

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

Frankston North  
Carrum Downs  
Seaford



Parish Priest: Rev Fr. Martin Jeramias

Parish Secretary :Sumitha Moses

Parish Office: 84 Austin Road, Seaford, VIC 3198 (Closed on 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)**

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT —YEAR C

### REFLECTIONS OF THIS WEEK

On this the last Sunday before Christmas, our Gospel reading prepares us to witness Christ's birth by showing us how Jesus was recognized as Israel's long-awaited Messiah even before his birth. The Gospel turns our attention from the ministry of John the Baptist to the events that preceded John the Baptist's birth. The story of John the Baptist and his parents, Elizabeth and Zechariah, are reported only in Luke's Gospel. Luke pairs the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus, establishing John's early connection to the Messiah.

Our Gospel reading recalls Mary's actions after the announcement of Jesus' birth by the angel Gabriel. Mary goes to visit Elizabeth, her cousin, who is also with child. Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles that they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation. If we were to continue to read the verses that follow in Luke's Gospel, we would hear Mary respond to Elizabeth's greeting with her song of praise, the Magnificat. Both women recall and echo God's history of showing favor upon the people of Israel.

In Luke's Gospel the Holy Spirit helps reveal Jesus' identity as God to those who believe. Elizabeth is filled with the Holy Spirit and sings Mary's praise because she bears the Lord. We sing these words of praise to Mary in the Hail Mary. Even John the Baptist, the unborn child in Elizabeth's womb, is said to recognize the presence of the Lord and leaps for joy.

It is appropriate in this season of Advent that we consider the role of Mary in God's plan of salvation. Elizabeth describes Mary as the first disciple, as the one who believed that God's word to her would be fulfilled. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to everyone. Because of this, Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan for salvation.

#### Advent wreath blessing

**Celebrant:** As we begin our celebration of the Fourth Sunday of Advent, let us prepare to light the fourth and last candle on our Advent wreath. As advent draws to a close, we pause to pray for faith that opens our lives to the Spirit of God... Let us pray

**Celebrant:** Come Lord Jesus, hope of the prophets and desired of all nations.

**All:** Come! Lead us back to you.

**Celebrant:** Come Lord Jesus, Son of God, born of Mary.

**All:** Come! Take flesh in us.

**Celebrant:** Come Lord Jesus, source of grace and hope for peace.

**All:** Come and save us, delay no longer.

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.....

God, our Emmanuel, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord. **Amen**



*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>

## 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  
Seaford 304**

**Account name: St Anne's**

***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 **Cresencia Salih, Alice Redden, Elaine Roberts, Jane & Jake O'Grady** & for all who have died recently especially **Vernon James Griffiths, Ron Morrisson, Shirley Rae Curran**.  
**Rest in Peace.**



**PLEASE NOTE** - It is mandatory to use the QR code displayed in the foyer of the Church, 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. For more information please refer to the relevant government rules.

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



Wishing all the Parishioners a happy and Holy Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year  
2022



### **"Child Safety is Everyone's Responsibility"**

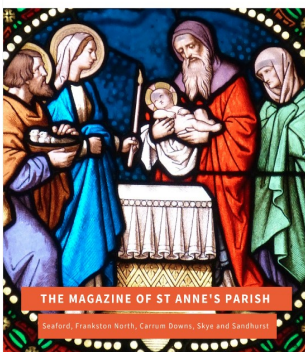
Welcome to St Anne's Parish, where we foster the well being and safety of all children and adults at risk. Since we take the safety of our young and vulnerable parishioners seriously, we have a zero tolerance policy when it comes to abuse. All our parishioners have the right to feel safe and welcome.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

### **READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY—Year C Fourth Sunday of Advent**

1st Reading: Micah 5:1-4  
Responsorial Psalm: Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.  
2nd Reading: Heb 10: 5-10  
Gospel: Lk 1: 39-44

### **READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY—Year C The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

1st Reading: 1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28  
Responsorial Psalm: Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord.  
2nd Reading: 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24  
Gospel: Lk 2: 41-52



## The Holy Family 2021 Magazine

Unfortunately, we have not received sufficient articles by the deadline date of Wednesday 15th December. Therefore, publication of the parish magazine will be delayed until early in 2022.

