

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**

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THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD —YEAR C

REFLECTIONS OF THIS WEEK

Today the Gospel for the Christmas Mass is taken from the beginning of John's Gospel, which emphasises that Jesus' birth was the divine intention from the moment of Creation.

As we observe in today's reading, the Gospel of John includes repeated references to "the Word" in the opening verse. This expression (logos in the Greek) borrows from a concept found in both Jewish and Greek thought. Jews used this phrase to describe God's action in the Creation story, for example, and in the Wisdom literature. In Greek thought, the logos was understood as an intermediary between God and humanity. John and others in the early Church adopted this language to describe God's incarnation in Jesus. As the term was used to express the Trinitarian faith of Christians, the Word came to be equated with the Second Person of the Trinity.

In this prologue to the Gospel of John, we also hear the main themes that will be developed in his Gospel. These are often presented as dualities: light and dark, truth and falsehood, life and death, and belief and unbelief. We also hear about a unique aspect of John's Gospel, the theme of testimony. John the Baptist was sent by God to testify to Jesus, the light. Others in this Gospel will also offer testimony about Jesus. We are invited to accept this testimony, which bears witness to Jesus, the Son of God. But even more directly, Jesus' action and words will testify to Jesus' identity as God's Incarnate Word.

In the midst of our sinfulness, God comes to dwell among us. John's Gospel reminds us that through the Incarnation, God saves us from the darkness of sin and makes us his children.



Joy to The World.... In
Christ Alone

Merry Christmas!

"May Christ's peace and
hope be with
your family now and in
the days ahead.

May His love warm your
hearts.

May He give you a
spirit of wisdom."

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 **Gerald Fitzgerald, Frank Natale, Ronald Alo, Joseph Victor Gellef & for all who have died recently especially Shirley Rae Curran, Jennifer Joan Lucas.**
Rest in Peace.



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




*Why were you looking for me?
Did you not know that
I must be in my Father's house?*

SCATH FAMILY

- Jesus, Luke 2:49

"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 Christmas Day Mass

1st Reading: Is 52 : 7-10
 Responsorial Psalm: All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.
 2nd Reading: Heb 1: 1-6
 Gospel: Jn 1: 1-18

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

REFLECTIONS FOR SUNDAY

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Today we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. This feast is part of the Christmas season, and we should place today's Gospel in the context of what Luke's Gospel tells us about the birth of Jesus. Luke has been answering the question "Who is Jesus?" through his stories of the births of John the Baptist and Jesus. Today's Gospel reading continues this theme. It has no parallel in the other Gospels and is the conclusion of Luke's Infancy Narrative.

Mary, Joseph, and Jesus are presented in this Gospel as a faithful Jewish family. They are participating in the annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, an event shared each year with family and friends. When Jesus is found, Luke describes him as seated in the Temple in the midst of the Jewish teachers. Although he is young, Jesus seems not to need teaching about his Jewish tradition. In his dialogue with these learned teachers, Jesus astounds them with his insight and understanding. Jesus is a child of Israel. His Father is God.

The dialogue between Mary and Jesus contains many references to family relationships. In fact, in this Gospel reading Mary and Joseph are never identified by name. Instead they are referred to by their relationship to Jesus. Ultimately, this emphasizes Luke's point about the identity of Jesus. When Mary and Joseph find Jesus in the Temple, they question Jesus and express their anxiety. Jesus replies in words that many have thought to be disrespectful. Jesus says that he was never lost; he was at home. Jesus is God's Son, and he is in his Father's house. Luke will continue to suggest that faith in Jesus establishes new family relationships as he describes Jesus' public ministry.

In Luke's Gospel, Mary's importance is even greater than her role as Jesus' mother. Mary is the first disciple and will be present with Jesus' disciples after his Resurrection at Pentecost.



A word of thanks to all the Volunteers

We would like to thank everyone who has volunteered during our 2021 Advent Season, the Dawn Liturgies, our Children's Christmas Carols & the Choir —We are grateful to the cleaner, working bees, setting up our beautiful crib, the Christmas tree, decorations, music & IT, our readers, greeters, Altar servers and Sacristans and performing any other ministries during these Masses. We wouldn't have done it without your help. Greatly appreciated.

**PLEASE NOTE: PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM THE
24TH –3RD JANUARY 2021
FOR EMERGENCY PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE ON 9401 6398 OR
EMAIL : martin.jeramias@cam.org.au**

**Wishing you and your family
A Merry Christmas
&
A safe & healthy New Year 2022**



The funeral service details of Jennifer Joan Lucas (Jenny).

The funeral Service will be on 28th of December 2021 at the Stratus Chapel in Bunurong Memorial Park at 1 pm. Please note, the Lucas family welcomes anyone who have fully vaccinated to join the Funeral Service.

PARISH UPDATE & MASS TIMINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Tuesday 6pm Mass

Wednesday 9:30am Holy Family Hall, Frankston North

Thursday 6pm Mass

Friday 6:30pm Mass followed by Benediction

Saturday 9:30am & 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, 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.

GREETERS URGENTLY NEEDED

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

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.

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.*

