year B Second Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 85:9-14
2nd Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14
Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Please pray for all those friends and family who are are unwell including Trish Falk. We pray for those who are sick and in our aged care facilities and nursing homes, and those suffering from the COVID-19 virus.

We pray for the anniversaries of our loved ones & all recently departed souls. We pray for all who have died recently. Rest in peace.

REMEMBRANCE BOOK

Sheets are available to at the church door; you can leave it in the letterbox or slip under the office door. Otherwise, please email me your list or via the website home page click on:

Add names to our Remembrance Book

MINISTRY ROSTERS

We will need volunteers for all our usual Ministries from this weekend until and including Christmas Masses this year. We need 1-2 readers, an IT/music person, 1-2 greeters, counters and we need a cleaning team of 2-3 people after every mass. Christmas rosters are available in the foyer.

ROSARY GROUP

Commences 5.30pm each Saturday <u>before</u> 6.00pm Mass.

DIVINE MERCY GROUP

Will recommence Saturday 5th December on <u>after</u> 6.00pm Mass.

This weekend ON SALE at the Piety Stall:

Stirling silver pendants, rings, Scentsy wax burners plus our angel & bauble tree and Kris Kringle gifts.

- BREAK OPEN THE WORD \$22.00
- ★ COLUMBIAN CALENDARS \$10.00
- ★ VINNIES CHRISTMAS CARDS \$2.50
- ★ HAND BEADED BOOKMARKS \$3.50
- ★ KENSHI CANDLES \$37.50 (order forms available in the foyer)



menALIVE: Why we all need to connect

We all need hope and encouragement and sometimes we just need a place to feel comfortable turning up without anything to offer. A place to receive, reflect and connect. Kickstart is a pathway to a deeper connection with those close by and far away. The Kickstart team encourage you to find your own group of men that you can connect with on a regular basis. To connect with a group of like-minded men please contact MenAlive at mail@menalive.org.au.

Join men across Australia to receive, reflect and connect. Come and be encouraged <u>every Wednesday</u> in a short, sharp Zoom session with great content and time for personal reflection and break out room discussion from the times below and follow the link below for all sessions:

ZOOM Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82845735537?pwd=dzNnYnJIU3dqMFlNclc5RDBhbkxYZz09

Kickstart Program for All Victorian Sessions (Total 35 mins)
Session 1 6:20AM Session 2 7:20AM Session 3 8:00PM



St. Anne's Intercessory Group

The online Prayer Group has evolved into the St. Anne's Intercessory Group who continue meet regularly online. They are happy to pray for any intentions that parishioners may have, and will be mentioned during their prayer meetings and their own private prayer times. The intentions can also be included into their Whatsapp group chats to be included in their prayers. All welcome!

To join the Whatspp group follow this invitation link:

https://chat.whatsapp.com/Ks8nGMmyerR2OjOdfQihPX

VINNIES BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

The Vinnies group need your help! We are asking for parishioners to assist at Bunnings Carrum Downs 1st Sausage Sizzle for St Anne's Vinnies Christmas Hampers on **Saturday 5th December from 8am till 4pm**.

Any hour of help is appreciated as we must have **5 helpers per hour**. If you are unable to stay and cook, you might be able to help to set up or clean up at the end of the day too. Please contact Peter Vyverberg on mobile 0432 120 704 or email: pgvyverberg@gmail.com.



Carrum Gardens Bingo Centre

Initially the number of players will be limited (up to a max of 100) with a 3 book minimum purchase per session. Booking are essential—please call to make your booking on 9775-0065

https://www.carrumdownsbingo.com.au/

Please follow us on Facebook for further updates.



PARISH UPDATES

Next week our Masses will be: 6.00pm Saturday 5th December & 10.00am Sunday 6th December

Bookings are only done online.

- At present the distancing requirements allow us to have 100 people indoors plus a priest (including our volunteers). Any further changes to this will be advertised via the website.
- Bookings for will be available on Eventbrite from 9.00am each Tuesday morning and are not released earlier. You may add your name to a waiting list once this is full. Once the waiting list is also full you can no longer leave your details.
- · You can book your family to come together but each member's name must be included along with a contact number.
- The link to book is: https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/st-annes-parish-30521052230

If you have attended Mass this weekend we ask you to please leave your booking for next weekend until Friday. Hopefully further restrictions will ease soon and we can accommodate larger numbers but in fairness to all, please allow as many people as possible to attend too.

The current restrictions within the government COVID Safe Plan apply when attending Mass:

- You must wear a mask at all times as per the DHHS Guidelines or you may not participate nor enter the church. Face coverings/masks must be worn indoors and outdoors for everyone over 12 years of age, unless there is a medical exemption.
- You are required to sanitise your hands upon entering and **before taking communion**.
- Under current DHHS Guidelines, indoor congregational singing is not permitted, only cantor/ choral or small group singing.
- If you are unwell or have a health condition, flu or cold-like symptoms, please do not visit our Church.
- Under no circumstances should anyone awaiting a COVID-19 test verification, including Clergy (even without presenting symptoms) attend a church or parish setting until a diagnosis is confirmed. Additionally, under no circumstances should anyone attend who is closely connected to people who are awaiting test results or who have tested positive.
- If you test positive to COVID-19, you need to notify the Parish Office to assist us with contact tracing.

The Parish office will continue to work remotely until 30th November—leave a message or email stannesparish@gmail.com during business hours. By direction of the State Governments and the Archdiocese of Melbourne, Parish Offices are to remain closed and continue to work remotely whenever possible.

CHRISTMAS MASSES & CELEBRATIONS

Wednesday 16th December Dawn Mass (Liturgy Service) 5.00am

(time has been changed from 6.00am as per

last week's newsletter)

We wish to continue with our traditional Dawn Mass (Liturgy service) beginning Wednesday December 16th at 6.00am. Book directly for

all dates which are available now on Eventbrite.

https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/st-annes-parish-30521052230

Children's Concert 4.00pm Saturday 19th December

> Christmas Parish Picnic at 5.00pm preceding 6.00pm Mass BYO Picnic, chairs, rugs and food to share with your family

Christmas Eve Masses at 6.00pm & 8.00pm Thursday 24th December

There will be no Vigil Mass.

Friday 25th December Christmas Day Mass at 10.00am

Please email through your favourite Christmas songs as we are compiling a

parish Spotify Christmas playlist!