Seaford Parish Newsletter

Sunday 5th December 2021

Holy Family Frankston North St. Joachim's Carrum Downs St. Anne's Seaford



Parish Priest: Rev Fr. Martin Jeramias Parish Secretary: Sumitha Moses

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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT —YEAR C

REFLECTIONS OF THIS WEEK

This week and next, our Gospel readings invite us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. John the Baptist appears in the tradition of the great prophets, preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel. To affirm this, Luke quotes at length from the prophet Isaiah. John baptizes for repentance and for forgiveness of sins, preparing the way for God's salvation.

The three Synoptic Gospels—Mark, Matthew, and Luke—attest to the importance of the baptism of John in preparing for Jesus. Only the Gospel of Luke, however, extends the connection between these two men to their birth. The first two chapters of Luke's Gospel contain the Infancy Narrative, which tells about the births of John the Baptist and Jesus. These stories set the stage for the beginning of Jesus' public ministry in chapter 3.

The evangelist Luke is the author of the Gospel that bears his name, and he also wrote the Acts of the Apostles as a continuation of the story of Jesus and the Church. In these two works, Luke's sense of time and history emerges. He identifies three epochs of salvation history: the time before Christ, the time of Christ, and the time of the Church and the Holy Spirit. In today's Gospel reading, as elsewhere, John the Baptist is presented as the figure who bridges the time before Christ and prepares the way for Christ's own ministry.

In today's Gospel we also note Luke's attention to political and historical detail. Luke shows that salvation is for all people and situated in world events. Therefore, Luke lists the political and religious leaders at the time of John's appearance in the desert. Salvation is understood as God's breaking into this political and social history.

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus, we too are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives the coming of the Lord, as John did.

Advent wreath blessing

Celebrant: As we gather round our Advent wreath to prepare for the lighting of the second candle, let us pray that nothing may hinder us from receiving Christ with

Celebrant: Prepare a way for the Lord!

All: Make his paths straight!

Celebrant: Let every valley be filled in! **All:** Let every mountain and hill be laid low!

Celebrant: Straighten the winding pathways, make the rough roads smooth!

All: That all people may see the saving power of our God.

Let us pray

God of power and mercy, fling wide the doors of our hearts in welcome to the Lord, our Emmanuel. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with Joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

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

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.





St Anne's Church Choir invites and encourages more persons to join them to make this Christmas a memorable one.

for more details please contact

Irene Levangie on 0452 218 863

Please pray for the sick and suffering of our parish especially Trish Falk, Jenniev Beechhey-Garden, Christina Toleafoa, Sister, Mathew McCue, Hortance Bouchereau. We pray for all those anniversaries & remembrances occur at this time especially Dickson Payet & for all who have died recently especially, Louis Pierre Maxime Schellebeck, Diane Clark, Vernon James Griffiths, Ron Morrisson.

Rest in Peace.



Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight!
Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be levelled, winding ways be straightened and rough roads made smooth, and all humanity will see the salvation of God.

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY—Year C Second Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Baruch 5: 1-9

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord has done great

things for us; we are filled

with joy.

2nd Reading: Phil 1: 4-6, 8-11

Gospel: Lk 3: 1-6

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



"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 C Third Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Zeph 3:14-18

Responsorial Psalm: Cry out with joy and

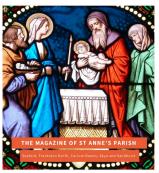
gladness for among you is the great and Holy one of I

Israel.

2nd Reading: Phil 4:4-7 Gospel: Lk 3: 10-18



The Holy Family 2021 Magazine New Deadline



As you know, we are starting to reach the time when the parish calendar will be getting much busier. Please be aware that we urgently need your help to make the parish magazine a reality for 2021. It is your magazine, and therefore your articles form an essential part of this publication.

We would really appreciate it if any articles, reports, or photos are received at the earliest. Please contact the office or the editor at fbartosy@gmail.com. You may also leave a phone message on 0490 358 121 if you have any questions. The previous edition - 2020 The Holy Family Issue 3 can be found on the website.

Dear Parishioners,

Religious discrimination bill

It has been a particularly intensive fortnight in the discussions around religious discrimination and exemption at State and Federal levels. Please find links on our website that may be of interest for further reading, to help bring some understanding and clarity as to what is at stake in this very complex area.

Sacraments

We would like to extend our gratitude to our principals, Religious education leaders and other teachers and staff of our two schools. We also thank all our parish volunteers who helped us in this; Shane Reeve, our sacristan and her children for altar serving, Frank Bartosy and his team of Covid Marshals, Jonathan Romer, audio - video technician, Volunteers at the piety stall, Sumitha, our secretary. God bless you all.

Unknown vaccination Status Mass

For those unknown vaccination status we continue to offer Mass on Fridays at 9:30 am.

OR code check in

In the Service Victoria app, you can now add your family member's vaccination status. Please update your app and follow on screen prompts.

Covid Marshals are volunteers helping our parish to follow the government requirements. Please respect them.

Vinnies Christmas appeal

The parish is joining Vinnies Christmas appeal this year. Vinnies are requesting us to purchase toys this year. Baskets are provided at the entrance of the church to place it.

Christmas Carol eBook

One of our parishioners Irene Levangie has published this simple chords with lyrics for beginners in piano and keyboard. This is an e-book and can be bought from Amazon website. Please see our website for the link.

Working bee on 18th Saturday 9:30 – 11-30

Christmas Mass times

We are finalizing the times for our Christmas Masses.

Stay Safe & God bless.

Rev Fr. Martin Jeramias



Dawn Mass

(Símbang Gabí)
For fully Vaccinated

16-24 December, 5.00 - 6.00 am

St. Anne's Church, 84 Austin Road, Seaford Breakfast and Fellowship after Mass.

Congratulations to John Paul & Lora John

who are celebrating their 26th Wedding
Anniversary
May the good Lord see and bless you, on
your anniversary day,

may He always be your companion, and guide you on your way.



PARISH UPDATE & MASS TIMINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Tuesday 6pm Mass

Wednesday 9:30am Holy Family Hall, Frankston North

Thursday 6pm Mass

Friday 9:30am Mass (Status unknown)

Divine Mercy devotion at 5:00pm followed by Rosary

Reconciliation 5:30pm

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 8.30am

Sunday 10.00am

PLEASE NOTE - It is mandatory to use the QR code displayed in the foyer of the Church, Vaccination certificate to be uploaded to the Services Victoria App. If you are unable to use the QR Code, please ask the greeting volunteer for help. Please always carry a mask with you at all times.

GREETERS URGENTLY NEEDED

With the recent easing of restrictions, the role of greeters (now known as COVID Check-in Marshals) has changed.

Nearly all capacity limits have now been removed and Mass bookings using Eventbrite are no longer required. However, the new rules now mean that greeters are very busy at certain times. As we approach Christmas, the need for more greeters is now greater than ever. Going by the experience of the recent five weekend Masses, I really think that we will ideally need 2 to 3 greeters at all busy Masses. If you can help, please email Frank at fbartosy@gmail.com or see him when you walk into the church on the weekend. Training provided.

<u>Piety Stall -News from St Anne's</u> Kiosk

The Piety Stall has packets of Christmas Cards, at reasonable prices, for you to send a message to friends showing reminders of the Nativity – the real reason of Christmas. A number of Columban Calendars, with beautiful pictures painted by Old Masters still available. Also Bible stories, books suitable for gifts to children.

Patricia Morecroft 8759 3887



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.