If you have submitted an article, be assured that your efforts are greatly appreciated. Please contact the editor at [fbartosy@gmail.com](mailto:fbartosy@gmail.com) if you have written an unfinished draft and need help to complete it. Phone messages for Frank can be left by calling 0490 358 121.

### Dear Parishioners,

It feels a bit quiet on the road due to the closure of the schools for annual break. Things are going slow with break ups in workplaces and weather is warming up. Let us not forget that we are on the last week of advent season; preparing and waiting for the Lord to arrive. Let us welcome everyone who will be joining us for Christmas Masses. For those of our parishioners going to celebrate with family and friends outside our parish, please stay safe. Wishing the Merry Christmas.

**Office closure on 23<sup>rd</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> of December.** If you need anything from the office, please contact us as early as possible. I am taking a break from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>. On these days there be no Mass. On 7<sup>th</sup> there will be evening Mass at 7pm.

**Working bee on 18<sup>th</sup> Saturday 9:30 – 11:30**

### Christmas Mass times

Please note the change: 8:30 morning Mass on Christmas day will be for all regardless of vaccination status.

Christmas Masses might go longer than usual. Just be prepared.

### Break Open the Word

The new Sunday readings book is ready to collect. For our weekend readers on the roster, it's for a donation. For other parishioners it is on sale for \$20 from the Piety stall. It's a wonderful resource for preparation before the Mass.

### Religious Discrimination Bill

Please find archbishop's letter regarding the Religious Discrimination Bill 2021 on our website (under latest news) and printed copies at the foyer.

### Reading Roster for 2022

Please collect your reading roster sheet for 2022 from the Priest sacristy.

### The new regulations

**Face Coverings** – Face coverings no longer need to be worn at weddings, funerals, or worship. Face coverings continue to be required indoors in limited high-risk settings including retail, health care and aged care. It is recommended that face coverings be worn if you are with people who may be vulnerable to COVID-19.

**Vaccinations** – There will not be any vaccination requirements nor any requirement for organisers to check vaccination status at Places of Worship for Weddings, Funerals, and general Worship.

Workers at Places of Worship (staff and volunteers) must still be fully vaccinated.

Please note that other activities outside of worship, particularly those activities that involve hospitality, will require full vaccination for participation and will entail QR code check-ins and COVID Marshals. This will apply to varying activities held within the parish-context.

**QR code check-in** – Remember to check in everywhere every time using the Service Victoria app.

Please follow all the regulations and stay safe, God bless.

**Rev Fr. Martin Jeramias**



## Dawn Mass

(Simbang Gabi)

For fully vaccinated

16-24 December, 5.00 - 6.00 am

St. Anne's Church, 84 Austin Road, Seaford

Breakfast and Fellowship after Mass.

Of all women  
you are the most *blessed*,  
and blessed is the fruit  
of your womb.

- Jesus, Luke 1:42

THE CATHOLIC  
FAMILY .org



**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December Penitential Service 7pm -9pm**

## **Christmas Mass Timings**

**Christmas Eve Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**Children's Mass with Carols - 5:30pm**

**Family Mass - 8:00pm**

**Midnight Mass with Carols -11:30pm**

**Christmas Day Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**Mass 8:30am**

**Mass 10:00am ( No evening Mass)**

**Boxing Day Sunday 26th December 2021**

**Mass 8:30am**

**Mass 10:00am**

**New Years Eve Friday 31st December 2021 Mass 6:30pm followed by Benediction**

**New Year Saturday 1st January 2022 Mass 9:30am & 6pm**



### **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](mailto:fbartosy@gmail.com) or see him when you walk into the church on the weekend. Training provided.

### **Piety Stall -News from St Anne's Kiosk**

"We have new supply of St Paul's Sunday Missal. Do not forget to get Christmas cards and there are a few copies of the Columban Calendar still available. Various items suitable for gifts are on display.

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.*

