

# Seaford Parish Newsletter

Sunday 10th March 2024

Holy Family  
St. Joachim's  
St. Anne's

Frankston North  
Carrum Downs  
Seaford



Parish Priest: Rev Fr. Martin Jeramias

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## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B

### REFLECTION FOR THE WEEK

The fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called *Laetare* Sunday. *Laetare* is a Latin word that means “rejoice.” Traditionally, Sundays are named after the first word of the liturgy’s opening antiphon. On this Sunday, the antiphon is taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 66:10-11). Even as we observe our Lenten sacrifices, we rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter.

Today’s Gospel reading is taken from John’s Gospel. It consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus’ reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the Kingdom of God. The dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus that followed was about the meaning of this phrase. Nicodemus misunderstood Jesus at every point, but there was no animosity in the questions he posed to Jesus.

In the part of the conversation with Nicodemus in today’s Gospel, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. When the Israelites grumbled against the Lord during their sojourn in the desert, God sent venomous serpents to punish them for their complaints. The Israelites repented and asked Moses to pray for them. The Lord heard Moses’ prayer and instructed him to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. All who had been bitten by a serpent and then looked upon the bronze serpent were cured. By recalling this story, Jesus alludes to the salvation that would be accomplished through his death and Resurrection.

The second part of today’s Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus’ words to Nicodemus. The Gospel of John is known for this kind of reflection offered within the narrative. The words of the Evangelist are in continuity with the words of the prologue to John’s Gospel. In these reflections, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation.

In John’s reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

### OFFERTORY THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you to everyone who promptly collected their offertory giving envelopes last weekend.

However, we kindly remind those who have yet to retrieve theirs to do so this weekend.

Additionally, for those who wish to submit their filled-out pledge cards, you have several convenient options: you may place them in either the first or second collections during Mass, drop them off at the parish.

*Our parish respectfully acknowledges the Bunurong people, who are the custodians of the Boon Wurrung land on which we worship. We acknowledge and pay respect to the Elders; past, present and future.*

***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 3/3/2024 \$ 3447.00**

### **“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, Fitzroy De Alwis, Judy Bartosy, Jonas Sestokas, Jacquie Vandelight, Matthew Materia, Kevin Burke, Constance Anderson, Eliza Wilmot, Mauricio Bonizzoni.** We pray for all those whose anniversaries & remembrances occur at this time especially **Ismael Silah, Mirantha Fernando, Loreto Hermosa, Patricia** and for all those who have died recently especially **Segundo Yadao.**  
**Rest in Peace, Amen.**



### **Project Compassion Sunday**



As the eldest child in a low-income farming family in rural Malawi, **Memory** faced many barriers to her education. But, with the support of Caritas Australia, she enrolled in a technical school and became the first female carpenter in her

**PROJECT COMPASSION**  
FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS



village.

**Please donate to Project Compassion.**

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.

### **ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND** **16th March & 17th March**

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

Readers: M. Hutchings / A. Brown  
Eucharistic Minister: Liam Doherty  
Altar Servers: Annet / Isaac

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

Readers: P. Vyverberg / M. Wilson  
Eucharistic Minister: Brian Quirk  
Altar Servers: Fina / Jeanne

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

Readers: J. Fernandez / G. Martin  
Eucharistic Minister: Lloyd Hazelman  
Altar Servers: Anthony / Alden

### **READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY—Year B** **Fourth Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading: 2Chron 36: 14 - 16, 19-23  
Responsorial Psalm: Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!  
2nd Reading: Eph 2: 4 - 10  
Gospel: Jn 3: 14 - 21

### **READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY—Year B** **Fifth Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading: Jer 31: 31 - 34  
Responsorial Psalm: Create a clean heart in me, O God.  
2nd Reading: Heb 5: 7 - 9  
Gospel: Jn 12: 20 - 30

## Dear Parishioners,

As we journey through the season of Lent, we are reminded of the profound love of God for each and every one of us. This fourth weekend of Lent provides us with a special opportunity to reflect on the boundless love that God has for us and the ways in which we can respond to that love. God's love is unconditional, unwavering, and all-encompassing. It knows no bounds and extends to every corner of our lives. It is a love that transcends our shortcomings and failures, offering us forgiveness, redemption, and grace.

As we contemplate the love of God during this Lenten season, let us also reflect on how we can open our hearts more fully to receive this love. Let us strive to deepen our relationship with God through prayer, repentance, and acts of kindness and compassion towards others.

