

Seaford Parish Newsletter

Sunday 14th March

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

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

Frankston North
Carrum Downs
Seaford

Supply Priest : Fr Sam Kono CSsR
Parish Secretary : Sumitha Moses



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Fourth Sunday of Lent—Year B

REFLECTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

The fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called *Laetare* Sunday. *Laetare* is a Latin word that means “rejoice.” Traditionally, Sundays are named after the first word of the liturgy’s opening antiphon. On this Sunday, the antiphon is taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 66:10-11). Even as we observe our Lenten sacrifices, we rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter.

Today’s Gospel reading is taken from John’s Gospel. It consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus’ reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the Kingdom of God. The dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus that followed was about the meaning of this phrase. Nicodemus misunderstood Jesus at every point, but there was no animosity in the questions he posed to Jesus.

In the part of the conversation with Nicodemus in today’s Gospel, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. When the Israelites grumbled against the Lord during their sojourn in the desert, God sent venomous serpents to punish them for their complaints. The Israelites repented and asked Moses to pray for them. The Lord heard Moses’ prayer and instructed him to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. All who had been bitten by a serpent and then looked upon the bronze serpent were cured. By recalling this story, Jesus alludes to the salvation that would be accomplished through his death and Resurrection.

The second part of today’s Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus’ words to Nicodemus. The Gospel of John is known for this kind of reflection offered within the narrative. The words of the Evangelist are in continuity with the words of the prologue to John’s Gospel. In these reflections, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation.

In John’s reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

PARISH UPDATE:

Sacrament enrolments are now open for state school students. Classes are on Thursdays from 4pm—5pm. Please contact the parish office for more information.

There will be Choir practice at St Anne’s church on Mondays at 6:30pm. please help us to make the Easter season memorable.

The second Rite of Reconciliation will take place on Wednesday 17th March at 7pm.

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.



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>

We are very grateful to all the Parishioners for their continued support and Thanksgiving donations.

Watch The Patrick Oration together in your parish

Parish communities across the Archdiocese are invited to come together to watch the 2021 Patrick Oration given by Archbishop Comensoli and begin a conversation about what was revealed to your parish and wider community. Parishes can watch live on the night (via C31 or the Archdiocesan You Tube Channel) or when a ministry group, leadership team, parish team or parish pastoral council next meet (with the oration available on You Tube to watch later).

The following questions might assist in exploring the content:

Archbishop Comensoli described where he sees us at the moment (as wider Archdiocese). What resonated with us

How do we see our own parish at the moment?

What did last year's COVID experience reveal to our parish community?

What opportunities did COVID Provide to our parish?

What surprises us?

How is our parish being called to plant the seeds of the Gospel ;

Please pray for all those friends and family who are are unwell including Trish Falk and Jennie Beechey-Garden. 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 specially **Felipe, Socorro & Tomas**. We pray for all who have died recently. Rest in Peace.

"Child Safety is Everyone's Responsibility"

Welcome to St Anne's Parish , where we foster the well being and safety of all children and adults at risk. Since we take the safety of our young and vulnerable parishioners seriously. we have a zero tolerance policy when it comes to abuse. All our parishioners have the right to feel safe and welcome. If you have any concerns, Please contact me. Thanks, Sumitha (Safeguarding Officer).

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY—Year B Fourth Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23
Responsorial Psalm: Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you..
2nd Reading: Eph 2: 4-10
Gospel: John 3:14-21

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY—Year B Fifth Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Jer 31:31-34
Responsorial Psalm: Create a clean heart in me ,O God.
2nd Reading: Heb 5:7-9
Gospel: John 12:20-33

REFLECTIONS—4th Sunday of Lent

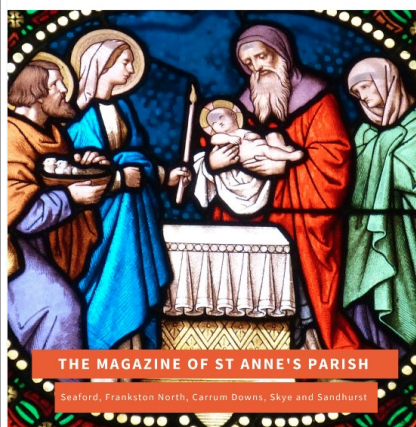
"No longer was there manna for the Israelites, who that year ate of the yield of the land of Canaan." (Joshua 5:12)

Over the forty years that the Israelites journeyed through the desert, God provided them with manna to eat. As soon as they were able to enjoy the fruits of the Promised Land the manna ceased. Likewise, God's blessings to us may change over the years but it is important to trust that God will always provide us with all that we need.

