

Seaford Parish Newsletter

Sunday 2nd May

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 Kevin Burke
Parish Secretary : Sumitha Moses



Parish Office: 84 Austin Road, Seaford, VIC 3198 (Closed Monday & Thursday)

Office Hours: **Tues, Wed & Fri 10.00am—3.30pm**

Telephone: 9401 6398

Email: seaford@cam.org.au Website: www.stannes.com.au

Fifth Sunday of Easter—Year B

REFLECTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Today's reading from the Gospel of John is part of Jesus' discourse at the Last Supper. Recall that John tells the story of Jesus' Last Supper differently from the other Evangelists. In John's Gospel, the Last Supper begins with Jesus washing his disciples' feet. Jesus then provides them with a series of instructions. We call this section the Last Supper discourse or Jesus' farewell discourse. In these chapters of John's Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples about the importance of following his example of love and service, about the gift they will receive when Jesus sends them the Holy Spirit, and about their relationship with Jesus and with the world. The Last Supper discourse concludes with Jesus' prayer for his disciples.

Today's Gospel reading is taken from middle of the Last Supper discourse. Jesus speaks about his relationship to his disciples. In his metaphor of the vine and the branches, Jesus is referencing the Hebrew Scriptures. In the Hebrew Scriptures, Israel is the vineyard, and Yahweh himself tends the vineyard. One of the primary themes of John's Gospel is to show Jesus to be the fulfilment of God's promises to Israel.

In this passage, Jesus teaches his disciples that his relationship with them will not end after his death; he will remain with them always. This unity between Jesus and his disciples is the basis for their ability to continue to do the work that he began. Similarly, Jesus' presence with us through the Gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to continue the work of love and reconciliation that he began.

Jesus also teaches his disciples about the importance of the words he has taught to them. Just as Jesus will remain in the disciples, so too will his words. We come to know Jesus through the Scriptures, the living Word of God. Our commitment to be Christ's disciples is sustained through God's Word. This commitment is also strengthened by our life of prayer and nourished by the Eucharist. Through the Eucharist, Jesus dwells in us, remains with us, and transforms us so that we might bear fruit in his name.

We observe many people who act in ways that show their commitment to serve their neighbour. Christians and non-Christians feed the hungry, care for the sick, shelter the homeless, and give alms to the poor. These actions become acts of Christian discipleship when they are motivated by our relationship with Jesus. Whatever the immediate results, Jesus promises us that these actions will bear fruit when we undertake them in his name.

PARISH UPDATE:

We are happy to welcome Rev Fr Martin Jeramias from St Anthony's Catholic Church, Noble Park. He has been appointed as the New resident Administrator of St Anne's Parish Seaford.

St Anne's Choir needs more member to join them for the weekend Masses. Parishioners interested in singing and would like to join the choir. Please contact the parish office for more information.

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.

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>

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

An opportunity to spend a weekend improving your communication.

Come and learn how to keep/rekindle the passion in your relationship and how to keep your love growing! The weekend we offer is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.

The next residential weekend is on **21 -23 May 2021 in Wantirna South**

(Book early to avoid disappointment)

Information/Bookings: Phone **Mercy & James 0409 183 676** or

Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: wwme.org.au

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

Aid to the Church in Need

A message from *Aid to the Church in Need Australia*: In many places religious sisters are the custodians of the faith, but often these communities struggle just to live. Across the course of a year ACN supports more than 18,000 religious sisters in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America. Could you help support a religious sister?

Visit www.aidtochurch.org/sisters

Please pray for all those friends and family who are unwell including **Trish Falk, Jenniev Beechhey-Garden, Christina Toleafoa, Sister & Diane Clark**.

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 especially **Paul Fernandes, Therese Ranasinghe** & all recently departed souls. We pray for all who have died recently.



1st Friday 7th May 2021

**Mass at 7pm by Fr John O'Reilly followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament till 10pm
All are welcome**

A prayer request for Vocations

You might know of a young person in the parish, in your family or an acquaintance whom you think would make a good priest or religious. Why not pray for them by name on a regular basis? Carry them with you 'spiritually' to Mass on Sunday and place them on the altar at the offertory. Sometimes the Lord uses us as his instruments to encourage vocations.

