

ST. MARY'S PARISH

LANCEFIELD & ROMSEY

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year C

22nd December, 2024

Lancefield Church
27 Chauncey Street
Lancefield



Romsey Church
85 Main Street
Romsey



EVERYONE WELCOME

Ministry Roster	21/12/24 6:30pm	22/12/24 9:00am	24/12/24 6:00pm	25/12/24 9:00am	28/12/24 6:30pm	29/12/24 9:00am
Musician	Rosalie	Agnes	Louise	Agnes	Rosalie	Agnes
Reader	Leanne	Michael M	Children	Joanne	Leanne	Joanne
Collector	<i>Vol. Req</i>	Ged	McCarthy	<i>Vol. Req</i>	<i>Vol. Req</i>	Barry
Cleaner	-----	Eva	-----	-----	-----	Florence
Location	LF	LF	LF	Rom	LF	LF

Could those listed on the roster please advise if you are unavailable.

CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:

Please pray also for the following who are in continuing need of our prayers: **Merle Trembath, Christine Cheney, Kath Ireland, Gwen DeCarolis, Brendan Coburn & Vittoria Cafari.**

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Sat	Dec 21 st – 10am	Reconciliation – LF
Sat	Dec 21 st – 6:30pm	Saturday Vigil Mass – LF
Sun	Dec 22 nd – 9am	Sunday Mass – Lan
Tues	Dec 24 th – 6pm	Outdoor Christmas Family Mass – LF
Wed	Dec 25 th – 9:00am	Christmas Day Mass – Rom
Thur	Dec 26 th	NO Weekday Mass
Fri	Dec 27 th – 9:30am	Weekday Mass - LF
Sat	Dec 28 th – 6:30pm	Saturday Vigil Mass – LF
Sat	Dec 29 th – 9am	Sunday Mass – LF
Wed	Jan 1 st – 9:30am	New Years Day Mass – LF

SECRETARY ANNUAL LEAVE

Tam will be taking some time off throughout January but will still attend the office one day per week to do the most urgent of tasks.

From January 1st to the 31st the office will only be manned on Fridays.

If you have any queries during this time, email would be the best option and I can reply as time permits.

EXTRA MASS

means extra help needed.

Rosters for 2025 will be produced shortly.

Could Readers please advise which Masses they are happy to attend if rostered on for reading.

ST. MARY'S PARISH – 2024 CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL PRIZE WINNERS

1ST PRIZE - \$300 CASH ROSEMARIE JONES

2ND PRIZE - \$50 CASH MIKE BASILGOL

3RD PRIZE – CHRISTMAS CAKE – RICHARD McDONALD

A total of \$1132 raised for the parish.

Thank you to Rose & Betty for organising.

Thank you to the prize contributors.

Thank you to all parishioners who supported the raffle.

Parish Priest

Fr John Healy
47 Urquhart Street
Woodend Vic 3442
Ph: 5427 2690

Assistant Priest

Fr. Brian Muling
C/- Presbytery
27 Chauncey Street
Lancefield Vic 3435
Ph: 5429 2130

Parish Secretary

Tammie Dalgleish
C/- Presbytery
27 Chauncey Street
Lancefield Vic 3435
Ph: 5429 2130

Secretary Hours

Wednesday & Friday
8:00am – 5:00pm

Parish Email

lancefield@cam.org.au

Parish Website

www.melbatholic.org/s/lancefield

St Mary's Primary School

T: 5429 1359
office@smlancefield.catholic.edu.au

School Website

www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au

CHILD PROTECTION

is **everyone's** responsibility

Safety of Children and All Vulnerable People

We hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community. The St. Mary's Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy is on display on the church noticeboards or via the parish office.

Diocesan Policies available at
www.melbournecatholic.org

All children leaving the church during Mass must be accompanied by a parent.

Child Safety Committee

Fr. John Healy
Tammie Dalgleish
Michael Mooney
Monica Tomlinson

The Living Word

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year C

22 December 2024

First Reading Mi 5:1-4

Out of you will be born the one who is to rule over Israel.

