

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Benneth Osuagwu  
Administrator: Fr. Andrew Jekot

Frankston North  
Carrum Downs  
Seaford

Parish Secretary: Annette White



Parish Office: 84 Austin Road, Seaford (Closed Monday & Wednesday)

Office Hours: **Tues 9.00am–3.00pm / Thurs & Fri 9.00am–5.00pm**

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## 3rd Sunday of Advent—Year B

### REFLECTIONS FOR THIS WEEK: Joy

This Sunday's Gospel invites us to continue our reflection on the person and mission of John the Baptist. Today we depart from the Gospel of Mark and read a selection from the Gospel of John. The Gospel for today combines a brief passage from the prologue to John's Gospel with a report about John the Baptist. As in Mark's Gospel, the Gospel of John contains no birth narrative. Instead, John's Gospel begins with a theological reflection that has come to be called the "prologue." This prologue places the story of Jesus in its cosmological framework. It speaks of Jesus' existence with God since the beginning of time. In John's Gospel, Jesus is presented as the fulfilment of the Old Testament and the culmination of the Word, the light that is coming into the world's darkness.

Following this prologue, John reports on the ministry of John the Baptist. We learn about the attention that John the Baptist received from the Jewish authorities. Messengers from the Jewish priests, the Levites and the Pharisees question John about his identity and the meaning of the baptisms that he is performing. John's Gospel uses these questions to establish the relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist. John the Baptist is not the Messiah, nor is he Elijah or the Prophet. In John's denials, we hear echoes of the kind of messianic expectations that were common in first-century Palestine.

The only affirmative response that John the Baptist gives is when he quotes the prophet Isaiah. Upon answering the next question, John announces that the saviour they seek is already among them, but as yet unrecognized. John's response highlights for us an important Advent theme: Jesus has already come into the world as our saviour. During Advent, we pray that we will be able to recognize Jesus' presence in our midst. Advent also reminds us that Jesus will come again to fulfil the promise of salvation. We pray that we will continue to be watchful as we anticipate that great day.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete, a Latin word which means "rejoice," is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass. This theme is echoed in today's second reading from the first Letter to the Thessalonians. It is a reminder that Advent is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

All parishioners are invited next Saturday to join us for our Children's Christmas Concert at 4.00pm outside the office followed by our Parish Christmas Picnic at 5.00pm in the church grounds. Then join us for 6.00pm Mass.

This week we pre-recorded our Christmas Day Mass for those parishioners who may not be able to attend. Thank you to all who volunteered their time to assist with the recording, including Fr. Andrew. **When attending Mass please arrive at least 15 minutes early to allow time for us to check you off our list.**





## 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 \$1180.00 + Loose  
\$246.40 + CC \$2503.00 = \$3,929.40**

*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>

Please pray for all those friends and family who are unwell including Trish Falk and Jennie Beachy-Gardiner. 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.*



## MINISTRY ROSTERS

*Now that our numbers attending each are increasing, we need your help urgently!!! Our regular rosters will commence from the start of January so please sign up ASAP—these are in the foyer. Volunteers needed are:*

- ☆ 1 or 2 readers
- ☆ Eucharistic Ministers
- ☆ IT/Music assistant
- ☆ 2 greeters
- ☆ Piety Stall
- ☆ Collectors at the end of Mass
- ☆ Counters (after Sunday's Mass)
- ☆ Altar Linen
- ☆ Altar Server/s
- ☆ Sacristan
- ☆ Cleaning team of at 3-4 people

## 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 Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)

1st Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11  
Responsorial Psalm: Luke 1:46-50, 53-54  
2nd Reading: 1 Paul 5:16-24  
Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

## READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY—Year B Fourth Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16  
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 89:2-5, 27, 29  
2nd Reading: Romans 16:25-27  
Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

## ROSARY GROUP

**5.30pm each Saturday before 6.00pm Mass.**

## DIVINE MERCY GROUP

**Saturday 5th December after 6.00pm Mass.**

## **This weekend at the Piety Stall:**

**NEW Rosary beads and Nativity tree heart & cross decorations, plus angel pendants.**

- ☆ BREAK OPEN THE WORD \$22.00
- ☆ COLUMBIAN CALENDARS \$10.00
- ☆ VINNIES CHRISTMAS CARDS \$2.50
- ☆ HAND BEADED BOOKMARKS \$3.50 (Made by Annette & Holly)
- ☆ KENSHI CANDLES \$37.50 (order forms available in the foyer)
- ☆ GINGERBREAD PEOPLE **\$10.00 on sale**



### ***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 Whatsapp group follow this invitation link:**

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/>

## ***Give the Present of Presence—Joyce Rupp***



*Be with someone who needs you.*

*Be with a person who give you hope*

*Be with those who live in terror and fear.*

*Be with an older person.*

*Be with someone who has helped you to grow.*

*Be with one who is in pain. Be with a child.*

*Be with yourself. Be with someone who has terminal illness.*

*Be with the homeless. Be with hungry children.*

*Be with a co-worker. Be with those whose hope is faint.*



## **VINNIES CHRISTMAS DONATIONS**

In lieu of toy donations for our local families this year, if you would like to assist our Vinnies Seaford Conference by making a donation, the Christmas Hamper account details are:

