



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

**Frankston North
Carrum Downs
Seaford**



Parish Priest: Rev Fr. Martin Jeramias (On Leave)
Deacon: Paselio Lemalu **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: 03 9401 6398
Email: seaford@cam.org.au **Website:** www.melbcatholic.org/seaford

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

REFLECTION FOR THIS WEEK

Today we move ahead in our reading of Matthew's Gospel. Last week we read about Jesus walking on the water and the disciples' confession of faith that Jesus is the Son of God. If we were reading Matthew's entire Gospel, we would have read about Jesus' debate with the Pharisees about Jewish purity laws. Jesus argues that it is not what goes into us that makes us unclean; he is referring to the strict Jewish dietary rules. Instead our words and our actions—what comes out of us—make us unclean because they emerge from a heart that is unclean.

Knowing about Jesus' debate with the Pharisees helps us to understand today's Gospel. In fact the story heightens the surprise and shock we feel as we hear Jesus' exchange with the Canaanite woman. The woman, who is not Jewish, approaches Jesus, requesting that he heal her demon-possessed daughter. At first Jesus ignores her; he says nothing. The disciples ask Jesus to send her away, and Jesus agrees, remarking that he was sent to minister to the Jews alone.

The woman persists, paying homage to Jesus, and yet Jesus denies her request again. He even insults her, using a Jewish word of derision for Gentiles, "dog." But the woman cleverly turns Jesus' insult into an affirmation of faith. Only then does Jesus grant her request and heal her daughter.

Jesus' unresponsiveness to this woman may strike us as uncharacteristic or shocking. Yet in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus' ministry is directed primarily to the people of Israel. At only a very few points, such as the one found in today's Gospel, do we find Jesus anticipating the later Christian ministry to the rest of the world.

Behind Matthew's text we can hear this early Christian community's struggle to understand how God's selection of Israel is consistent with two events: Israel's rejection of Jesus and the Gentiles' acceptance of Jesus. Just as Jesus was surprised by the faith expressed by the Canaanite woman, so too the first Christians were surprised that the Gentiles would receive the salvation God offered through Christ. In today's second reading from Paul's letter to the Romans, we hear the apostle Paul considering this same concern.

The faith that the Canaanite woman expresses is an affirmation of and confidence in God's abundant mercy. Yes, salvation comes through Israel, but it overflows for the benefit of all.



THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Today's feast celebrates Mary's Assumption into heaven. It is one of three feasts of Mary. The assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven has long been held as an important Catholic belief. The belief was not defined as dogma, however, until 1950 by Pope Pius XII. The dogma teaches that Mary, who was without sin, was taken, body and soul, into the glory of heaven.

Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to all.

Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan of salvation.



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 your continued support and donations.

THANKSGIVING OPTIONS

If you are able to send your thanksgiving offerings via direct debit to:
St. Annes Church (CDF)

BSB Number: 083 347, Account No: 64340 4615.

As reference please include your Thanksgiving Number if you have one and/or your full name.

Online direct contributions, either one-off or recurring, can be made through the QR code Or the below link

<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/donate?id=0012w00000LOj6iAAD>



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

Thanksgiving collection for the Weekend 09/08/2026 \$ 4300.50

“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 (seaford@cam.org.au).

Please pray for the sick and suffering of our parish especially **Alexander, Felipe, Anne, Chelsea Borg, Ida Perry, Constance Anderson, Jean McGregor, Jacqueline Ware, Allyson Joel, Frank Bartosy, Siyumi, Eliza Wilmot, Yeng Omo, Myra Buyco, Patricia Upton, Alex, Jay Sulton, Frances Kinna, Philomina, George Paul, Tracy Dalmau, Susie, Aida Mortimer, Shirley Hajak, Amber Elka Faska, Robin D’Cruz, Margot O’Neil.** We pray for all those whose anniversaries & remembrances occur at this time and for all those who have died recently deceased **Carrie Wyles.**



Rest in Peace. Amen.

Piety Stall

New stock available at the Piety Stall, including small statues; cross and chain; pictures of Divine Mercy; Tote bags with picture of Virgin Mary. Call in after Mass and have a look.

READING, EUCHARISTIC & ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER

The roster for the readers, eucharistic ministers and altar servers have been sent by email. Few copies are left in the sacristy, please feel free to take a copy. If you have not received the roster, please contact the parish office.



ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND **22ND & 23RD AUGUST**

6:00pm Vigil Mass

Readers: Alden. M / Melanie. J
 Eucharistic Minister: Ashley / Jarvis
 Altar Servers: Johan / Jeremy

8:30am Mass

Readers: Sofia. A / Fina. A
 Eucharistic Minister: Christina / Jeff
 Altar Servers: Volunteer

10:00am Mass

Readers: Jamie. F / Shanel. B
 Eucharistic Minister: Grace / Salvatore
 Altar Servers: Mary / Victoria

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY-Year A **20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Is 56: 1, 6 - 7
 Responsorial Psalm: O God, let all the nations praise you.
 2nd Reading: Rom 11: 13 - 15, 29-32
 Gospel: Mt 15: 21 - 28

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY-Year A **21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Is 22: 19 - 23
 Responsorial Psalm: Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.
 2nd Reading: Rom 11: 33 - 36
 Gospel: Mt 16: 13 - 20

ANNUAL FINANCIAL
THANKSGIVING STATEMENT
2025-2026



The Annual Financial Thanksgiving Statement for 2025-2026 has been sent by email last week. Parishioners who have not received the thanksgiving statement, please check your junk or spam. If you still not received, contact the parish office. We thank you for your continuous love, support and generosity.

Dear Parishioner,

14th August, 2026

On behalf of St Anne's Parish, I wish to express my heartfelt thanks for your ongoing financial support over the past financial year. Your generosity is deeply appreciated and continues to be a vital part of sustaining the life and mission of our parish.

