Seaford Parish Newsletter

Sunday 11th February 2024

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 Website: www.stannes.com.au

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

REFLECTION FOR THE WEEK

In today's Gospel, we continue to hear Mark report the miraculous healings that Jesus performed in Galilee. The Gospel begins with Jesus healing a man with leprosy. Leprosy is a disfiguring, infectious skin disease that has been surrounded by many social and religious taboos throughout history. In 1873, the cause of leprosy, also known as Hansen's disease, was identified. We now know that leprosy is caused by a bacterial infection. Although it is infectious, modern medical studies have shown that transmission is more difficult than previously thought. Since the 1940s, medical treatments have been available, and the patient no longer needs to be isolated once long-term treatment has begun.

In Jesus' time, however, religious and social taboos dictated the behaviour of those with leprosy and other skin diseases. The Law of Moses provided for the examination of skin diseases by the priests, and if leprosy was identified, the person was declared unclean. People with leprosy lived in isolation from the community. They were instructed to rip their clothes and to announce their presence with loud cries when moving in the community. If the sores of leprosy healed, the Law of Moses provided a purification rite that permitted the person to return to the community.

In today's Gospel, the man with leprosy took the initiative, approaching Jesus and asking for healing. In doing so, the leper violated the religious customs of the day by approaching a person who was clean. His request to Jesus can be interpreted as a courageous and daring act. The confidence of the leper in Jesus' ability to heal him is evident in the words of his request. But his words can also be read as a challenge to Jesus, asking just how far Jesus was willing to extend himself in order to heal someone. While

healing the man, Jesus touched him, which also violated established social norms. This is an important sign of the depth of Jesus' compassion for the man and an important statement about Jesus' interpretation of the Law of Moses.

Although Jesus touched the leper, he did not break completely with the Law of Moses. He instructed the man not to tell anyone about the cure and told him to present himself to the priests as prescribed by the Law of Moses. The first instruction sounds nearly impossible to honour. Certainly, the man would want to share the good news of his healing, and his quick improvement would require an explanation. The second instruction honours the Law of Moses. Mark's Gospel tells us that after this healing, it became difficult for Jesus to travel freely. There are several possible explanations for this. There might have been concern about the repercussions of Jesus' breach of social and religious norms. In touching the man with leprosy, Jesus made himself unclean. Mark's narrative, however, leads to the conclusion that Jesus' movement was hampered by his popularity. Despite his instructions, the cured man spread the word about Jesus' healing power. Even when Jesus was in deserted places, people sought him out in search of his healing.



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 4/2/2024 \$ 2007.00

"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, Christina Toleafoa, Hortance Bouchereau, Nadeges, 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, Fitziroy De Alwis, Judy Bartosy, Jonas Sestokas, Jacquie Vandeligt, Matthew Materia, Kevin Burke, Constance Anderson. We pray for all those whose anniversaries & remembrances occur at this time especially Douglas Arthur Segui, Maria De Fatima Palma, Kevin O'Brien & Maria Rodrigues Palma and for all those who have died recently including Francis Joseph Cloney, Jonash Hoareau. Rest in Peace, Amen.





Zoom Session

Helder Camara Lecture:

A conversation with Monsignor Tomáš Halik

Topic: 'Help my unbelief!

Finding God in a secular age'

Please join us on Monday, 12 February, at St John's Church, 20 Coral Street, Frankston East 6:00-8:00pm

for an enriching conversation with Czech priest Monsignor Tomáš Halik, the 'underground priest' who converted to Catholicism as an adult and was secretly ordained in 1978 during the communist rule of then-Czechoslovakia.

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND 17th February & 18th February

6:00pm Vigil Mass

Readers: M. John / M. Hutchings

Eucharistic Minister: Ignatius Abraham

Altar Servers: Isaac / Luke

8:30am Mass

Readers: C. O' Toole / B. Hicks Eucharistic Minister: Brian Quirk

Altar Servers: Fina / Jeanne

10:00am Mass

Readers: Z. Andrew / B.George

Eucharistic Minister: Grace Edwards

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY—Year B

First Sunday of Lent

Gen9: 8 - 15

Altar Servers: Alden / Johan

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY—Year B Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Lev 13: 1-2, 44 - 46

Responsorial Psalm: I turn to you, Lord in

time of trouble, and you fill with the Joy of Salvation

me with the Joy of Salva 2nd Reading: 1 Cor 10: 31 – 11: 1

Gospel: Mk 1: 40 - 45

4 - 46 1st Reading: Lord in Responsorial

Responsorial Psalm: Your ways, O Lord, are

love and truth, to those who

keep your covenant.

2nd Reading: 1 Pet 3:18 - 22 Gospel: Mk 1: 12 - 15 Dear Parishioners,

We are entering into a season of grace in few days. During these 40 days due importance be given to prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

LENTEN SEASON 2024

This year Lenten season begins on 14th February with Ash Wednesday celebrations. We have two Masses on that day 9:15 am and 7:00pm.

109. "The Lenten Season has a twofold character:

- 1) It recalls baptism or prepares for it;
- 2) it stresses a penitential spirit.
- By these means especially, Lent readies the faithful for celebrating the paschal mystery after a period of closer attention to the Word of God, and more ardent prayer. In the liturgy itself and in the liturgy-centred instructions, these baptismal and penitential themes should be more pronounced. Hence:
- a) Wider use is to be made of baptismal features proper to the Lenten liturgy.
- b) The same approach holds for the penitential elements.

