

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: **Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 10.00am—3.30pm**

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## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B

### THE CANDLES AND THE WREATH

Advent is celebrated four consecutive weeks before Christmas. With the season of Advent, starts the lighting of different candles.

Traditionally, each of the five Advent candles have a deeper meaning which is depicted in the four weeks we celebrate this season of waiting, watching and expecting Jesus.

Here's the specific meaning of the four weeks of Advent:

#### **WEEK 2**

The 2nd Sunday of Advent symbolizes FAITH with the "BETHLEHEM CANDLE" reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. (Purple Candle)

The second week of Advent has the meaning of FAITH and LOVE. In this second week the second purple candle is lit, reminding us to remain faithful to prepare the way for the coming of the Lord. We are required to prepare our hearts and love for the coming of Christ.

The second candle is called the Bethlehem Wax which means that our Saviour Jesus Christ will be born in our hearts.

As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

"A voice of one calling in the wilderness,

'Prepare the way for the Lord,  
make straight paths for him.

Every valley shall be filled in,  
every mountain and hill made low.

The crooked roads shall become straight,  
the rough ways smooth.

And all people will see God's salvation."

(Luke 3: 4-6)

#### **ADVENT WREATH BLESSING**

As we light the 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, God, forever and ever. Amen.

#### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

As you may be aware of the Reconciliation or Confession times at our church every weekend is on Saturday before Mass. We encourage you to take advantage of this time to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It's a wonderful opportunity to seek God's forgiveness, reflect, and renew your spiritual journey.

However, we understand that there may be instances when this time is not convenient. In such case, please know that you can always make an appointment for Confession with our priest. Your spiritual well-being is of the utmost importance, and we are here to accommodate your needs. To schedule a Confession appointment, simply contact the parish office.



***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. Annes 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.

### **“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, Christina Toleafoa, Hortance Bouchereau, Nadege, Anna Martonhelyi Linda Butler, Felipe Gonzalez, Natalie Fowler, Ben Pool, Gilbert Pyet, Bernadette O’Shea, Tony & Gerda Small, Margaret Keating, Kate Knox, Baby Toby, Mauricio Bonizzoni, Matthew Materia, Fitzroy De Alwis, Judy Bartosy, Jonas Sestokas, Jacquie Vandeligt, Constance Anderson.** We pray for all those whose anniversaries & remembrances occur at this time especially **Lourdunathan** and for all those who have died recently including **Tyson Daniels, Tony Martins, Frank Abraham, Fr. Patrick Dowling .**  
**Rest in Peace**



### **ST. ANNE’S VINNIES CHRISTMAS TOYS**

#### **Our Children’s Christmas Gift Tree is up!**

**Dear parishioners,**

Every Christmas you have been so generous, and we are asking again.

Please take a “Gift Tag” from the tree and return it with an age-appropriate gift. (please do not wrap it)!

This year to boost our hampers we would like to provide some personal care items to our families (soaps, shampoo, toothpaste etc.) Any donation of these additional items will be greatly appreciated.

Many thanks and blessings

**St Anne’s Vinnies Hamper Team**



### **ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND**

#### **9th December/ 10th December**

#### **6:00pm Vigil Mass**

Readers: M. John / R. Doherty

Eucharistic Minister: Liam Doherty

Altar Servers: Luke / Annet

#### **8:30am Mass**

Readers: F. Antony / M. Wilson

Eucharistic Minister: Timothy wright

Altar Servers: Fina / Jeanne

#### **10:00am Mass**

Readers: R. Hepworth / J. Fernandez

Eucharistic Minister: Zeeta Andrews

Altar Servers: Eric / Antony

### **READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY—Year A** **Second Sunday of Advent**

1st Reading: Is 40: 1-5, 9 -11

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

2nd Reading: 2 Pet 3: 8 - 14

Gospel: Mk 1: 1 - 8

### **READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY—Year B** **Third Sunday of Advent**

1st Reading: Is 61: 1-2, 10 -11

Responsorial Psalm: My soul rejoices in the my God.

2nd Reading: 1 Thess 5: 16 - 24

Gospel: Jn 1: 6 - 8, 19 - 28



## Dear Parishioners,

What an exciting parish fete we have had last Sunday. We had almost 30 stalls, live music, food, games for children and raffles. It was great to see families join and spend time. We thank all who have joined this event and made a success. We would like to thank fete committee, all stall holders and managers, music band, both school leadership and food and drinks suppliers and all who helped. We pray blessings to you.

We have raised \$3351.25 which will go towards water pipe cost.

## HOPPERS NIGHT' fundraiser for the church.

We invite you to join another community gathering and fundraising event on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December from 7 pm onwards at the St. Anne's School hall. All tickets are sold. Please bring some cash for raffles. Let us make this program a success.

## NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR OFFICE

Since Sumitha, our parish secretary is on holidays we need some volunteers at the parish office. If you are good at attending phones and emails, please spare couple of hours of your time. There will be some changes in the office hours too. If you need anything from the office please call before you come.

## MOBILITY SCOOTER AVAILABLE

If you or someone you know need a mobility scooter, please contact the office.

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

To all families with young children, we would love to welcome you to join in the children's liturgy from this weekend onwards only offered at 10 am Mass at this time. This is an opportunity to learn Mass and reading in child friendly language. The leaders are all passed working with children check. We need volunteers for next year.