Your contributions help us meet many essential costs — from building and property maintenance, wages, and insurance, stationery supplies, sacramental hosts and wine, religious programs, candles, church decorations, and even unexpected emergencies. Every dollar you give makes a difference in the day-to-day running of our parish family.

The official receipt for your 2025–2026 Thanksgiving contributions, generated through our Parish Administration Software are sent by email last week.

Last financial year, the insurance for our church assets alone amounted to \$15,058.32 which was decreased by 25%, and our quota contribution to the Archdiocese was \$24,698.00 which was increased by 20%, and the priest house roof renovation was \$30000.00. We continue to think seriously about the redevelopment of our Church building.

We want to assure you if your circumstances have changed and you need to review your contributions, please feel free to reach out. Equally, if you are in a position to increase your support, your parish family would be most grateful.

Once again, thank you for your generous giving, your active involvement, and your faith in the mission of St Anne's Parish. Together, we continue to grow as a vibrant, welcoming, and faith-filled community.

May the Lord bless you and your loved ones with health, peace, and joy.

Yours sincerely,

On behalf of the Finance committee,

Sumitha Moses
Parish Secretary

Fr Martin Jeramias
Parish Priest

ARCHBISHOP CAMPAIGN CALLS FAITHFUL TO BE STEWARDS OF
THE CHURCH'S MISSION

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your commitment to the Archbishop's Campaign and for the important role you play in supporting the mission of the Church throughout our Archdiocese.

Through your dedication and service, the campaign continues to provide the resources that enable the Church's mission to flourish. It helps form future priests, supports retired and sick clergy, strengthens parish communities, and sustains ministries that bring the love of Christ to those in need. These works are only possible through the generosity, partnership, and efforts of many faithful people working together for the good of the Church.

This year's theme, '**Courage!... Do not be afraid**', is drawn from the words of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew. In every age, Christ calls His disciples to place their trust in Him and to move forward with confidence, even amid uncertainty and challenge. As you support the campaign in your parish and community, I encourage you to be guided by these words. The Lord is always with us, strengthening us for mission, and calling us to be witnesses of faith, hope and charity.

Thank you for your generosity of spirit. Please know of my gratitude and prayers for you and your loved ones. May God bless you abundantly. **Most Rev Peter A Comensoli**



(Special Collection is this weekend on the 15th-16th August)

MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday	6:00 pm Mass
Wednesday	9:15 am Mass
Silent adoration	5:30 - 6:30 pm
Thursday	6:00 pm Communion Service
Friday	9:15 am Communion Service
Rosary	5:00 pm
Saturday	5:00 pm Rosary followed by Divine Mercy Chaplet 5:30 pm Reconciliation 6:00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday	8:30am & 10:00am Mass
3rd Sunday	10:30am Filipino Mass (at Holy Family Hall)

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Monday	6:00 - 8:00 pm Marian Cenacle Group
Thursday	7:00 - 8:00 pm VIBE
Friday	6:00 - 7:00 pm Youth Group 6:30 - 7:30 pm MenAlive
Saturday	3:45 - 5:00 pm Senior Legion of Mary

FRANKSTON WINTER SHELTER

We have just passed the halfway mark for winter, and what a cold and wet one it has been thus far. We are still averaging 10 guests per night, mostly the same people attending every night with a few new faces popping in and out too.

You have all been amazing and pivotal in helping us to provide a safe and warm haven for our local rough sleepers but we still need your continued support. We are currently needing Up & Go drinks, primas and socks. It is also not too late to volunteer. If you can help cover only one shift, it all helps and is greatly needed, especially as winter takes hold and the volunteers start to succumb to colds & flu. All the information can be found

at www.pencc.org/wintershelter.

Winter Shelter Coordinator.



CATHOLIC EARTHCARE SEASON OF CREATION GATHERING 2026

Caritas Australia and Catholic Religious Australia warmly invite you to participate in the Catholic Earthcare Season of Creation Gathering 2026: Listen, Reflect, Act, a national online event on 3-4 September 2026. The Gathering offers inspiring keynote presentations and practical workshops to help participants deepen their faith and respond to the call to care for our common home. Parishioners can register individually for \$20. Learn more and register: www.caritas.org.au/soc-gathering

Novena to Our Lady of Health – Velankanni 2026

1	Thursday, 27 August	6.30 pm
2	Friday, 28 August	6.30 pm
3	Saturday, 29 August	11.00 am
4	Sunday, 30 August	11.00 am
5	Monday, 31 August	6.30 pm
6	Tuesday, 1 September	6.30 pm
7	Wednesday, 2 September	6.30 pm
8	Thursday, 3 September	6.30 pm
9	Friday, 4 September	6.30 pm followed by Feast Mass at 7.00 pm
Please Bring a plate to share after the Feast Mass.		
St. Anne's Parish - 84 Austin Road, Seaford Vic 3198.		



About Aid to the Church in Need (ACN)

Aid to the Church in Need is the only international Catholic charity dedicated to the service of suffering Christians wherever they are persecuted, oppressed or in pastoral need. ACN operates solely on benefactor donations.

To learn more or provide your support, please scan the QR code or



Visit: aidtochurch.org/

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CAFE

Roast Dinner served from
Saturday 5.30pm

PET Machines

ATM facilities available

554-556 Frankston-Dandenong Road, Carrum Downs Phone: 9775 0065 www.carrumdownsbingo.com.au

Come and enjoy the fun!

DAY SESSIONS

Doors open two hours prior to Eyes down.

Wed-Fri: 11am

Sat: 12pm

Sun: 1pm

EVENING SESSIONS

Doors open 5pm

Tue - Sat

Eyes down: 7pm