

# Seaford Parish Newsletter

Sunday 9th 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](mailto:seaford@cam.org.au) Website: [www.stannes.com.au](http://www.stannes.com.au)**

## Sixth Sunday of Easter—Year B

### REFLECTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Today's Gospel follows immediately after the Gospel proclaimed last week, in which Jesus taught that he was the vine and that his disciples were the branches. In the example of the vine and the branches, we learned that our union with Jesus will lead to fruitful service. Today's reading extends this teaching to describe the kind of service that Christians are called upon to offer to others.

When John wrote this Gospel, his community was influenced by a set of religious beliefs called Gnosticism. It appears that one of John's intentions was to distinguish Christian belief from the beliefs held by the Gnostics. Evidence of this can be found in today's Gospel.

One of the tenets of Gnostic teaching was the importance of knowledge, or *gnosis*, as the determining aspect of faith. We read today's Gospel as a response to this teaching. In John's Gospel, we hear Jesus affirm that he is known by the Father and that his disciples will know the Father by knowing Jesus. In this passage, however, Jesus reminds his disciples that this knowledge is to be expressed in love. Those who know Jesus well—and Jesus says that his disciples do know him—will love one another. Knowledge leads to love, which leads to action. John reminds his community that Jesus taught that love is the sign of a true disciple and, thus, a true Christian. Even more, a true disciple shows a particular kind of love, sacrificial love.

Here Jesus teaches that his relationship to his disciples is based on friendship, not servitude.

Another aspect of Gnostic belief taught that a believer was an elect person, chosen and set apart from the world. John reminds his community that Jesus also taught that a disciple is one who had been chosen—one who had been chosen by Jesus. To be chosen by Jesus, however, is not to be set apart from the world. Instead, to be chosen by Jesus is to be sent to serve the world as he did. The disciples of Jesus were chosen and were sent into the world to bear fruit by serving others, by sacrificing for others, in love.

This reading, like last week's, is part of Jesus' Last Supper discourse. In the context of John's Gospel, these words are spoken before Jesus' Crucifixion. We read his instruction to the disciples in light of his death and Resurrection. We know that Jesus himself gives us the greatest example of the kind of love and service that he teaches to his disciples. He has, in fact, laid down his life for his friends, for his disciples, and for us. Through his death and Resurrection, we have received the grace to love others as Jesus has commanded.

### PARISH UPDATE:

**We extend our warm welcome to Rev Fr Martin Jeramias. He has been appointed our new Parish Priest commencing 12th May**

**On behalf of all the Parishioners I would like to thank Rev Fr Kevin Burke for all the love, support & service towards St Anne's Parish. May God continue to bless him for his faithful ministry.**

**St Anne's Choir needs more members 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](mailto:vicbookings@wwme.org.au) Website: [wwme.org.au](http://wwme.org.au)

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

### 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.

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 **Terence Redden, Catalin Ahumada** & all recently departed souls **Alphonse Leo, Rita Mary Mohan, Ali**. We pray for all who have died recently. Rest in Peace.



May the Blessed Virgin Mary bless all the Mothers out there whether past, present or soon to be moms. May their life be filled with Love, Joy, Peace & Happiness



### 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](http://www.aidtochurch.org/sisters)

### **"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 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

### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY—Year B The Ascension of the Lord

1st Reading: Acts 1:1-11  
Responsorial Psalm: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord.  
2nd Reading: Eph 1: 17-23  
Gospel: MK 16: 15-20

### **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.

## 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](mailto: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**



## Chaplaincy Appeal 2021



Chaplaincy Appeal 2021 Next weekend is the Chaplaincy Appeal in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Each year a special collection is conducted in all parishes for the purpose of supporting the vital work of our Catholic chaplains. The chaplains support thousands of Victorians every year in hospitals, prisons and youth justice centres, and those living with HIV/AIDS. Chaplains provide a listening ear, a compassionate presence, along with assistance to cope with emotional pain and loneliness. Please give generously. You can donate using the envelopes available or online at [www.ccam.org.au](http://www.ccam.org.au) or call (03) 9287 5513

### 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](mailto: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.



## Message from the Vicar General

Dear Parishioners,

I am all too aware of the difficulties that you have faced as a parish over the past twelve months or more in the absence of your parish priest. There has been a number of separate complaints about Fr Benneth that needed to be investigated. In view of the ongoing investigation and the extended period of his absence from the parish Fr Benneth has offered his resignation as Parish Priest of St Anne's. The Archbishop has accepted the resignation and has appointed Fr Martin Jeremias as Parish Priest commencing 12 May.

I thank you for your patience and understanding. I also thank Fr Andrew Jekot Administrator, the various supply priests and the office staff for serving the pastoral needs of the parish over this difficult period.

I am sure you will warmly welcome Fr Jeremias into your community.

With every best wish and blessing,

**Father Joe Caddy AM**  
**Vicar General**



## **Mass Times and Prayer Events**

**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](http://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.*

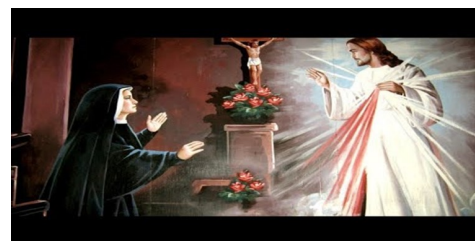
*May the Holy Family  
St Anne and St Joachim  
inspire and intercede for us  
that we may be followers of  
Jesus.  
Amen.*



### **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**