

Seaford Parish Newsletter

Sunday 6th September 2026



**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
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TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

REFLECTION FOR THIS WEEK

Today's Gospel reading is taken from a chapter of Matthew's Gospel, which is sometimes called the "discourse on the Church" or the "church order" discourse. In this part of Matthew's Gospel, Jesus speaks more directly about matters of Church discipline and order. In today's reading we find one of only three instances in which Jesus uses the word *church* in Matthew's Gospel. In Matthew's record of Jesus' teaching, we can hear echoes of the kinds of issues faced by the early Christian community.

In the first part of the "discourse on the Church" (Matthew 18:1-14), Matthew addresses the Christian community's concerns about rank. Jesus responds to the disciples' question about who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Jesus indicates that those who wish to enter the kingdom of heaven must be like children, and he cautions those leaders who might lead these "little ones" astray. He also responds with the parable of the lost sheep, indicating how God will seek out and bring back those "little ones" who have strayed.

In today's Gospel reading, Matthew 18:15-20, Jesus addresses a common occurrence in the Christian community: a dispute between two members of the

Church. Jesus outlines a procedure for settling such matters fairly. The victim should privately address the offender and attempt to resolve the dispute without outside involvement. If that fails, then the victim should bring two or three witnesses and confront the offender again. If the dispute is still unresolved, the matter should be brought to the attention of the entire community. If the offender refuses to adhere to the reparations prescribed by the community, then Jesus suggests that the offender may be expelled from the Church.

Jesus does not discourage disagreement within the community of the Church; he acknowledges the reality of conflict and error and offers his disciples a means for addressing such matters. It is in the conclusion to this teaching that the message of hope is found: Jesus is present with the community and will guide the community in its relations. If decisions are taken in prayer, then the community can be assured of God's assistance.

Sunday Connection Loyola Press.



**The Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed
Virgin Mary 8th September 2026
Mass at 6:00 pm**



PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

O God, who chose the apostles to make disciples of all nations, and who by Baptism and Confirmation has called us to build up your Holy Church, we implore you to choose from among us, your children, many priests and religious who will love you with their whole hearts and will gladly spend their lives to make you better known and loved by all.

Amen

RCIA SESSION EVERY WEDNESDAY 7:00PM

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 31/08/2026 \$ 3952.50

“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, Christopher Lim.** We pray for all those whose anniversaries & remembrances occur at this time especially **Constancio Uy, Lita Uy, Diana Tabone, Emmanuel Tabone, Rosabella Decasa, Papias Cadenas, Soledad Gonzales, Prescilla Smith, Eleuteria Nichols, Victoria Hinog, Josephina Uy, Ramon Lim, James McMullan, Linda Bores** and for all those who have died recently deceased. **Rest in Peace. Amen.**



“**Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven: whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven**”

- Jesus, Matthew 18:18

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND **12TH & 13TH SEPTEMBER**

6:00pm Vigil Mass

Readers: Annet. R / Alden. M
Eucharistic Minister: Allan / Linda
Altar Servers: Johan / Jeremy

8:30am Mass

Readers: Jeanne. A / Kathleen. C
Eucharistic Minister: Ranjani / Timothy
Altar Servers: Volunteer

10:00am Mass

Readers: Rosetta. Q / Sienna. H
Eucharistic Minister: Martin / Franklyn
Altar Servers: Eric / Johnnie

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY-Year A **23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Ezek 33: 7 - 9
Responsorial Psalm: O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.
2nd Reading: Rom 13: 8 - 10
Gospel: Mt 18: 15 - 20

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY-Year A **24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Sirach 27: 30 - 28: 7
Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger and rich in compassion.
2nd Reading: Rom 14: 7 - 9
Gospel: Mt 18: 21 - 35

Dear Parishioners,

Just a humble reminder to please maintain silence and reverence inside the church after Holy Mass. Some parishioners may wish to stay back for personal prayer and thanksgiving.

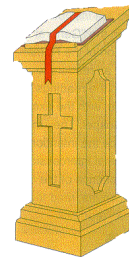
We kindly ask everyone to keep conversations in the foyer of the church and help maintain a peaceful and prayerful atmosphere.

Thank you for your understanding and co-operation. God bless you all.



NOTE TO LECTORS

“The Word of the Lord.” Some confusion lingers about the concluding words for the scriptural readings during Mass. The official church documents, such as the Roman Missal, and the readings of the Lectionary, are in Latin. The translations of these documents into the various languages of earth are to conform to the Latin original. The International Commission for English in the Liturgy (ICEL) oversees these translations in relation to English. In the rush to get new lectionaries printed after the liturgical renewal of Vatican II the concluding phrase in English became “This is the Word of the Lord.” But the official Latin conclusion to the first and second readings in the lectionary is simply “Verbum Domini,” *“The Word of the Lord.”* The English phrase “This is the Word of the Lord” suggests that the few verses we have just read is the entire mystery of the Word of God. The Word of God is much bigger, grander, and creative than the few verses we have just read. It would have been better to say “This is part of the Word of God.” The normative Latin text just says, “Verbum Domini.” Hence, some years ago the Vatican (via ICEL) directed us to change the conclusion we read in the older printed Lectionaries from “This is the Word of the Lord” to **“The Word of the Lord.”** In the same way priests and deacons now say “The Gospel of the Lord” at the end of each gospel reading instead of the former “This is the Gospel of the Lord.”



