## **Seaford Parish Newsletter**

Sunday 7th April 2024

**Holy Family** Frankston North St. Joachim's **Carrum Downs** St. Anne's 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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## **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - YEAR B**

## REFLECTION FOR THE WEEK

## The Second Sunday of Easter is celebrated as Thomas, **Divine Mercy Sunday.**

Today's reading from the Gospel of John is proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter in each of comes after this first the lectionary cycles. This fact alone should alert us to the significance of the encounters with the resurrected Jesus that are described in this reading. This Gospel combines two scenes: Jesus' appearance to his disciples after his Resurrection and Jesus' dialogue with Thomas, the disciple who doubted.

Part of the mystery of Jesus' Resurrection is that he appeared to his disciples not as a spirit, but in bodily form. We do not know, however, exactly what this form looked like. Earlier in John's Gospel, when Mary of Magdala first encountered the risen Jesus, she did not recognize him until he spoke to her. In Luke's Gospel, the disciples walking along the road to Emmaus did not recognize Jesus until he broke bread with them. We know from readings such as today's that in his resurrected form, Jesus was not bound by matter; he appeared to the disciples inside a home even though the door was locked. Yet the disciples could still touch the marks of his Crucifixion.

In today's Gospel, Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun; as Jesus was sent by God, so Jesus sends his disciples. He gives his disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit so that they will be able to accomplish this task. Jesus' words to his disciples also highlight the integral connection between the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit. With the grace of the Holy Spirit, we can share forgiveness and reconciliation with others.

the doubting disciple in today's reading, represents the reality of the Church that community of witnesses to Jesus. All but the first disciples of Jesus must believe without seeing. Like Thomas, we may doubt the news that Jesus, who was crucified and buried, appeared to his disciples. Our human seeks nature hard evidence that the Jesus



who appeared to his disciples after his death is indeed the same Jesus who was crucified. Thomas is given the opportunity to be our representative in obtaining this evidence. He gives witness to us that the Jesus who was raised is the same Jesus who died. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are among those who are blessed, for we have not seen and yet believe.

## OFFERTORY THANKSGIVING **CAMPAIGN**

Dear Parishioners,

We are concluding our parish offertory giving process. For those of you who have returned your pledge cards, thank you very much for doing so. For those who haven't returned your pledge cards as yet, could you please return them in the offertory collections at Mass, Thank you for your faithful participation in our parish offertory process over the past few weeks.

Each offering, no matter the amount, is an expression of love and gratitude to God. It is a testament to your faith and trust in His provision.

#### 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 & please follow the prompts.

## Thanksgiving collection amount for the Weekend 31/3/2024 \$ 3372.50

## "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, Fitzirov De Alwis, Judy Bartosy, Jonas Sestokas, Jacquie Vandeligt, Matthew Materia, Kevin Burke, Constance Anderson, Eliza Wilmot, Mauricio Bonizzoni, Claire Morel, Nancy Eteve. We pray for all those whose anniversaries & remembrances occur at this time especially George Thomas, K V Jose, Eduardo & Emilio Paylado, Gregorio & Florante dela Cerna and for all those who have died recently especially Shirley Eileen Byrnes, Petronila Arsoler, Zoltan Korom, Gudelia Galvez. Rest in Peace, Amen.

**PROJECT®** 

COMPASSION



## **Project Compassion Sunday** THANKYOU



Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project

Compassion 2024. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit caritas.org.au/ project-compassion and donate online.

Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty.

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 or by calling 1800 024 413.

## ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND 13th April & 14th April

## 6:00pm Easter Vigil Mass

Readers: A. Brown / I. Abraham

Eucharistic Minister: Ashley Middleton

Altar Servers: Luke / Annet

#### 8:30am Mass

Readers: S. Antony / B. Hicks

Eucharistic Minister: Christina O'Toole

Altar Servers: Fina / Jeanne

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

Readers: B. George / Z. Andrew Eucharistic Minister: Grace Edwards

Altar Servers: Grazinia / Eric

### **READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY—Year B Divine Mercy Sunday**

1st Reading: Acts 4: 32 - 35

Responsorial Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord

for he is good, his love is

everlasting.

1 Jn 5: 1 - 6 2nd Reading: Jn 20: 19 - 31 Gospel:

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

1st Reading: Acts 3: 13 - 15, 17 - 19

Responsorial Psalm: Lord let your face shine on

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2nd Reading: 1 Jn 2: 1 - 5

Gospel: Lk 24: 35 - 48

#### Dear Parishioners,

Divine Mercy Sunday is celebrated on the Sunday after Easter in the Catholic Church. It's significant because it celebrates the message of mercy that Jesus revealed to Saint Faustina Kowalska, emphasizing the infinite mercy of God and the opportunity for repentance and forgiveness. It's a time for Christians to reflect on God's mercy, seek forgiveness for sins, and extend mercy to others. The feast highlights the central theme of mercy in Christian faith and offers hope and renewal to believers.

#### A NOTE OF THANKS

What a great way to celebrate Easter with the whole community this year. We thank God for allowing us to celebrate this year.

