

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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## The Nativity of the Lord—Year B

### REFLECTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS

Today the Gospel for the Christmas Mass is taken from the beginning of John's Gospel, which emphasises that Jesus' birth was the divine intention from the moment of Creation.

As we observe in today's reading, the Gospel of John includes repeated references to "the Word" in the opening verse. This expression (logos in the Greek) borrows from a concept found in both Jewish and Greek thought. Jews used this phrase to describe God's action in the Creation story, for example, and in the Wisdom literature. In Greek thought, the logos was understood as an intermediary between God and humanity. John and others in the early Church adopted this language to describe God's incarnation in Jesus. As the term was used to express the Trinitarian faith of Christians, the Word came to be equated with the Second Person of the Trinity.

In this prologue to the Gospel of John, we also hear the main themes that will be developed in his Gospel. These are often presented as dualities: light and dark, truth and falsehood, life and death, and belief and unbelief. We also hear about a unique aspect of John's Gospel, the theme of testimony. John the Baptist was sent by God to testify to Jesus, the light. Others in this Gospel will also offer testimony about Jesus. We are invited to accept this testimony, which bears witnesses to Jesus, the Son of God. But even more directly, Jesus' action and words will testify to Jesus' identity as God's Incarnate Word.

In the midst of our sinfulness, God comes to dwell among us. John's Gospel reminds us that through the Incarnation, God saves us from the darkness of sin and makes us his children.

**Happy Christmas to all who read this message. We extend  
a special welcome to visitors to our Parish during our Christmas Masses.**

IL-MILIED IT-TAJJEB

Feliz Navidad

Nollaig Shona

Nga Kirihimete

WESOŁYCH ŚWIĄT

Geseënde Kersfees

JOYEUX NOËL

BUON NATALE

MALIGAYANG PASKO

BOLDOG KARÁCSONYT

WILUJENG NATAL

Selamat Natal



கிறிஸ்துமஸ்

வாழ்த்துக்கள்

圣诞节快乐

عيد ميلاد سعيد

καλά Χριστούγεννα

Mele Kalikimaka

QISmaS Quch Daghajjaj

സ്വസ്തിവർഷമാസ

*Our parish respectfully acknowledges the Bunurong people, who are the custodians of the Boon Wurrung land on which we worship. We acknowledge and pay respect to the Elders; past, present and future.*

## Christmas Masses to be televised on C31

*This year's Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses at St Patrick's Cathedral will be televised on free-to-air TV via C31 (channel 44 on digital TV)*

*and streamed live on the Archdiocesan YouTube channel ([www.youtube.com/archmelb](http://www.youtube.com/archmelb)).*

**24 December:** Carols from 11.30pm followed by Midnight Mass

**25 December:** Christmas Day Mass from 11am

## 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:**  
[secure.artezpacific.com/registant/donate.aspx?eventId=52905&spid=5635856](http://secure.artezpacific.com/registant/donate.aspx?eventId=52905&spid=5635856)

## Watch Our Christmas Mass at Home

You are invited to watch and share the link for our St. Anne's Christmas Day Mass 2020 by Fr. Andrew

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCygh\\_dWCNAoOV3SG3mLM6IQ/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCygh_dWCNAoOV3SG3mLM6IQ/)

St. Patrick's Cathedral Mass

<http://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

**Channel 10:** Mass For You at Home at 6.00am

<https://10play.com.au/mass-for-you-at-home>



## Merry Christmas

I would like to thank everyone who has volunteered during our 2020 Advent Season, the Dawn Liturgies, our Children's Christmas Concert & Christmas Masses—with tasks such as cleaning, gardening bees, setting up our beautiful crib, decorations, music & IT, our readers, greeters, Altar servers and Sacristans and performing any other ministries during these Masses. We can't do it without your help.

Our very grateful thanks also to Fr Kevin for celebrating our Masses and Fr Andrew for celebrating our recorded Christmas Mass and St. Joachim's & St. Anne's Schools for joining in. An extra special thanks to Joe Fernandez who spent many hours filming and editing our Mass.

Your support has been very appreciated and together, we are rebuilding our parish community.

**May we all have a safe, blessed and peaceful Christmas with our families.  
We look forward to celebrating with you—safely—during 2021. #staysafe**



## PARISH OFFICE HOURS DURING JANUARY

The parish office will be open between Christmas Day and New Year's Day and on Tuesdays only during January. As per usual, there will be no newsletters will be produced over January.

**Check the website for Mass Times, details and any updates for 2021.**

### READINGS FOR TODAY—Year B The Nativity of the Lord

1st Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5  
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 88:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29  
2nd Reading: Acts 13:16-17, 22-25  
Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY—Year B The Holy Family

1st Reading: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7  
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19  
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
Gospel: Mark 13:33-37