## CENSUS

The Archdiocese has a new software for parishes, Parish Administration Communication and Engagement Management (PACEM). In order to update the parish records, we will now need to fill new census forms. Please make sure all the census card are brought back. If you have not filled one, please find it on the pews.

## FUNDRAISING PROJECTS TO COVER THE COST OF WATER PIPES.

**GOLD COIN DONATION :** We are collecting a gold coin donation at the door after each Weekend Mass.

**As of Friday the total collection is \$ 12219.6. Thank you all for your support and generosity.** Please support other projects.

**For more information please visit our website.  
Rev Fr Martin Jeramias**

## Piety Stall

Do not forget to look at items in the Piety Stall for gifts and cards for Christmas. Cribs of various sizes; statues; rosary beads; prayer books are all suitable for gifts."

# CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME 2023



## Christmas Mass Timings

**Penitential Service - Thursday 21st December**  
7:00pm - followed by Individual confession

**Weekend Masses**

**Saturday 23rd December - 6:00pm - Mass**  
**Sunday 24th December - 9:00am - Mass**  
**Christmas Eve - Sunday 24th December**  
5:30pm - Carols followed Children's Mass  
8:00pm - Family Mass  
11:30pm - Midnight Mass with Carols  
**Christmas Day - Monday 25th December**  
9:00am - Mass  
**New Year Day - Monday 1st January 2024**  
9:15am - Mass followed by benediction

## Advent 2023 Prepare for Christmas with The Catholic Guy, Bruce Downes

Join me and people all around the world for a free Daily Devotional that will guide you on a life-changing journey through Advent.

Starting 3rd December, you'll receive a short inspirational video each day filled with real life stories and practical ways to help you in your prayer and spiritual journey. I find, "You don't become what you hope to become. You only become what you do." What will you do this Advent?

Register here: <https://BruceDownes.org/Advent/>

For more information,

email: [info@brucedownes.org](mailto:info@brucedownes.org)

## Panunuluyan:



**Celebrating the Glory of Christmas**

**Recalling the Story of First Christmas in Songs**

Sunday, 17 December 2023

Starting @ 10AM, at Holy Family Church, 36 Moreton St., Frankston North

Followed by the Celebration of the Mass and Christmas Party

Featuring: The Filipino Chaplaincy Choir of Melbourne

**BE PART OF THE PLAY AND COME IN YOUR OWN BETHLEHEM (BEDOUIN) COSTUMES. MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!**

## MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>6:00pm Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday &amp; Friday</b>	<b>9:15am Mass</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>No Mass</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>5:25pm Rosary followed by Divine Mercy 5.30pm Reconciliation</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>6:00pm Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8:30 am and 10:00 am Mass</b>

### Please Help To Deliver Christmas Hampers/Toys

Our St. Anne's Vinnies need your help for **ONE HOUR, meeting at the church at 9am on Saturday December 16** to deliver Christmas Hampers/Toys to our parish families in need. Parish area will be cut up into 10 sections. You will only need to drive to one area to put a big smile on the faces of the families you deliver to. Please call the office.



### HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK

It is a tradition in Catholic Church to bring communion and anointing 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 FOR CHRISTMAS MASS

We need volunteers to sign up for Reading, Special Minister, Altar serving, Sacristan and Power Point Presentation, during Christmas and New Year Masses. Sign up sheet is placed in the foyer of the Church.

### REFLECTION FOR THE WEEK

Today's Gospel is taken from the beginning of Mark. Unlike Luke and Matthew, Mark does not include any details of Jesus' birth. Instead Mark begins with the appearance of John the Baptist in the desert. On this the Second Sunday of Advent, we are invited to reflect upon the role of John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus and the salvation that he



**St Anne's Catholic Church**



**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**



would bring to us.

Mark's description of the appearance of John the Baptist highlights John's continuity with the Jewish prophetic tradition. Mark combines quotations from the Old Testament books of Malachi, Isaiah, and Exodus. Mark's description of John as an ascetic, living in the desert, clothed in camel hair, and eating locusts and wild honey, is reminiscent of the description of the prophet Elijah found in Second Kings. The people of Judea and Jerusalem flock to him, listening to his message of repentance and forgiveness; they also come to him to be baptized. Mark's Gospel is clear, however, that John the Baptist's role is only to prepare the way for another who will come, one who is greater than John.

Many scholars believe that the Gospels reflect the tension that likely existed between followers of John the Baptist and disciples of Jesus. Each of the four Evangelists report on John's preaching and baptizing, and they each emphasize the importance of Jesus' baptism by John. The four Gospels also explain that John was sent to preach in preparation for another. In the Gospel of Luke, the question is raised as to whether John the Baptist was himself the Messiah. Just as in today's Gospel, however, John speaks quite explicitly that the Messiah was to come after him.

In today's Gospel we hear John the Baptist contrast his baptism of repentance with the baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John says that he has baptized with water, but that the one who is to come will baptize with the Holy Spirit. John's baptism was not yet a Christian baptism, but a preparation for the Sacrament of Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.

John the Baptist is presented to us as a model during Advent. We, too, are called upon to prepare a way for the Lord. Like John the Baptist, we are messengers in service to one who is greater than we are. Our Baptism commissions us to call others to life as disciples of Jesus.