We are blessed to have a great bunch of volunteers in our community. We do take this opportunity to thank all. We thank the sacristans who made sure things for liturgies are in place for the whole week, decoration team who were at church very early every day during the Holy Week, church looks very beautiful. Choir leader and singers made a difference in the liturgies. Our readers and special ministers were very excellent in their roles. Altar servers blend in with the celebrations. Those operated microphone system kept everything really well. PowerPoint slides maker and those operated then during the Holy Week did a good job. We thank many people helped to prepare the Station of the Cross at the school ground. Thank you to all who set up fire for Easer Vigil, those who sponsored Easter eggs, who sponsored flowers for Easter decoration. We thank parish secretary who followed up with volunteers and made sure everyone on the same page. We also thank all those who helped us in any way during the Holy week ceremonies. May the Risen Christ continue to bless you abundantly.

#### **GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION**

The collection for Good Friday amounted to \$1751.70. Thank you for your generosity.

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

#### **WALKING THE LAND IN AUTUMN**

This experience on 6 April is an opportunity to walk the land along the Darebin Creek and parklands in Alphington, enjoying their wonder in autumn and being enriched by the spirituality of the earth. The day will invite you into a deeper sense of connection to the abiding mystery of the land to which we belong. The process of the day will include personal reflection and creative time. Cost of \$60 includes journaling and art material. (BYO Lunch)

Book in using this link: <a href="https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/walking.the-lane">https://walking.the-lane</a>

<u>www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/walking-the-land-in-autumn/</u>

#### **MEDITATION AND MINDFULNESS**

Join Rowland Ashby, author of A Faith to Live By: Conversations about faith with twenty-five of the world's leading spiritual teachers (Anglican Media/ Mosaic Press 2012) and former Director of Anglican Media Melbourne and editor of The Melbourne Anglican as he leads this special meditation series at Heart of Life in Croydon this Autumn. This practice can be profoundly healing and life-giving. Starting on 8 April and running for 8 weeks, you can tap into a deep spring of love, joy, peace and compassion at the centre of our being. Jesus called it Living Water, with which we will never thirst. Cultivate a transforming, healing awareness of the Divine presence, and learn how to mediate.

Book in using this link: <a href="https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/meditation-mindfulness-in-the-christian-tradition/">https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/meditation-mindfulness-in-the-christian-tradition/</a>

#### **MEANING-MAKING AWARENESS & REFLECTION**

This reflective event on 20 April, offers a sacred space to reflect upon your life using a tree as a metaphor. Between 10 am - 2 pm, join our facilitator Nicole, a counsellor trained in Narrative Therapy to walk with you through this contemplative space.

Book in using this link: <a href="https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/meaning-making-awareness-reflection/">https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/meaning-making-awareness-reflection/</a>



## MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday & Thursday 6:00pm Mass Wednesday & Friday 9:15am Mass

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



Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe

Jesus, John 20:29

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY EUCHARIST

Enrolment form are available in the Church Sacristy. Please contact school or check our website/sacrament/first eucharist. Enrolment Masses are on April 20th /21st and April 27th /28th.

# A MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Weekend is for YOU...

## "Live Your Best Married Life in Love"

Every relationship is a journey and the grind of everyday life can easily cause you to lose touch with your spouse.

This weekend gives married couples time to nurture your relationship and some tools to keep passion alive in a gentle, supportive environment, away from pressures and distractions of daily living. Every married couple deserves

a Marriage Encounter weekend!!

The weekend is based around Catholic values and couples of all faiths are welcome.

Please check our website for more details Date: 12-14 April, 2024 in Melbourne BOOK NOW

Information/Bookings: Phone Mercy & James 0409

**183 676** or

Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au

Website: www.org.au

## FRANKSTON WINTER SHELTER

We thank the parish volunteers who made it possible last year, and would like to invite new volunteers to help with the different jobs. Please contact Lara Waldron at PCC. To register, email Lara at: frankstonws@gmail.com.

1. Our training morning will be on Saturday 20 April at Peninsula City Church (252 Frankston Flinders Rd, Frankston South). All new volunteers need to attend from 9am -12pm. If you are a returning volunteer, if you could come for a 10am start, that'd be great.

2. Below is the list of items we are looking to gather before the start of the program. We are hoping to collect a full set of beds so that there can be a set at St Anne's this year.

#### **Food items:**

- Cereal (specifically Cornflakes, Nutri Grain and Weetbix), TIns of milo
- Primas (or juice boxes)
- Up and Go drink
- Cans of crushed or diced tomatoes
- Pasta
- Rice
- Fruit tubs (individual packs)

- Jellied fruit tubs (individual packs)
- Chip packets
- Soft bars (eg K bars), soft muesli bars (nothing hard)
- Long life milk (full cream) Please check use by dates

#### Other items

- Ladies Sanitary items
- Combs and hairbrushes
- Toothpaste
- King single fitted sheets (no other sizes please)
- King single mattress protectors
- Pillow cases and protectors

#### Sponsor a bed

- People can put money towards the purchase of a stretcher (10 more needed) and a mattress \$150 for a stretcher, \$90 for mattress (approx)

**Sponsor a Wheelie bag** (these are supplied for guests to have somewhere to store their belongings longer term)

- \$250 per bag

