Seaford Parish Newsletter

Sunday 11th December 2022

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



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

Parish Office: 84 Austin Road, Seaford, VIC 3198 (Closed on Monday & Thursday)

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THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A

REFLECTIONS OF THIS WEEK

The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete* is the Latin word meaning "rejoice." This Sunday is so named because "Rejoice" is the first word in the entrance antiphon for today's Mass taken from Philippians 4:4,5: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near." Some people mark this Sunday on their Advent wreath with a pink candle instead of a purple candle. This Sunday is a joyful reminder that our salvation is near.

This week's Gospel Reading continues our Advent reflection on the person and message of John the Baptist. Last week we heard John speak about his relationship to the coming Messiah, Jesus. This week, we hear Jesus' message to John the Baptist, now in prison, about the signs of the kingdom found in Jesus' ministry and Jesus' assessment of John's role in the Kingdom of God.

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of John's arrest in chapter 14:3-12. In today's Gospel, John sends word to Jesus from prison, asking if Jesus is the Messiah for whom he has been waiting. Jesus responds by pointing to the miracles that he has worked and invites John and the other hearers to make their own determination. In his next breath, however, Jesus praises John for his role in preparing the way for Jesus. Then Jesus says that all of those who work for the Kingdom of God will be as great as John and even greater.

Jesus' message to John about the signs of the kingdom being performed recalls the salvation described by the prophet Isaiah. This passage is a reminder that the beginning of salvation is already mysteriously present to us, but also yet to be fulfilled. Salvation is already in our midst as manifest in the miraculous deeds of Jesus and in the Church. But salvation is also to be fulfilled in the coming reign of God. Even as we observe our world today, we can find glimpses of God's work among us. Even more, we help to prepare the way for God's kingdom by our words and our deeds. This message is indeed a cause for rejoicing.

Advent wreath blessing

Celebrant: On this Third Sunday of Advent, we light the rose coloured candle, the candle of rejoicing, on our Advent Wreath. Let us pray that God will fill us with joy at the coming of Christ...

Celebrant: Shout for joy, all you peoples of the earth!

All: The Lord is coming!

Celebrant: Rejoice and exult with all your heart!

All: The Lord is very near!

Celebrant: Have no fear, hold firm and take heart.

All: Hope in the Lord!

Celebrant: Let us pray..... God of eternal joy, you are ever faithful to your promises and ever close to your Church: the earth rejoices in hope of the Saviour's coming and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts and remove any sadness that hinders us from feeling the joy which his coming will bring, for he is Lord for ever and ever. **Amen**.



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 \$ 3377.00

"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, Nadeges, 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 Salustiano Legaspi, Felipe Bejerana, Tom & Gina Tucci, Harry & Joan Roberts, Umberto Fonti and for all those who have died recently especially Philomena Otti Vaz.



Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you he will prepare your way before you

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK 17th/18th December

READING, EUCHARISTIC MINISTER & ALTAR SERVERS

6:00pm Mass

Readers: M. Lim / R. Doherty Eucharistic Minister: R. Doherty

Altar Servers: Luke / Issac

8:30am Mass

Readers: C. Long / C. O'Toole Eucharistic Minister: Joshua

Altar Servers: Joshua

10:00am Mass

Readers: S. Martin / W. Zantvoort Eucharistic Minister: Timothy Wright

Altar Servers: Anthony

READINGS FOR THIS 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

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY—Year A 4th Sunday of Advent

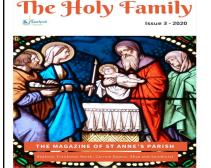
1st Reading: Is 7:10 - 14

Responsorial Psalm: Let the Lord enter, he is

king of glory.

2nd Reading: Rom 1: 1-7

Gospel: Mt 1: 18 - 24



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.

As the deadline of 6th December has passed, please email Frank at fbartosy@gmail.com if you still wish to submit an article.

Dear parishioners,

I had a nice and relaxing break and was happy to see family and now back to work. We thank all who have helped the building committee during the renovation.

SACRAMENTS

We would like to extend our gratitude to the leadership team, 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, Parish council members, Volunteers at the piety stall, Sumitha, our secretary for putting their efforts in celebrating the sacrament of Confirmation. God bless you all.

HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK

It is a tradition in Catholic Church to bring communion to the sick and homebound during Christmas. If you have elderly parishioners at home or if you know someone needs communion, please contact parish to organise a time for the priest to visit them.



SIGN UP SHEET

We need volunteers to sign up for Reading, Special Minister, Altar serving,

Sacristan and Power Point Presentation, during Christmas and New Year Masses. Please find sign- up sheets in the foyer of the Church. Volunteers please come 10 minutes before your Mass. If you would like the readings for the day please email the parish office.

<u>ADVENT 2022 – PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS</u> <u>WITH BRUCE DOWNES THE CATHOLIC</u> <u>GUY</u>

"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.

READING ROSTER FROM JAN – FEB 2023

Please collect a copy of the reading roster from Jan to Feb 2023 from the sacristy.

For more information please check our website.

Rev. Fr Martin Jeramias

Thank You! Your support of this year's Appeal for World Mission Sunday enables Church workers in 1047 mission dioceses to offer Good



News to their local communities. Thank you for contributing to the amount of \$265.20 which was raised by St Anne's community for Catholic Mission. Our partnership with local churches in over 160 countries is dependent upon the prayerful and financial support of many. Through your contribution, communities in Ethiopia look forward with hope, with easier access to health, educational and spiritual resources. THANK YOU.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

The Parish of Ivanhoe has a couple of vacancies for its Parish Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 11th – 28th April 2023. If you are interested please visit our Parish Website www.melbcatholic.org/ivanhoe and click on the News Page or phone Fr. Bill Edebohls 0427 879 733.

MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday & Thursday No Mass 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

St. Vincent de Paul Gift Tree

"GIVING TREE" for PARISH CHIL-DREN'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.

Piety Stall: has more supplies of the "God's Word for 2023"; "First Children's Bible"; "Illustrated Children's Bible". More supplies of Rosary Beads and various key rings—ideal for small Christmas gifts. Christmas cards and Columban Calendars also available. Various booklets with reference to special saints and prayers asking for their help.

Request for **used stamps** which are sent on to Mary McKillop Centre to help with raising funds. Drop any you may receive into the Piety Stall for this fundraising whether it is 1 or more at a time.

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

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMINGS

Penitential Service - Wednesday 21st December

7-9pm - followed by Individual confession

Christmas Eve - Saturday 24th December

5:30pm - Carols followed Children's Mass

8:00pm - Family Mass

11:30pm - Midnight Mass with Carols

Christmas Day - Sunday 25th December

8:30am - Mass

10:00am - Mass

New Year's Eve - Saturday 31st December

6:00pm - Mass followed by Benediction

New Year Day - Sunday 1st January 2023

8:30am - Mass

10:00am - Mass



