

Seaford Parish Newsletter

Sunday 4th December 2022

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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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A

REFLECTIONS OF THIS WEEK

In this week's Gospel Reading and next week's, our Advent preparation for Christmas invites us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. In this week's Gospel, Matthew describes the work and preaching of John the Baptist.

John the Baptist appears in the tradition of the great prophets of Israel, preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel. In fact, the description of John found in this reading is reminiscent of the description of the prophet Elijah (2 Kings 1:8). In this reading, John directs a particularly pointed call to repentance to the Pharisees and Sadducees, parties within the Jewish community of the first century.

John marks the conversion of those who seek him out with a baptism of repentance. Other groups in this period are thought to have practiced ritual washings for similar purposes, and John's baptism may have been related to the practices of the Essenes, a Jewish sect of the first century. John's baptism can be understood as an anticipation of Christian baptism. In this passage, John himself alludes to the difference between his baptism and the one yet to come: "I am baptizing you with water, for repentance . . . He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." (Matthew 3:11).

In this reading, John makes very clear that his relationship to the Messiah yet to come (Jesus) is one of service and subservience: ". . . the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals" (Matthew 3:11). In the context of Matthew's Gospel, today's passage is followed by Jesus' baptism by John, an event that is attested to in all four of the Gospels and appears to have been the start of Jesus' public ministry.

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 in the first century, we, too, are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by our repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives, as John did, the coming of the Lord.

Advent wreath blessing

Second candle, let us pray that nothing may hinder us from receiving Christ with joy...

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.



*Please note the Christmas Mass Programme 2022
in the Foyer of the Church.*

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.

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

THANKSGIVING OPTIONS

If you are able to send your thanksgiving offerings via direct debit to:

St. Anne's Church

BSB Number: 083 347, Account No: 64340 4615.

Please include your Thanksgiving Number if you have one and/or your name, for our parish priest/and retired priests in the Archdiocese. Online direct contributions, either one-off or recurring, can be made through CDF Pay :

<https://bit.ly/CDFpaySeaford>



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

Thanksgiving collection amount for the Weekend 23/10/2022 \$ 1859.00

"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 the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Please pray for the sick and suffering of our parish especially **Trish Falk, Jenny Beechhey-Garden, Christina Toleafoa, Hortance Bouchereau, Nadege, Juana Adones, Anna Martonhelyi Linda Butler, Felipe Gonzalez, Loreto Hermosa, Natalie Fowler, Ben Pool, Gilbert Pyet, Bernadette O'Shea, Tony & Gerda Small.** We pray for all those anniversaries & remembrances occur at this time especially **Dickson Dayet** and for all those who have died recently especially **Philomena Otti Vaz.**

Rest in Peace



*Prepare a way to the Lord
make his paths straight*

Matt 1:3

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ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK 10th/11th December

READING, EUCHARISTIC MINISTER & ALTAR SERVERS

6:00pm Mass

Readers: J. Reymers / M. Lim
Eucharistic Minister: L. Doherty
Altar Servers: Luke / Issac

8:30am Mass

Readers: C. O'Toole / P. Vyverberg
Eucharistic Minister: Brian Quirk
Altar Servers: Joshua

10:00am Mass

Readers: W. Zantvoort / Adelen
Eucharistic Minister: Martin Michael
Altar Servers: Anthony

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY—Year A 2nd Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Is 11: 1-10
Responsorial Psalm: Justice shall flourish in His time, and fullness of peace for ever.
2nd Reading: Rom 15: 4-9
Gospel: Mt 3: 1-12

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY—Year A 3rd Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Is 35: 1-6, 10
Responsorial Psalm: Lord, come and save us.
2nd Reading: James 5: 7-10
Gospel: Mt 11: 2-11
Gospel Acc: The spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.



The Holy Family 2022 Magazine Deadline

The 2022 edition of our parish magazine is due to be published very soon. In order to give us time to do this before Christmas, we are making Tuesday 6th December the deadline for submission of articles.