Fr Peter Matheson

ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION ON THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

The permanent diaconate is open to single and married men, aged from 30 into their 50's, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. The information session is open to everyone interested in knowing more about the permanent diaconate.

Online Diaconate information meeting Tuesday, 22 September 2026 beginning 19:00 – 20:00

Location: via ZOOM

Attendance will be by invitation. Express your interest by emailing Deacon Kevin Pattison Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au

In the week before the session the ZOOM link will be sent to those who have expressed interest.



PRAYER SERVICE OF LAMENT

The Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows invites us to stand with Mary at the foot of the Cross.

There we see a mother who remains close to her Son in His suffering, steadfast in faith and open to the hope that God alone can bring. In Mary, the Church learns not to turn away from suffering, but to remain present with compassion, humility and prayer.

In 2026, on this memorial we will gather as the Church in Melbourne for our annual Service of Lament for survivors of abuse.

Parish leaders, and representatives of the parish community are invited to join Archbishop Peter Comensoli on **Tuesday 15 September 2026 at 4.00pm** in the grounds of St Patrick's Cathedral as we come before the Lord in prayer and lament.

A Marriage Encounter weekend is a gift for every married couple and priest

Every married couple and priest deserves to experience this very special weekend.

Time-out to focus on your most precious relationships.

You will come away feeling more deeply connected and with tools to help keep it alive.

No group sharing is required.

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

We have just one weekend remaining for 2026 - don't miss this opportunity to nurture your most precious relationship.

Please check our website for more details and to book your special weekend:

November 6-8th, 2026, St Paul's Retreat Centre, Wantirna South.

Starts Friday evening at 7pm and finishes Sunday afternoon around 4:30pm

Information/Bookings: Please phone **Mercy & James 0409 183 676** or

Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: wwme.org.au



MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday	6:00 pm Mass Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Wednesday	9:15 am Mass
Silent adoration	5:30 - 6:30 pm
Thursday	6:00 pm Communion Service
Friday	9:15 am No Mass
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
Tuesday	5:30 - 4:30 pm SHAC Meeting
Wednesday	7:00 - 8:00 pm Vinnies Meeting
Thursday	7:00 - 8:00 pm Adult Theology Discussion Group.
Friday	6:30 - 7:30 pm MenAlive
Saturday	3:45 - 5:00 pm Senior Legion of Mary

National Child Protection Week **6 -12 September, 2026**

Every conversation matters, Shifting Conversation to Action

National Child Protection Week is an important opportunity for us all to renew our commitment to creating safe, welcoming and respectful environments where every child and young person is valued, heard and protected.

Safeguarding is a shared responsibility and a shared mission, which at its core is central to Catholic teachings. It is reflected not only in our policies and procedures, but in the everyday actions of our parishes, ministries, and communities. It is demonstrated in how we listen to children, respond to concerns, and ensure that their safety, wellbeing and inherent dignity remain at the heart of all we do.

This Child Protection Week, we invite everyone across our Archdiocese to reflect on how we can each contribute to making our Church a safer place for children and young people, and work to center their voice in the conversation.

I would also like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank everyone across our parishes who contribute to this important work. To our parish safeguarding representatives, clergy, staff, volunteers and community members; thank you for the time, care and commitment you give to strengthening safeguarding and helping create safe environments for children and young people.

Together, we can help create communities where every child feels safe, respected and supported.

Rachel Averbukh, Director, Safeguarding unit.

BEING PRESENT AS A FATHER



In May we rightly celebrate mothers and the important role they play in families. Four months later on the first Sunday in September we shower similar praise on fathers for their role in the structure, stability, and emotional well-being of families.

This Sunday many families will gather for lunch or dinner to say thank you to dad.

Fathers bring a unique influence that shapes the lives of children and strengthens family bonds. One of the most significant contributions of fathers is their role in emotional development. Children who grow up with engaged fathers often experience greater self-confidence and security. A father's affirmation reinforces value and worth, helping children form healthy self-identities.

Studies consistently show that when fathers are actively involved, children have higher levels of empathy, better stress management, and greater resilience in the face of challenges.

Fathers also play a vital role in modelling behaviour. A father who demonstrates integrity, responsibility, and kindness gives his children a great example of how to work through relationships and responsibilities. For sons, this can set a standard for manhood while for daughters, it often influences how they perceive and expect to be treated by men in their future relationships.

Another important aspect is the stability and protection that fathers provide. While not limited to physical safety, the presence of a dependable father creates an environment where children feel safe to explore, learn, and grow.

Fathers also contribute to a family's discipline and structure. When given with love and consistency, discipline teaches children accountability and respect for boundaries. A father's approach often complements a mother's nurturing by emphasising responsibility, persistence, and perseverance.

It is also important to recognise that fatherhood is not defined only by biology. Many men serve as father figures—stepfathers, grandfathers, uncles, mentors, or guardians—who provide the same love, guidance, and stability.

Rather than just genetics, fatherhood is about presence, commitment, and love.

Sourced from www.majellan.media

Happy Father's Day!