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
the least of the clans of Judah,
out of you will be born for me
the one who is to rule over Israel;
his origin goes back to the distant past,
to the days of old.
The Lord is therefore going to abandon
them
till the time when she who is to give birth
gives birth.
Then the remnant of his brothers will
come back
to the sons of Israel.
He will stand and feed his flock
with the power of the Lord,
with the majesty of the name of his God.
They will live secure, for from then on he
will extend his power
to the ends of the land.
He himself will be peace.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19. R. v.4

(R.) *Lord, make us turn to you;
let us see your face and we shall
be saved.*

1. O Shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. (R.)
2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)
3. May your hand be on the man you have
chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon
your name. (R.)

Second Reading Heb 10:5-10

I am coming to do your will.

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation,
prepared a body for me.

You took no pleasure in holocausts or
sacrifices for sin;
then I said,
just as I was commanded in the scroll of
the book,
'God, here I am! I am coming to obey
your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want
what the Law lays down as the things to be
offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations,
the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin,
and you took no pleasure in them; and then
he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey
your will. He is abolishing the first sort to
replace it with the second. And this will was
for us to be made holy by the offering of his
body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:

may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 1:39-45

*Why should it happen that I am honoured with a visit from
the mother of my Lord?*

Mary set out and went as quickly as she
could to a town in the hill country of Judah.
She went into Zechariah's house and
greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth
heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in
her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the
Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said,
'Of all women you are the most blessed,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why
should I be honoured with a visit from the
mother of my Lord? For the moment your
greeting reached my ears, the child in my
womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who
believed that the promise made her by the
Lord would be fulfilled.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

This little gospel story tells us that 'the
baby in Elizabeth's womb leaped' and
not merely leaped, but leaped 'for joy'.
Is this just poetic hyperbole?

We know that beautiful music can have
a wonderful effect on life in the womb.
Good vibrations. Here, the presence of
Jesus, being carried by Mary in her
pregnancy, had a wonderful effect on
the life carried by Elizabeth. Very good
vibrations.

From the moment of the conception of
Jesus, good vibrations reverberated out
to all human beings. The good news is
that you and I and every human life ever
conceived is visited by Our Risen Lord
Jesus Christ, and we receive that visit
as Original Blessing.

There is a further and consoling truth.
Every mother or father who has lost a
baby too early needs to know that the
same extraordinary sense of Our Lord's
presence was felt by your baby. That
Divine Presence conferred a powerful
Original Blessing on that little life within
the womb, and that same Presence
accompanied your baby into the
everlasting embrace of Divine Love in
Heaven.

We could pause a moment to pray using
the very words of Elizabeth, reciting:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with
thee.

*Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus.*

Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us
sinners

now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.

mtate@bigpond.com

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MYSTERY OF FAITH

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL – RESPONSE: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

R: In the spirit of the season we pray for ourselves and the special needs of all in our parish community. We pray for the sick members of our parish and for those who care for them. We pray for the recently deceased, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, that the Lord will bless everyone as God knows best.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

All HAIL MARY

Collections last week Presbytery \$281 Thanksgiving \$450

UPCOMING CHRISTMAS MASSES

Sunday 22 December – 9am – Fourth Sunday of Advent - Lancefield

Tuesday 24 December – 6pm – outdoor family Mass – Lancefield

Tuesday 24 December – 6pm – indoor family Mass – Woodend

Tuesday 24 December – 10pm Mass (including carols) – Woodend

Wednesday 25 December – 9am Christmas Day Mass – Romsey

Wednesday 25 December – 9am Christmas Day Mass – Woodend

OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

Due to such positive feedback from 2022 (weather was our enemy last year) we will again be celebrating the Christmas Eve Family Mass in the Lancefield Church grounds at

6pm on Tuesday 24th December, 2024.

The setting will be simple and family friendly. People are asked to bring their own chairs or picnic rug and be suitably attired and equipped to suit the weather - hats, sunscreen, water, coats etc. Should the weather be wet or very cold, of course, the Mass will need to be moved into the Church.

Children are encouraged to dress in character as part of the Nativity Scene; we hope to see lots of angels, shepherds and even Mary and Joseph among the crowd. Children will be heavily involved in the Mass.