These should be emailed to Frank at fbartosy@gmail.com

Dear parishioners,

PARISH MAGAZINE

We are thinking to publish parish magazine this year. Frank Bartosy who has been editing the magazine for the last couple of years will be contacting each group to submit a report or future plans of parish groups. Parishioners are welcome to write on many things, for example the life during or after pandemic, memories of a visit to a place after a long time, poem, short reflections on life etc., and my other things. We need all entries by first week of December. We are aiming to publish this on Christmas.

ADVENT 2022 – PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS WITH BRUCE DOWNES THE CATHOLIC GUY

“You don’t become who you hope to become, you only become what you do!”

You are invited to **Prepare for Christmas** this Advent (starting November 27th) with a new Daily Devotional series. Each day, you will receive a short inspirational video from Bruce Downes, known as The Catholic Guy, full of inspiration, real-life stories and practical ways to become all that God has created you to be! Register now or for more information: <https://BruceDownes.org/Advent>

Email: info@brucedownes.org

CARITAS AUSTRALIA

Journey through Advent with Caritas Australia’s new Parish Resource, useful for small groups or individuals. Exploring seasonal themes of peace, hope, joy and love through a social justice lens, this resource offers Gospel readings, stories of people Caritas Australia serves, reflection questions, prayers, song suggestions and ideas for putting faith into action. Visit www.caritas.org.au/advent to download the resource.

HEALING SERVICE

Some parishioners have felt that our faith community needs healing after the last few turbulent years. We have had some feedback indicating that a healing service would be desirable. If you would like this to happen, please contact Irene or Frank and we will see what can be arranged.

A CUPPA AFTER MASS

Due to the concerns raised by a number of people, we are moving the "cuppa after Mass" to the meeting room (next to the office). This will be on a trial basis after the Sunday 10am Mass.

CHURCH WINDOW GLASS CLEANING: The Church windows are badly in need of cleaning and with the height involved it should be undertaken by a professional window cleaning company. If any parishioner has a contact or knows of a business who could do the job please contact Jeff on 0412550740 with the details.

For more information please check our website.

MERCY CONNECT MELBOURNE is currently recruiting volunteers to support Refugee Students and Asylum Seekers in Primary and Secondary schools across the Melbourne Archdiocese. The volunteer commitment is approximately half a day per week for 4 school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred but not limited to. Please contact Sr. Mary Lewis RSM for an application form and further information. A Training Day for new volunteers with emphasis on Child Safe-guarding will take place prior to commencement in 2023. Email: somml@bigpond.com (preferred for contact) Tel: 9326 1895

CHRISTMAS CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED

We are looking for more Choir members to join in for the Christmas Masses. Welcome to new children’s choir!

We would like to hear lovely voice from boys and girls for Christmas eve carols at 5:30pm. If you are interested, please contact Irene on 0452218863



MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday & Thursday	6:00pm
Wednesday & Friday	9:15am
Saturday	5:30pm Reconciliation, 5:25pm Rosary followed by Divine Mercy Chaplet
Saturday	6:00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday	8:30am Mass
Sunday	10:00am Mass

DAWN MASS **Simbang Gabi**

Duration : 16th to 24th December

Time : 5:00 - 6:00am

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

Breakfast and Fellowship
after Mass

Christmas Retreat

As a result of several requests by parishioners to delay the Christmas retreat and the low attendance to date we have decided to delay the retreat to Saturday the (25th March or 1st April) which will be during lent. We hope you will be able to attend this life changing retreat aimed at strengthening faith in our parish. The date will be confirmed at the earliest.

Piety Stall : We have items suitable for Christmas gifts - statues; prayer books; holy water fonts; rosaries and St Christopher key rings. Many other items suitable for gifts to celebrate this special season in a few weeks' time.

St. Vincent de Paul Gift Tree

"GIVING TREE" for PARISH CHILDREN'S TOYS - URGENTLY NEEDED!

Please take a "Giving Card" from the box in the hall foyer today with a child's age in need of a toy for Christmas. Throughout December St Vincent de Paul members will visit local families and give toys to excite each child on Christmas day. The "Giving Tree" will be in the foyer of the church.



Golf Club Available

The Parish has been donated a second hand set of right hand Golf clubs and bags that are in reasonable condition. We would like to hope that they would go to a person who cannot afford to buy a set. For more information please contact Jeff 0412 550 740



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.*