"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 THIS SUNDAY—Year B

Fifth Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 9: 26—31
 Responsorial Psalm: I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.
 2nd Reading: 1 John 3:18-24
 Gospel: Jn 15: 1-8

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY—Year B

Sixth Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48
 Responsorial Psalm: The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.
 2nd Reading: 1 John 4:7-10
 Gospel: Jn 15: 9-17

Piety Stall Re-opens

Piety Stall will be open after 6pm mass on Saturdays and 8:30am mass on Sundays. If there is any item you are looking for that is not available, Please let the person on duty know and we will see if we can get it for you.

We need more people to staff the stall after all masses. Please leave your name and telephone number at the parish office if you can help. No experience needed.

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.

'Pondering Grief', Saturday 22 May 2021, 10am-3.30pm. This reflection day offers an invitation to reflect on and honour our inner life of change and transition. With creativity, space and gentle guiding support, this workshop offers a sacred place for the breadth of human experiencing and spirit to guide individual exploration. Facilitated by Linda Espie at Heart of Life, Kildara Centre, Rear 41 Stanhope St, Malvern. Cost \$80 (Materials provided, BYO lunch). Book and pay via website heartoflife.melbourne, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.

Happy Mothers Day

PAF is unable to run the Mothers' Day envelope drive this year so instead we are suggesting that if you are able to donate to our annual appeal, you can do so by paying cash/cheque to your parish office: or to the PAF Centre; by cheque or by a direct payment into our account at **WESTPAC**

BSB: 033 272 ACC: 318726.

If you would like a receipt, then please provide your name and contact details in an email to pafcares@gmail.com. We thought that this year we could extend the appeal to run the length of May, the month of Our Lady, Our Saviour's Mother. She is mother to all mothers and knows full well the struggles and needs of disadvantaged pregnant women and their babies and families.

We wish a Happy Mothers' Day to all the mothers reading this and may you and your families be blessed abundantly.



Thank You Rev Fr Benneth Osuagwu

On behalf of St. Anne's Parish, we would like to sincerely thank Fr. Benneth for his faithful service to our parish since joining us in 2018.



We are grateful to Fr. Benneth for his dedication in building and steering a spiritual community to so many here, particularly with encouraging our youth ministry which has seen our youth groups thrive and develop. It is wonderful to see so many children sharing friendships and becoming dedicated and faithful servants to our Lord. We are also blessed for the spiritual guidance that Fr. Benneth has shown to our sacramental candidates and catechumens in our parish through receiving their holy sacraments. We have had the pleasure of hearing Fr. Benneth's beautiful voice during our Masses, and we have been truly inspired by his dedication to Our Lady. We pray to her to intercede for Fr. Benneth and his family.

Lord, help Fr. Benneth to continue to be strong in his vocation and inspire him with the vision of your Kingdom. We too will continue to keep him in our prayers, for his future.

Mass Times and Prayer Events

Friday 7pm Mass & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament till 10pm

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass

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

Divine Mercy devotion at 5:00pm

Sunday 8.30am

Sunday 10.00am

At present, government rules allow no more than 200 people indoors at St Anne's.

The easiest way to make a booking is to go to www.stannes.com.au Find the sentence: "All tickets are now available on Eventbrite for Masses." Click on Eventbrite. This is a link that will take you to the list of Masses that are available, and are accepting bookings.

You may access the booking page directly by going to <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/st-annes-parish-30521052230>

Volunteers Urgently required

We are looking for people who would like to operate our audio video system during Mass. You will need to be computer literate and interested in creating PowerPoint presentations. Some training provided. Please contact Parish Office.

Marian Month of May at St Anne's Parish

There will be Holy Rosary & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
Every Wednesday at 6:30pm & Friday at 7:00pm in May.



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.
Amen.*



Novena prayer to St 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 contemplate 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.



Saint Faustina,

you told us that your mission would continue after your death and that you would not forget us. Our Lord also granted you a great privilege, telling you to "distribute graces as you will, to who you will, and when you will." Relying on this, we ask your intercession for the graces we need, especially for the intentions just mentioned. Help us, above all, to trust in Jesus as you did and thus to glorify His mercy every moment of our lives. **Amen**