# **Seaford Parish Newsletter**

Sunday 18th February 2024

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



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

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#### FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B

## **REFLECTION FOR THE WEEK**

On the first Sunday of Lent, the Gospel reading in each Lectionary cycle is about Jesus' temptation in the desert. This event in the life of Jesus is reported in each of the Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke—but it is not found in John's Gospel. This year we read Mark's account of this event.

Compared to the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, the details throughout Mark's narrative are sparse. This is evident in Mark's account of Jesus' temptation in the desert. Mark tells us only that Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and that for 40 days he was tempted by Satan. The Gospels of Matthew and Luke explain that Jesus fasted while in the desert, that Satan presented him with three temptations, and that Jesus refused each one, quoting Scripture. Only the Gospels of Matthew and Mark report that angels ministered to Jesus at the end of his time in the desert.

In each of the Synoptic Gospels, the temptation of Jesus follows his baptism by John the Baptist. In Mark's Gospel, we are told that Jesus went into the desert immediately after his baptism, led by the Spirit. Jesus' public ministry in Galilee begins after his temptation in the desert. Mark's Gospel makes a connection between the arrest of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Jesus' preaching about the Kingdom of God is in continuity with the preaching of John the Baptist, but it is also something new. As Jesus announces it, the Kingdom of God is beginning; the time of the fulfillment of God's promises is here.

The fact that Jesus spent 40 days in the desert is significant. This recalls the 40 years that the

Israelites wandered in the desert after being led from slavery in Egypt. The prophet Elijah also journeyed in the desert for 40days and nights, making his way to Horeb, the mountain of God, where he was also attended to by an angel of the Lord. Remembering the significance of these events, we also set aside 40 days for the season of Lent.

In Mark's Gospel, the desert marks beginning of Jesus' battle with Satan; the ultimate test will be in Jesus' final hours on the cross. In a similar way, our Lenten observances are only a beginning, a preparation for and a reinforcement of our ongoing struggle to resist the temptations we face in our lives. During Lent, we are led by the Holy Spirit to remember the vows of Baptism in which we promised to reject sin and to follow Jesus. Just as Jesus was ministered to by the angels, God also supports us in our struggle against sin and temptation. We succeed because Jesus conquered sin once and for all in his saving death on the cross.

### Vinnies new president

We are thrilled to announce that Annabelle has been appointed as the new President of the Vinnies Conference at St. Anne's Church! With her passion for service and dedication, Annabelle is the perfect choice for this role. We congratulate her and have no doubt that she will lead the Vinnies Conference with grace and compassion. Let us all offer our support and encouragement as she embarks on this new chapter of service to our community.

Also prayers for all support roles, Vice

President: Peter Vyverberg, Treasurer: Josie Pagnella, Sec: Clare Bailey and all other office bearers.

# 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:

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

https://bit.ly/CDFpaySeaford

#### Thanksgiving collection amount for the Weekend 11/2/2024 \$ 2076.40

#### "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, Eliza Wilmot. We pray for all those whose anniversaries & remembrances occur at this time especially Leonora Bejerana, Eliseo Ollada, Jayatha & Jeevantha Fernando and for all those who have died recently including Lauri McMahon, Yolanda Poon. Rest in Peace, Amen.





# Project Compassion Sunday 18th & 19th Februa

**18th & 19th February**Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help

support vulnerable people around the world,

now and for all future generations.

With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction.

Project Compassion 2024 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow *for all future generations*.

# ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND 24th February & 25th February

#### 6:00pm Vigil Mass

Readers: R. Doherty / R. Rodgrigues Eucharistic Minister: Mille Hutchings Altar Servers: Annet / Isaac

#### 8:30am Mass

Readers: D. Morison / F. Antony Eucharistic Minister: Christina O'Toole Altar Servers: Fina / Jeanne

#### 10:00am Mass

Readers: V. Angel / A. William Eucharistic Minister: Jerome Hiong

Altar Servers: Eric/ Grazinia

#### READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY—Year B First Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Gen 9: 8 - 15

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

#### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY—Year B Second Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Gen 22: 1 - 2, 9-13,15-18

Responsorial Psalm: I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of

the living

2nd Reading: Rom 8: 31 - 34 Gospel: Mk 9: 2 - 10

#### Dear Parishioners,

As we begin our Lenten journey, let us reflect on the theme of repentance and renewal during this first week. This week calls us to examine our lives, acknowledging our shortcomings and seeking forgiveness. It is a time for introspection and self-reflection, as we strive to turn away from sin and embrace a path of spiritual growth. Let us use this week to contemplate the areas in our lives where we can make positive changes, seeking reconciliation with both ourselves and others. Through prayer, fasting, and acts of charity, may we open our hearts to God's grace and experience the transformative power of His love.

As we embark on this Lenten season, may we walk with humility and gratitude, trusting in God's mercy and guidance every step of the way.

Wishing you a blessed and reflective first week of Lent.

#### IMPORTANCE OF STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross hold profound significance in the Christian faith, serving as a powerful devotional practice that allows believers to journey with Jesus through his final moments before crucifixion. These stations, depicting various scenes from Jesus' Passion and death, offer a tangible way to meditate on his sacrifice and to deepen one's understanding of the immense love and suffering he endured for humanity.

Participating in the Stations of the Cross fosters a deeper connection to Christ's journey and invites us to reflect on our own faith journey, trials, and redemption. It is a solemn and sacred tradition that encourages introspection, repentance, and renewal, particularly during the Lenten season.

Through prayerful reflection on each station, we are invited to unite our sufferings with those of Jesus and find solace in his example of unwavering faith and ultimate victory over sin and death. The Stations of the Cross serve as a reminder of the profound love and mercy of God, inviting believers to walk alongside Jesus in his suffering and to embrace the hope of resurrection and eternal life. Please join us at 7:00pm every Friday during Lent.

#### SUPPORT PROJECT COMPASSION

During Lent, helping charities takes on profound significance. It's a time when we're called to reflect on our blessings and share them with those in need. By supporting charities, we embody the spirit of selflessness and compassion that Lent encourages. Our acts of generosity not only make a tangible difference in the lives of others but also deepen our own spiritual journey, reminding us of the transformative power of love and kindness. Let's embrace this opportunity to make a positive impact and live out the true essence of Lent.

Please donate to Project Compassion. The boxes and envelops are at the foyer.

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

#### <u>OFFERTORY THANKSGIVING</u> 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.

#### <u>FR MARTIN JERAMIAS</u> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6 pm, and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

# MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

**Tuesday & Thursday 6:00pm Mass** 

Wednesday 9:15am 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.



## 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.

# **SCHEDULE FOR THE SACRAMENTS**

#### RECONCILIATION

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

Mar 13 (Wednesday) 6:30 Preparation evening

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 May 7-11 Workbooks correcting

Celebration day May 18 at 11 am

(Saturday)

#### FIRST COMMUNION

Enrolment form go out March 23/24 Enrolment Mass 1 April 20/21 Enrolment Mass 2 April 27/28

May 1(Wednesday) 6:30 Preparation evening

pm at church.

Mass attendance weeks May 4/5, 2/11, 18/19,

25/26, 29/30, June 1/2,

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

Aug 3/4, 10/11

#### CONFIRMATION

Enrolment form go out May 18/19 June 15/16 **Enrolment Mass 1** June 22/23 **Enrolment Mass 2** 

Preparation evening June 26 Wednesday 6:30

pm at church

Mass attendance weeks Jun 29/30, Jul 6/7, 12/30,

20/21, 27/28 Aug 3/4, 10/11, 17/18, 24/25, 31/

Sep1, 7/8, 14/15

Workbook return Sep 16 17-21 Workbooks correcting Sep Retreat day and meet bishop 10<sup>th</sup> October

12<sup>th</sup> October 6pm for Celebration day

St. Annes school 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2pm for St. Joachim school

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is close at hand.

Repent, and believe the gospel

JESUS, MARK 1:15