**BSB: 063-118**

**Acc no: 10587729**

**Account name: SEAFORD CHRISTMAS HAMPERS**

***All donations will be used to purchase gift vouchers for local families in need this year.***

## ***RICHARD ROHR BOOKS***

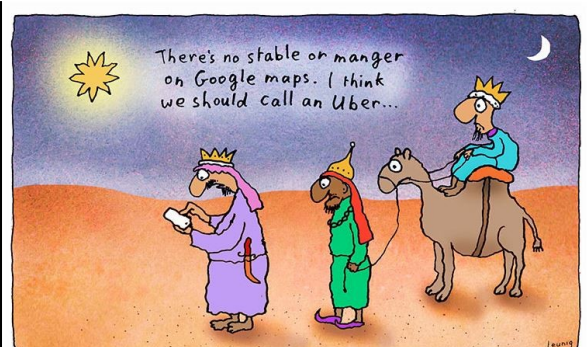
Fr Kevin has copies of two top quality books for sale at 20% discount; both by brilliant writer, US Franciscan priest Richard Rohr. **Cash or cheque payment is preferred to Fr. Kevin.**

- *Things hidden; scripture as spirituality* - "Best Book I've ever read, it knocked me out." **\$35.00**
- *Wondrous Encounters, Scripture for Lent*—"Profound & insightful." **\$25.00**



**Have you changed your address, email or phone number recently?**

**Please email or call the office if you have so that we can update our database records!**





# PARISH UPDATES

**Next week our Masses will be: 6.00pm Saturday 19th December  
& 10.00am Sunday 20th December**

## **Bookings are only done online.**

- At present the 2sqm restrictions will now 200 people indoors plus a priest and our volunteers.
- Bookings for will be available on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/st-annes-parish-30521052230) from **9.00am each Tuesday morning and are not released earlier**. The [two square metre rule](#) applies only if electronic record keeping is used so you must continue to book online (preferred) or use the QR code when you arrive (our helpers will assist if you don't have a QR reader).
- **Please book with each family member's name along with a contact number.**
- The link to book is: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/st-annes-parish-30521052230>

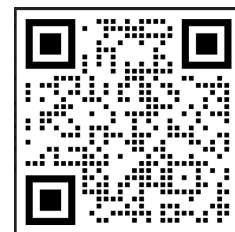
## **The current restrictions within the government COVID Safe Plan apply when attending Mass:**

- You must carry a face mask with you at all times when you leave home, unless you have a lawful reason not to. **It is strongly recommended that you wear a face mask** when you cannot maintain 1.5 metres distance from other people.
- Family members may sit together but still maintain social distancing restrictions from others.
- If you are unwell or have a health condition, flu or cold-like symptoms, please do not visit our Church.
- If you are awaiting a COVID-19 test verification—including Clergy—do not attend at church or parish setting until a diagnosis is confirmed.
- If you test positive to COVID-19, you need to notify the Parish Office asap to assist us with contact tracing.

## **Melbourne Overseas Missions Annual Appeal—12th & 13th December 2020**

Thank you for your support which has, over the years, made it possible to fund many projects for disadvantaged people in Papua New Guinea, Peru, West Africa, Pakistan, Palestine and the many Islands in the Pacific. Some \$200,000 has been provided in clean water, health, education and improved living stands to people who would not otherwise have had this opportunity over the last year. This is especially in the areas of MOM activity, where the effect of the pandemic has been devastating.

**Due to the current restrictions the Melbourne Overseas Missions Appeal of December 2020 will primarily be held online at their website.** Please visit <https://mom.org.au> for more information or you may donate using this QR code (you will need a QR code reader to do so). Alternatively you may also make a donation directly online at: <https://bit.ly/CDfpayMOM>



## CHRISTMAS MASSES & CELEBRATIONS

Wednesday 16th December	<b>Dawn Mass (Liturgy Service) 5.00am</b> <i>Wed 16th to Sat 19th December: Liturgy of the Word with communion.</i> <i>Sun 20th to Thur 24th December: Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Jude Ezeme at 5.00am.</i>
Saturday 19th December	<b>Children's Concert 4.00pm</b> <b>Christmas Parish Picnic at 5.00pm</b> preceding 6.00pm Mass BYO Picnic, chairs, rugs and food to share with your family
Thursday 24th December	<b>Christmas Eve: Mass</b> at 6.00pm & 8.00pm
Friday 25th December	<b>Christmas Day: Mass</b> at 10.00am
Saturday 26th December	Mass at 6.00pm—celebrated by Fr. Thang Vu
Sunday 27th December	Mass at 10.00am—celebrated by Fr. Thang Vu



## **CONCERT: JESUS IS CHRISTMAS—Christmas Carols Family Special**

Sunday 20th December, 7pm to 8pm on Channel 31 (Ch44 on digital TV) / <http://YouTube.com/Archmelb>  
Presented by the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, featuring Sylvie Palladino, Gary Pinto and more!