While it will be a relaxed atmosphere, to ensure safety, the entrance to the west end of the church will be blocked off, children will not be permitted to climb on their favourite climbing tree and no cars will be permitted in the Church grounds.

IT'S A GOODBYE FROM BLUEBIRD DANCE THEATRE

Bluebird Dance Theatre have served our community and many of our parish families for the last 7 years, operating out of our cherished parish hall in Romsey.

Claire & Amy and their volunteers have treated us like family and cared for our hall lovingly since they started their dance school in 2018.

With mixed emotions, Claire & Amy have made the difficult but necessary decision to close the school to have a better work-life balance and to share more time with their families.

On behalf of all at St. Mary's Parish, I extend sincere gratitude to Claire & Amy for their dedication to so many in our community, their care for our parish hall and the absolute delight I've had personally, working with them.

We wish them happiness and success in their future endeavours.



WEEKLY MASS TIMES

St. Mary's Parish

Sunday's at 9:00am

Saturday's at 6:30pm

21/12/24 – Lancefield

22/12/24 – Lancefield

28/12/24 – Lancefield

29/12/24 – Lancefield

4/1/25 – Lancefield

5/1/25 – Romsey

HEALING MASS

1st Saturday at 10:00am

NO HEALING MASS JANUARY

01/02/25 – Romsey

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

St. Ambrose Parish - Woodend

Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 11:00am

Wednesday, Thursday

& Friday 9:30am

Baptism

As arranged with the Parish Secretary on the 4th Sunday of the month

Marriages

Arranged by appointment with at least 6 months' notice. Please contact parish office.

Funerals

Contact Fr. John directly.
Contact Fr. Brian directly.

Reconciliation

Second Saturday of the month at Woodend 10am-10:30am

Third Saturday of the month at Lancefield 10am-10:30am

Thanksgiving

Any parishioner wishing to join the Thanksgiving program is invited to contact Tammie at the parish office to arrange some Thanksgiving envelopes. Thanksgiving contributions by Direct Debit or Credit Card welcome.

Welcome

St. Mary's Parish community warmly welcomes visitors and new parishioners. We invite new parishioners to introduce yourself to Fr. John/Fr. Brian, fill in a census card located in the church foyer and place in either collection or contact Tammie directly at the parish office.

Volunteering Ministries

A current Working with Children Check is required to volunteer within the parish.

Help is always welcome!

Power Point operator at Mass
Reader of the Word
Church Cleaning & Gardening

OFFERTORY PROCESSION

The Offertory Procession has been re-introduced at all our weekend Masses.
Fr. John & Fr. Brian will call upon parishioners to participate.

POPE'S PRAYER OF INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

For Pilgrims of Hope:

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthens our faith, helping us to recognise the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

THE AUSTRALIAN NATIVITY SCENE AT ST. ELIZABETH'S PARISH

Date: Monday 9 December 2024 to Friday 10 January 2025

Venue: St. Elizabeth's Parish, 107 Baker Road, Dandenong North

St. Elizabeth's Parish invites you to visit its Australian Nativity Scene on its 21st year of display. The Nativity scene was created by artist Wilson Fernandez, and is regarded as one of Australia's most traditional Nativity scenes and the largest of its kind in the country. Each week, the Nativity scene conveys the story of Christmas. It features scenes starting with Mary and Joseph looking for a place to stay and finding only a stable free, the birth of Jesus, visits from the shepherds and the three kings, and ends with the Holy Family fleeing to Egypt.

The Nativity scene will be on public display from 9 December through to the end of Christmas, and will close for Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. For all enquiries, call St Elizabeth's Parish office on 9795 6217.

St. Mary's Food Drive - CatholicCare Victoria

St. Mary's Food Drive will run from November 17th to December 29th.

As the Catholic Church's mission in action, CatholicCare Victoria delivers programs and services to support families, children, young people and individuals to help everyone reach their full potential. Donations from our parish community help CatholicCare Victoria support the most vulnerable individuals and families in our community and empower everyone to live life to the full.

Below is the list of items they would appreciate as donations for a food drive for their Asylum Seeker clients.

