

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

Frankston North
Carrum Downs
Seaford



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

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT —YEAR C

REFLECTIONS OF THIS WEEK

The parable Jesus tells in today's Gospel is unique to the Gospel of Luke. Jesus has been teaching the crowds as he journeys to Jerusalem. As he teaches, the Pharisees and scribes complain and challenge Jesus because he is welcoming sinners at his table. Today we hear the third of three parables that Jesus tells in response to his critics. These three familiar parables—the lost sheep, the lost coin, and today's parable of the prodigal son—invite us to consider the depth of God's mercy and love.

The Pharisees taught a scrupulous observance of Jewish Law. In their interpretation and practice, observant Jews who shared table fellowship with sinners would be made unclean. Like Jesus, the Pharisees hoped to lead sinners back to God. The Pharisees, however, required that sinners first become ritually clean—observant of the Pharisees' interpretation of Jewish Law—before sharing table fellowship. This appears to be one of the major differences between the Pharisees and Jesus. Jesus reaches out to sinners while they are still sinners, inviting them to conversion through fellowship with him. Jesus is God acting among us; by befriending us, he is inviting us to return to friendship with God. Through friendship with Jesus, our sins are forgiven and we, in turn, bear fruit for God. Recall last Sunday's Gospel and the barren fig tree.

Our familiarity with today's parable risks dulling us to its tremendously powerful message. We call this the parable of the lost son or the prodigal son. Any focus on the younger son, however, must also be balanced by an examination of the unusual behaviour of the father.

First we must imagine our first response to the audacity of a son who asks for his inheritance before his father has died. Indignation would certainly be a justifiable response to such a request. Yet the father in this parable agrees to honour the son's request and divides his property among his two sons. How might we describe such a father? Foolish comes to mind, but so does trusting. Without property of his own, the father must rely upon his sons to provide for his well-being.

The younger son takes his inheritance and leaves home. The older son remains, continuing to provide for the father and the household. Having been disgraced by the younger son, the father spends some time watching the road for the return of the lost son. When he eventually sees his wayward son returning, the father not only welcomes him but also runs out to greet him and then honours him with a party. We say that this father is loving and forgiving. Yet these adjectives only begin to describe the depth of love and mercy that characterize the father.

We find no surprise in the anger of the older son. Yet the father appears sad and even confused by the older son's indignation. He says in reply that they should celebrate because the lost son had returned. The father is filled with gratitude and love for the older son's faithfulness. This love is in no way diminished by the father's rejoicing at the return of the younger son. Yet the older son's jealousy reveals his limited understanding of the depth of his father's love.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally called Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word that means "rejoice." Today's Gospel describes the reason for our joy: God's great love for us has been revealed in Jesus. Through his Passion, Death, and Resurrection, Christ has reconciled us with God and one another.

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.**



Scan this code with your smart phone camera APP & follow the prompts.

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 : <https://bit.ly/CDFpaySeaford>

VOLUNTEER'S REQUIRED FOR VINNIES

St Vincent de Paul would like to invite parishioner's who could offer 2hr of their time every fortnight to help the needy of our parish



For more information please contact Peter on 0432 120 704

INFORMATION SESSION FOR THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

DO YOU FEEL LIKE BEING CALLED TO SERVE?

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. COME & SEE! An Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on **Saturday 2 April 2022, 10:00 -11.45 am** at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), East Melbourne.

For more information:

Watch: Melbourne's Deacons <https://youtu.be/q2RhNDbtTS0>

Watch: Pope Francis' 2020 Prayer Intention for Deacons <https://youtu.be/NuG99HD1LaY>

Read More: [Brochure] <https://www.cam1.org.au/permanent-diaconate>

Contact: Office of the Permanent Diaconate (Phone) 03 9412 3357 (Email) diaconate@cam.org.au

Please pray for the sick and suffering of our parish especially **Trish Falk, Jenny Beechhey-Garden, Christina Toleafoa, Mathew McCue, Hortance Bouchereau.** We pray for all those anniversaries & remembrances occur at this time especially **Donald Curran, Maria Fatima Palma** and for all those who have died recently especially **Monique Colleie, Fr Josip Vranjes.**
Rest in Peace.



"Quick! ...
we are going to have
a feast, a celebration,
because this son of mine was
dead and has come back to life;
he was lost and is found."

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Jesus, Lk 15: 22-24

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 THIS SUNDAY—Year C Fourth Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Joshua 5: 9-12
 Responsorial Psalm: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
 2nd Reading: 2 Cor 5: 17-21
 Gospel: Lk 15: 1-3, 11-32

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY—Year C Fifth Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Is 43: 16-21
 Responsorial Psalm: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with Joy.
 2nd Reading: Phil 3: 8-14
 Gospel: Jn 8: 1-11

FLOOD APPEAL - SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

www.vinnies.org.au - Flood appeal - St Vincent de Paul Society - Good Works (vinnies.org.au) or by calling - Queensland - (07) 3010 1000 or New South Wales - (02) 9568 0262

CARITAS AUSTRALIA - UKRAINE EMERGENCY APPEAL

<https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/graine/> or contact 1800 024 413

Sign Up Sheet

We need volunteers to sign up for Power Point Presentation, Reading and Eucharistic Minister during Holy week celebrations. Please find sign-up sheets in the foyer of the Church. If you would like the readings for the day please be free to email the parish office.