Let us remember that God's love is the foundation of our faith, and it is through this love that we are called to live out our lives as disciples of Christ. May we be inspired by the example of Jesus, who demonstrated the ultimate act of love through his sacrifice on the cross.

May this weekend be a time of renewal and transformation as we immerse ourselves in the love of God and allow it to guide us on our journey of faith.

### YOUTH GROUP OF THE PARISH

We're excited to announce the vibrant youth group at our parish! Our youth group offers a welcoming and supportive community for young people to grow in their faith, forge friendships, and engage in meaningful service and activities. From dynamic discussions to fun events and service projects, there's something for everyone.

Youth group meets fortnightly on Saturdays 4 -5 pm in the parish meeting room. We invite all youth to join us on this journey of faith and fellowship.



### 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

I am deeply grateful for your presence and generosity in celebrating my 15th ordination anniversary. Your warm wishes and the delicious food you provided made the occasion even more special.



Your support over the years has been a source of strength and inspiration for me in my ministry. I am truly blessed to serve such a caring and close-knit community.

Thank you for being a part of this milestone celebration and for your continued faith and friendship. May we continue to grow together in love and service to one another.

### WORKING BEE

Please save this date on your calendar, Saturday 23rd March from 9:00am- 11:00am. Please join the parish community working bee, let us come together to enhance our surroundings.

### FAITH AND MISSION COMMITTEE NEED MORE MEMBERS FROM DIFFERENT ETHNIC GROUPS

The current members of this group belong to one ethnic group. To ensure diversity and inclusivity within the Faith and Mission committee, we are actively seeking members from various ethnic communities. Your unique perspectives, cultural insights, and lived experiences are invaluable assets that can enrich our discussions and help us better understand and serve the needs of our diverse parish community. By coming together from different backgrounds, we can foster greater unity, empathy, and effectiveness in carrying out our mission as a faith community. please reach out to the parish office. Let's work together to make our parish community a more inclusive and welcoming place for all. Meeting monthly on Wednesday evening.

**Please visit our website for more information.  
Rev Fr Martin Jeramias.**

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.



## MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

<b>Tuesday &amp; Thursday</b>	<b>6:00pm Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9:15am Mass</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9:15am Mass &amp; 7:00pm Stations of the Cross</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>5:25pm Rosary followed by Divine Mercy</b> <b>5.30pm Reconciliation</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>6:00pm Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8:30 am Mass</b> <b>10:00 am Mass</b>

## Holy Week SCHEDULE- MARCH



<b>19</b> TUE	<b>"Mercy Melbourne"</b> 6 pm Mass 6:30-8:30pm Adoration and Reconciliation
<b>26</b> TUE	6 pm: <b>Tuesday Mass</b>
<b>27</b> WED	9:15 am <b>Wednesday Mass</b> 7-8:30 pm Reconciliation service followed by Individual reconciliation
<b>28</b> THU	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> 7:30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper until 10 pm Followed by Silent adoration
<b>29</b> FRI	<b>Good Friday</b> 10:30 am The Stations of the Cross 3 pm: Commemoration of the Lord's Passion
<b>30</b> SAT	<b>Holy Saturday</b> 7:30 pm The Easter Vigil
<b>31</b> SUN	<b>Easter Sunday</b> 8:30 am Mass 10 am Mass

## SACRAMENTS RECONCILIATION 2024

Enrolment Mass 2  
Preparation evening

Mar 9/10  
March 13th (Wednesday)  
6:30pm at church.

### MENALIVE

We invite all men to join our parish MenAlive group. This is a fantastic opportunity for men to come together, support one another, and grow in our faith and fellowship.



MenAlive offers a space where we can discuss important topics, share our experiences, and strengthen our bonds as brothers in Christ. Whether you're seeking guidance, camaraderie, or simply a chance to connect with other men in the parish, MenAlive is here for you.

We encourage you to join us in this enriching journey of faith and community. Together, we can make a positive difference in each other's lives and in the life of our parish.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please don't hesitate to reach out to Ashley Middleton or Allan Sleddon or parish office. We look forward to welcoming you to MenAlive. We meet every Friday evening.



## VOCATION NEWS

I would like to thank you for your prayers for Vocations over the years. We were delighted to accept eight men to the Seminary for Melbourne this year:

**Chinh Tran, Rohan Prince, Luke Kennedy, Luke Emslie, Tung Phan, Joseph Maae, Patrick Harris and Mathews Noble.**

Many of you have personally helped and encouraged these men along their journey to apply to join the Seminary; it truly is a team effort!

Please continue to pray for them!

**Vocations Office Melbourne**