- All forms of dry packets of pasta (eg spaghetti, shells, penne etc)
- *Basmati rice – small or large packets (5kg packets are excellent)* *Plain flour packet-not self-raising*
- 2 minute noodles Tinned tomatoes Long grain rice Tinned corn
- *Tinned peas* *Dried chick peas* *Savoury biscuits (eg savoy's)*
- Dried red lentils (not canned) Dried yellow lentils (not canned) Sweet biscuits (treat for children)

Collection baskets will be placed at the entry of each church during the collection period – please do not include any glass items. Thank you for your support.

TJ Scott & Son Funeral Directors

Kyneton 54226455 Gisborne 54284155

75 years of care

Lancefield & Romsey

Now also at 23 Sydney Street, Kilmore 57821112

Our family helping yours, when you need it most – John, Kelly, Jack & Daniel Scott



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ROMSEY
VIC 3434

find us on facebook
and
instagram

Joel Caspersz

Cabinet Maker

0425 854 370

joel@measuredjoinery.com.au
admin@measuredjoinery.com.au

- ✓ Superannuation & SMSF Services
- ✓ Wealth Management & Investment Plans
- ✓ Business Planning, Taxation & Growth Strategies

Director – Tim McCarthy
0403 036 654 or tim@sagegroup.com.au



**Do you have foot
problems?**



Andrew Baddeley | Podiatrist

ROMSEY | 5429 5254 | 99 Main St

RIDDELLS CREEK | 5428 7591 | 9 Station St



PRIEST & PRESBYTERY BY DIRECT DEBIT

Anyone not already contributing to the Priest & Presbytery expenses who would like to contribute may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Mary's Presbytery Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 64151 8467

Please use your surname as the reference.

THANKSGIVING BY DIRECT DEBIT

Anyone not already on the Thanksgiving Program who would like to contribute to the Church may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Mary's Church Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 64150 3257

Please use your surname and TG number as the reference.

Prayer of the Faithful: Just as Elizabeth says to Mary: “Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken by the Lord would be fulfilled”, we, too, come to prayer with faith and confidence before God.

1. Blessed is she who believed that the promise made by the Lord will be fulfilled. May we, like Mary the Mother of Jesus, rest secure always in the love of God for all his people.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

2. May the light of Christ shine in our lives and in our Church. By our anticipation and longing for the birth of Jesus, may we bring to the world new hope, new life, and new beginnings.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

3. May we as a Christian community live with the light of Christ to empower us, and may we live in humble service of others as Jesus encouraged us.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

4. Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth. We pray that all family visitations in this season engender a spirit of goodwill that will prevail throughout the year ahead.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

5. On the 20th anniversary of the Boxing Day Tsunami and the 50th anniversary of Cyclone Tracy, we pray for those who suffered and were impacted by these events. May they find peace and joy this Christmas.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

6. In the spirit of the season we pray for ourselves and the special needs of all in our parish community. We pray for those who are sick – especially those on our parish prayer list – and for all who care for them. For the faithful departed: for those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, that the Lord will bless everyone as God knows best.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

Hail Mary

Celebrant: Loving God, may your peace, which surpasses all human understanding, guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus, our Lord and our Saviour.
Amen.

Next weeks readings: Samuel 1:20-28; 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24; Luke 2:41-52

CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2024

Advent Reconciliation

Wednesday 11th December – 7:00 p.m. Lancefield Church

Wednesday 18th December – 7:30 p.m. Woodend Church

Christmas Outdoor Family Mass

Tuesday 24th December – 6:00p.m. Lancefield Church Grounds

Where: Lancefield Church grounds between church & presbytery.

Bring: Chair or picnic rug, sun protection, drink.

Wear: Appropriate clothing to suit the weather.

Costume: Everyone is encouraged to dress as a character from the Nativity scene. Angels, shepherds, sheep ☺, Mary or Joseph.



Christmas Indoor Family Mass

Tuesday 24th December – 6:00p.m. Woodend Church

Christmas Vigil Mass

Tuesday 24th December – 9:00p.m. Woodend Church - Carols

Tuesday 24th December – 10:00p.m. Woodend Church - Mass

Christmas Day Mass

Wednesday 25th December – 9:00 a.m. Romsey Church

Christmas Day Mass

Wednesday 25th December – 9:00am Woodend Church