110. During Lent, penance should not be only internal and individual hut also external and social.

In any event, let the paschal fast be kept sacred. It should be observed everywhere on Good Friday and, where possible prolonged throughout Holy Saturday, so that the joys of the Sunday of the resurrection may be visited on uplifted and responsive spirits".

Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, Vatican

15TH ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY

I am delighted to invite you to join me in celebrating the 15th Ordination Anniversary Mass and to give thanks to God. This significant milestone marks fifteen years of dedicated service and commitment to faith community.

Our regular weekend Masses on March 2nd at 6 pm, and 3rd 8:30 and 10 am will be the special Mass.

Let us come together as a parish family to express our gratitude and pray for more vocation. Be assured of my prayers too. Your presence will make this occasion even more special.

I am inviting more parishioners and friends from my previous parishes. Please bring a plate to share after Mass.

ROSTERS FOR THE MINISTRIES

To all Eucharist volunteers, welcome to new members in this ministry. We have sent the rosters for Sacristans, Readers, Communion ministers and Altar servers. If you have not received the roster, please do not hesitate to contact the parish office, printed copies of the roster is available in the sacristy. Thank you all for volunteering.

Also read about the Sacrament Schedule for 2024, Liam's new role in the diocese of Sale, Thanksgiving Campaign news, and Lenten regulation is uploaded in the website.

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

OFFERTORY THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN

Dear Parishioners,

On the weekend of the 24th & 25th of February, we will commence our Offertory Giving Campaign in our parish community, which will run over a three-week period. Giving generously is a way to deepen our faith and is a vital part of our identity as Christian worshippers. You are encouraged to engage prayerfully with the content presented and provided over this time and we look forward to growing and going deeper in our relationship with Christ through this process.

NEW ROLE OF LIAM DOHERTY

I have been asked to share some information on my new role as a Catholic Identity and Religious Education Adviser for schools with DOSCEL (Diocese of Sale Catholic Education Limited). in this role I am privileged to work with a team that have the responsibility of working with schools, both primary and secondary, within the Diocese of Sale to improve their Catholic identity and religious education programs. This involves working closely with schools to identify areas of strengths and of challenges, and to help them identify goals to assist them to improve. This might include providing, formation, training and accreditation programs for staff, improving iconography, the liturgical and prayer life of the school, as well as implementing effective Religious Education programs and building the links between the parish and the school. I access a range of data in order to assist me in this process including survey data, results and census date as well as anecdotal data collected through discussions with the schools and the parishes.

I am blessed in my role and I feel a great sense of responsibility in the importance of my work. Please keep me in your prayers that I may continue to have a positive impact through my work, and allow the students and staff in our schools to recognise and come to a deep appreciation for the Catholic faith.

FRANKSTON WINTER SHELTER 2024

Preparations are underway for the Winter Shelter this year, and we will soon be calling for volunteers. St Anne's has been asked to provide the Holy Family venue for one additional evening per week, which will enable the program to be open an extra night this year.

Before we commit to this, we need to secure a venue co-ordinator for Thursday evenings, from June to August this year. This position requires about an hour (maximum) on Thursday morning, and then opening up the hall again at 4 pm in the evening, and being on hand with volunteers and guests until sometime between 7 - 10 pm in the evening. It is a very rewarding task, and will enable the extra night for guests, for whom the service is a godsend, in some cases a lifesaver. If you are interested to find out more, please contact Sumitha at the parish office, or email or chat to David Moloney (dmo74189@bigpond.net.au; 0417 704 427).

MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday & Thursday 6:00pm Mass

Ash Wednesday 9:15am & 7:00pm Mass

Friday 9:15am Mass & 7:00pm

Stations of the Cross

Saturday 5:25pm Rosary

followed by Divine Mercy

5.30pm Reconciliation

Saturday 6:00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 8:30 am Mass

10:00 am Mass

LENT 2024 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY, BRUCE DOWNES

Lent is a time when we can grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Easter. Be inspired. Be refreshed. Be renewed! For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is FREE and you can sign up here: https://

BruceDownes.org/LentGo to

BruceDownes.org for more information.

SCHEDULE FOR THE SACRAMENTS 2024

RECONCILIATION

Enrolment form go out Feb 10/11
Enrolment Mass 1 Feb 24/25
Enrolment Mass 2 Mar 8/9

Preparation evening Mar 13 (Wednesday) 6:30

pm at church.

Mass attendance weeks Mar 16/17, 23/24, 30/31,

Apr 6/8, 13/14, 20/21,

27/28 May 4/5.

Workbooks return May 6
Workbooks correcting May 7-11

Celebration day May 18 at 11 am

(Saturday)

FIRST COMMUNION

Enrolment form go out
Enrolment Mass 1
Enrolment Mass 2

Enrolment Mass 2 April 27/28
Preparation evening May 1(Wednesday) 6:30

pm at church.

March 23/24

April 20/21

Mass attendance weeks

Workbooks return

Celebration dates

Workbooks correcting

May 4/5, 2/11, 18/19, 25/26, 29/30, June 1/2,

8/9 15/16, 22/23. June 24 (Monday) June 25-July 6 July 20/21, 27/28

Aug 3/4, 10/11



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.**