Dear Parishioners,

Lent is a wonderful season in the Church calendar - time set aside to renew and prepare ourselves to receive the fullness of life in the resurrection. It's a time for a bit of a spiritual 'spring-clean'.

SEASON OF LENT — GOOD WORKS — CHARITY

Over the past 12 years we have supported various charities during Lent. This year as a parish we have decided to support the following 3 groups:

- Parishioners Crisis Support Fund
- Emergency Relief to aid Refugees in Ukraine
- Caritas Australia, Project Compassion

The Lenten display in the foyer has Project Compassion envelopes and boxes plus donation envelopes for Parishioners Crisis Support Fund. There is provision on the back of the envelope for you to request a receipt for taxation purposes. Please note that donations to the Parishioners Crisis Support Fund is not tax deductible. Project compassion boxes can stay with you until Holy Week. Envelopes can be placed in the collection bags at weekend Masses or left at the Parish Centre.

Salesian Missions Australia has launched an Emergency Appeal to aid our Salesians of Don Bosco (SDB's) in Ukraine and surrounding communities to bring aid to refugees. Please visit our website for more information.

BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING

We have expert advice on the mould sightings on the wall of the church, saying no mould growth found in church but are the marks of the possum's claws. The report is displayed on the notice board.

ALTAR SERVERS REQUIRED

Training is on Sunday 27th March at 11:30am. Light refreshments provided.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR VARIOUS MINISTRIES.

We urgently need **-Sacramental Coordinators & Religious Education Team** to liaise with school and help ease the work of parish secretary. Find more in our website for role description. If interested call parish office.

SEAFORD HOUSING ACTION COALITION

We have decided with SHAC to provide the Holy Family Hall, Frankston North to winter shelter for homeless, as long as the hall stays. **Frankston Winter shelter team** are looking for volunteers to help this satisfying volunteering work. Contact David Moloney dmo74189@bigpond.net.au or check our website for more information. Training for volunteers on Saturday 7 May. If interested call parish.

BASS DRUM and a drummer needed for Good Friday Passion service. Please contact the parish office.

CHAPLAINCY APPEAL COLLECTION amount is \$322.00. We thank you all for your support and generosity.

Check our website for more information under latest news.

Rev Fr Martin Jeramias

SINGERS AND MUSICIANS WANTED FOR CHURCH CHOIR DURING EASTER MASSES AND TRIDUUM

All welcome! The more the merrier!

Choir practice will begin after 3rd April

Please contact Irene at 0452218863 or email worldmusic128@gmail.com or leave your name at the greeter's desk after mass.

MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday 6pm Mass

Wednesday 9:30am

Thursday 6pm Mass

Friday 9:15am Mass & 7:00pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday Divine Mercy devotion at 5:00pm followed by Rosary

Reconciliation 5:30pm

Saturday 6:00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 8:30am Mass

Sunday 10:00am Mass

Please Note: It is not mandatory to wear the mask inside the Church. For more information please refer to the relevant government rules.

Second Sunday of Lent 26th & 27th of March

Rosalie 44, is an ex-combatant who lives with her husband and seven children in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Forced to join the army when she was just 15-years-old, Rosalie experienced significant trauma and hardship during her years in the military. After she was demobilised from the army, Rosalie, like other ex-combatants, was left to fend for herself in the community.



With your generous support and through our local partners, Rosalie was able to connect with other members of her community and participate in business skills training to help her reintegrate into society.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 and help women like Rosalie to succeed in the future, providing hope For All Future Generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.

Celebrating Harmony Week (21-27 March) 2022

Harmony Week celebrates Australia's exciting and diverse cultural reality. Harmony Week is also an opportunity to reflect on working with all families within the parish from the diverse cultural backgrounds present and how inclusive we really are when it comes to child safeguarding.



The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne is committed to honouring the trust that has been placed in our parishes, agencies and entities and to supporting the crucial partnership with parents and guardians that serves to strengthen the safety of children and young people. For more information, please visit the CAM Website <https://melbournecatholic.org/news/harmony-week-everyone-belongs> or www.harmony.gov.au



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.*



HOLY FAMILY PRAYER

*Heavenly Father,
You have given us the model of
life
in the holy family of Nazareth.
Help us make our family
another Nazareth
Where love, peace and joy reign.
Teach us to see Jesus
in the members of our families,
especially in their distress
disguise.
May we love one another
as God loves each of us,
more and more each day,
and forgive each other's faults
as you forgive our sins.
Help us take whatever you give
and give whatever you take
with a big smile
Amen.*