

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**

**Telephone: 9401 6398**

Email: [seaford@cam.org.au](mailto:seaford@cam.org.au) Website: [www.stannes.com.au](http://www.stannes.com.au)

## THIRD 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 or advent wreath. 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 3**

The 3rd Sunday of Advent symbolizes JOY with the "SHEPHERD'S CANDLE" reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus. (Pink Candle)

The third week of Advent is marked by two purple candle bars and one pink candle. This third week reminds us of JOY. We are together delighted to welcome the birth of Jesus our Saviour.

The third candle is called the Shepherds Candle because the news of joy about the birth of Jesus Christ was first communicated to humble and sincere people. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas.

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people."

(Luke 2:10)

#### **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.**

### 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 Les Monger, John Monger, Cresencia Salih, Umberto Fonti, and for all those who have died recently including **Freddie Allan, Frank Abraham, brother Christian Moe FSC.**  
**Rest in Peace, Amen.**



*Shout and sing  
for joy, city of Zion,  
because the holy one  
of Israel  
is great among you.  
—ISAIAH 12:6*

### **ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND 23rd/ 24th December**

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

Readers: I. Abraham/L. Doherty  
Eucharistic Minister: K. Burke  
Altar Servers: Issac / Luke

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

Readers: M. Wilson / C. O’Toole  
Eucharistic Minister: A. Roberts  
Altar Servers: Fina / Jeanne

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

Readers: Z. Andrew / A. Duff  
Eucharistic Minister: J. Hinog  
Altar Servers: Grazinia / Alden

### **READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY—Year A 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

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

1st Reading: 2 Sam: 7:1-5, 8 -12, 14, 16  
Responsorial Psalm: Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.  
2nd Reading: Rom 16: 25 - 27  
Gospel: Lk 1: 26 - 38



## **Dear Parishioners,**

As Christmas is fast approaching we are reminded about the nature of waiting in preparation for the Lord. Archbishop Peter has put forward a special Advent appeal for Ukraine last week. Please find more information on the pews or scan the QR code down the page.

### **HOPPERS NIGHT**

We had a great night of food, music, and dance with many of our parishioners and visitors joined to make hoppers night a successful one. We thank all who have participated and all who helped in his project.

We have raised \$2465.00 which will go towards water pipe cost.

### **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**

It will return when we resume the school days.

### **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 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 \$ 14,734.6. Thank you all for your support and generosity.**

**For more information please visit our website.**

**Rev Fr Martin Jeramias.**

### **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)

## 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

### **Archbishop's Advent appeal for Ukraine**



**Thank you for your support of the Advent Appeal for Ukraine.**

Please scan the QR code above to donate online.

[melbournecatholic.org/adventappeal](http://melbournecatholic.org/adventappeal)

Donations to the Archbishop's Charitable Fund are intended to provide assistance and relief to those who remain in their homes in Ukraine, who are internally displaced in Ukraine, or who have been externally displaced to Australia and other countries.

For cash or cheque payments, fill out the form over the page, tear off and enclose into the postage paid return envelope pre-addressed to: **Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, Archbishop's Charitable Fund, PO Box 146, East Melbourne VIC 8002.** A tax deductible receipt will be sent to the email address you provide on the form.

## MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

<b>Dawn Mass 16-24</b>	<b>5:00 am</b>
<b>Tuesday &amp; Thursday</b>	<b>6:00pm Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday &amp; Friday</b>	<b>9:15am 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>9am Mass</b>

## 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. This is last weekend to sign up.

## REFLECTION FOR THE WEEK

This Sunday's Gospel invites us to continue our reflection on the person and mission of John the Baptist. Today we depart from the Gospel of Mark and read a selection from the Gospel of John.

The Gospel for today combines a brief passage from the prologue to John's Gospel with a report about John the Baptist. As in Mark's Gospel, the Gospel of John contains no birth narrative. Instead, John's Gospel begins with a theological reflection that has come to be called the "prologue." This prologue places the story of Jesus in its cosmological framework. It speaks of Jesus' existence with God since the beginning of time. In John's Gospel, Jesus is presented as the fulfillment of the Old Testament and the culmination of the Word, the light that is coming into the world's darkness.

Following this prologue, John reports on the ministry of John the Baptist. We learn about the attention that John the Baptist received from the Jewish authorities. Messengers from the Jewish priests, the Levites and the Pharisees question John about his identity and the meaning of the baptisms that he is performing. John's Gospel uses these questions to establish the relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist. John the Baptist is not the Messiah, nor is he Elijah or the Prophet. In



**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**

John's denials, we hear echoes of the kind of messianic expectations that were common in first-century Palestine.

The only affirmative response that John the Baptist gives is when he quotes the prophet Isaiah. Upon answering the next question, John announces that the saviour they seek is already among them, but as yet unrecognized. John's response highlights for us an important Advent theme: Jesus has already come into the world as our saviour. During Advent, we pray that we will be able to recognize Jesus' presence in our midst. Advent also reminds us that Jesus will come again to fulfill the promise of salvation. We pray that we will continue to be watchful as we anticipate that great day.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete*, a Latin word which means "rejoice," is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass. This theme is echoed in today's second reading from the first Letter to the Thessalonians. It is a reminder that Advent is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED

Children need for Children's carols and Mass for Christmas.

Join us for practise at chapel in church on Sunday 17 at 11:30 am (after Mass), Thursday 21 at 2:00 pm and Saturday 23 at 4 pm.

For more info please contact Irene Levangie at [funtasticmusicstudio@gmail.com](mailto:funtasticmusicstudio@gmail.com)

## Piety Stall

"The Piety Stall has Christmas cards and Columban Calendars. Purchase your cards and gifts there – the profit all goes to the Parish funds."