The Holy Family

Seaford
Parish

Issue 3 - 2020



The Holy Family 2020 Magazine

The editorial team is very pleased to announce that our parish magazine for 2020 is completed and available on our website. As we have been dealing with COVID restrictions, we made a decision to publish only an online version which is contactless and safest for all.

Find—2020 The Holy Family Issue 3 here at:

<https://stannes.com.au/newsletters/>

Please contact Frank at fbartosy@gmail.com or on **0490 358 121** if you need any help with downloading it.

VINNIES DONATIONS

If you would like to assist our Vinnies Seaford Conference with Your donations Please use the below bank account details.

BSB: 063-000

Acc no: 1031-7778

Account name: St Anne's Seaford 304

All donations will be used towards local families in need.



Pope Francis has named December 8, 2020 – December 8, 2021 as a year honouring

St Joseph as the earthly father of Jesus and husband of Mary. This Year of St Joseph is the 150th anniversary of St Joseph being [named as patron of the Universal Church](#).

A Novena Prayer to St Joseph is in the last page of the Newsletter

To Celebrant the 10th Anniversary of the canonisation of Saint Mary MacKillop

We invite you to order your free copy of Encountering St Mary MacKillop in Prayer

The Sister of the Saint Joseph have created a commemorative prayer booklet to inspire us all to **"take fresh courage..."** as Mary did so often.

These prayers share details of her personal journey, highlighting Mary's values and spirit, and offering prayers and blessings for our modern world.

To order your exclusive copy please go to www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/prayer.book or call us on Ph: 02 8912 2777

**MARY MACKILLOP
today**



Project Compassion Sunday 14th March 2021

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed **"Be More"**. Through your generosity and by aspiring to be more, you are assisting some of the world's most vulnerable people build better futures for themselves, their families and their communities.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or Phoning 1800 024 413.



Arsad, an Indonesian farmer, had no toilet at home and was often sick due to the practice of open defecation. Through Caritas Australia's support, Arsad and his community improved hygiene and sanitation, and funded their own toilets.

Mass Times and Prayer Events

Tuesday 6.00pm Mass

Wednesday 9.30am Mass at Holy Family Hall, Frankston North

Thursday 6.00pm Mass

Friday 9.15am Mass. Station of the Cross at 7:30pm Preceded by the Rosary
(Feast of St Joseph 19/03/2021)

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Reconciliation 5pm followed by Rosary at 5:30pm.

Divine Mercy devotion at 7.00pm

Sunday 8.30am

Sunday 10.00am (Felipe, Socorro & Tomas recently deceased)

- At present the 2sqm restrictions will now allow 200 people indoors at St Anne's including a priest and our volunteers.
- Bookings will be available on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/st-annes-parish-30521052230). The [two square metre rule](#) applies only if electronic record keeping is used so you must continue to book online (preferred). When you arrive please check in or use the QR code. 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 is: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/st-annes-parish-30521052230>

Please take home a copy of the
Holy week & Easter Services Schedule Leaflet



Our Parish Prayer

*We, the people of Seaford
Parish
strive to be followers of Jesus
by being a welcoming and
supportive community
in which the talents
of all can grow
and in which we live out
our faith through word,
sacrament and action.*

*May the Holy Family
St Anne and St Joachim
inspire and intercede for us
that we may be followers of
Jesus.*



Novena Prayer to Saint Joseph

O Saint Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the Throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires. O Saint Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings through Jesus Christ, Our Lord; so that having engaged here below your Heavenly power I may offer my Thanksgiving and Homage to the most Loving of Fathers.

O Saint Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms. I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine Head for me, and ask Him to return the Kiss when I draw my dying breath. Saint Joseph, Patron of departing souls, pray for us. Amen.

"A partial indulgence is granted to the faithful who ... raise their mind with humble confidence to God."

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All current restrictions within the government COVID Safe Plan apply

when attending Mass. From 11:59pm on 17th February 2021, face masks are optional in church.

- You must always carry a face mask with you when you leave home unless you have a lawful reason not to.
- It is strongly recommended you wear one whenever you cannot keep 1.5 metres distance from others.
- You are required to sanitise your hands upon entering and before receiving Holy Communion.
- If you are unwell, please do not visit our church.
- If you test positive to COVID-19, you need to notify the supply priest or the office asap.

• For more information see

<https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/victoria-return-covidsafe-settings>