



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

Frankston North
Carrum Downs
Seaford



Parish Priest: Rev Fr. Martin Jeramias

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A

ADVENT WREATH BLESSING

The Advent Wreath will be one of the principal symbols in the church and in our Liturgy over the next four weeks of waiting and preparation for Christmas. Today, we will bless the wreath and light the first candle. Before we do so, let us pause for a moment and pray together with a longing and waiting and hoping for in the coming of the Lord.....

Wreath is blessed with holy water.

Celebrant: May the circle of green leaves which has no beginning and no end, be a sign for us of our place in eternal time and of God's never ending love for us.

All: Come Lord Jesus

Celebrant: As we light these candles each week, may our hearts be stirred with hope and expectation at the coming of Jesus.

All: Come Lord Jesus

Celebrant: May he find us awake and watchful, praying at all times, our lives marked by deeds of love, justice and mercy.

All: Come Lord Jesus

The first candle is lit.

Let us pray.....

God of integrity,

Our hearts desire the warmth of your love and our minds are searching for the light of your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Saviour and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth. We make this prayer in his name and through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



MARY GLOWREY QUOTES:

'It is up to Him to point the way and for me to follow'

'My whole course of life as I look back seems to be but part of His large plan'

'Day by day I see more clearly how in healing the sick one comes in touch with souls'

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL

ACYF Launch and Reception of the WYD Cross & Icon and Pilgrimage Walk Sunday 30 November 2025

All are invited to St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday, 30 November as we welcome more than 6,000 young pilgrims from across Australia for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival.

Let us gather together as the local Church in Melbourne to share in their joy and offer a truly warm Melbourne welcome.

Cathedral Program:

- 1:30 pm - Melbourne Catholic Festa: A joyful celebration of the diversity and beauty of our faith communities, gathering on the Cathedral forecourt.
- 2:30 pm - Reception of the WYD Cross and Icon: Join us as we welcome these powerful symbols of faith which have travelled the world inspiring young Catholics.
- 3:00 pm - Pilgrimage Walk: A pilgrimage of hope, led by the WYD Cross and Icon, journeying 5km from the Cathedral to MCEC (note: only ticketed pilgrims can enter MCEC). A shorter 3km Cathedral → Birrarung Marr → Return route is also available.



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>

Thanksgiving collection for the Weekend 23/11/2025 \$ 3913.20

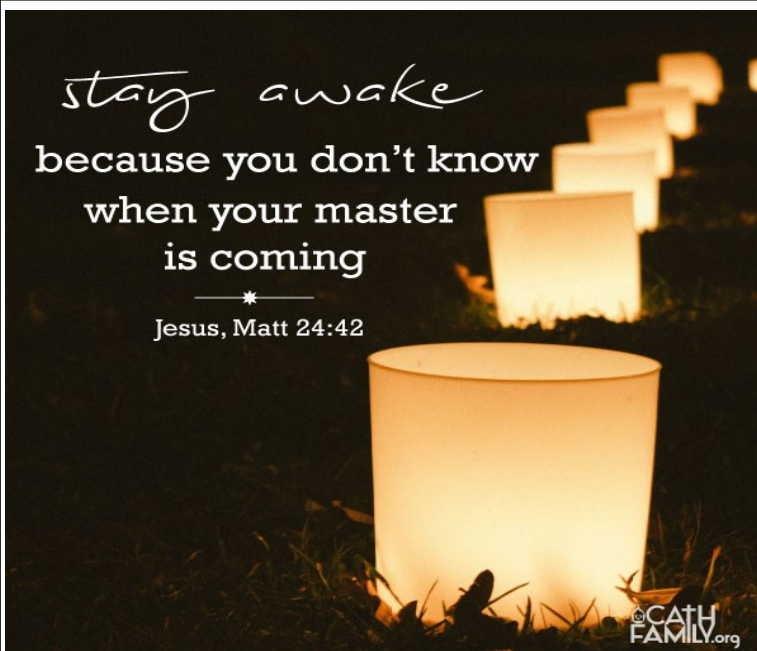


Scan this code with your smart phone camera APP & please follow the prompts.

“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 **Alexander, Felipe, Anne, Chelsea Borg, Ida Perry, Stanley Fernandez, Constance Anderson, Jean McGregor, Jacqueline Ware, Allyson Joel, Frank Bartosy, Siyumi, Eliza Wilmot, John McCready, Yeng Omo, Myra Buyco, Patricia Upton, Alex, Barbara Bennett, Jay Sulton, Cheryl.** We pray for all those whose anniversaries & remembrances occur at this time especially **Christopher Anthony Marshalls, JackLord Decasa, Maria Diana Tabone, Constancio Uy, Sakunthala Nazarene Fernando, Catalina Briceno, Josefina Yanez, Sara Medel, Sonia Mella, Jenifer Munoz, Mario Maquese** and for all those who have died recently deceased **Pedro Parinas Jr, Conrad Bouchereau, Elvis Payet, Mercedes Ahumada, Betsy Kauv.** Rest in Peace. Amen.



ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND **6TH & 7TH DECEMBER**

6:00pm Vigil Mass

Readers: Rosario / Bezlin. M

Eucharistic Minister: Josephine / Kerry

Altar Servers: Annet, Issac, Rhys

8:30am Mass

Readers: Robert. R / Sofia. A

Eucharistic Minister: Rita / Shane

Altar Servers: Fina, Jeanne, Johan

10:00am Mass

Readers: Emily. F / Grazinia. M

Eucharistic Minister: Salvatore / Marylin

Altar Servers: Grazinia, Mary, Shenoli

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY-Year A **First Sunday of Advent**

1st Reading: Is 2: 1 - 5

Responsorial Psalm: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

2nd Reading: Rom 13: 11 - 14

Gospel: Mt 24: 37 - 44

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY-Year A **Second Sunday of Advent**

1st Reading: Is 11: 1 - 10

Responsorial Psalm: Justic shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever.

2nd Reading: Rom 15: 4 - 9

Gospel: Mt 3: 1 - 12

Pope raises Mary Glowrey to Venerable Australian woman's cause towards sainthood advances

The cause for sainthood for Australian-born doctor and missionary in India Mary Glowrey has advanced after Pope Leo XIV recognised her 'heroic virtues' on 21 November 2025.

Venerable Mary of the Sacred Heart Glowrey, as she will now be titled, is just the second Australian, after St Mary Mackillop, to be accorded this status.

Born in the Victorian town of Birregurra in 1887, Glowrey was an experienced doctor in Melbourne hospitals and private practice when she travelled to India, aged 32, and entered religious life in Guntur, located in present day Andhra Pradesh. She spent 37 years in service to marginalised women and children.

Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne Archbishop Peter A Comensoli expressed 'deep joy' at the news.

'A proud daughter of Melbourne, Venerable Mary of the Sacred Heart Glowrey was a trailblazer—one of our early female doctors—before answering the call to serve in India,' he said. 'Her healing hands, her compassion, and her bold spirit were a living sign of God's tenderness. May her example and intercession continue to inspire Aussies and people everywhere to live lives of service and holiness.'

Glowrey completed her secondary and tertiary education in Melbourne through scholarships, graduating from the University of Melbourne in 1910 (MBBS) and 1919 (MD).

She joined a Dutch religious congregation in India in 1920. Known as Sr Mary of the Sacred Heart JMJ, she dedicated her life to caring for marginalised women and children in India by providing medical treatment and establishing healthcare facilities, training programs, and support networks. In 1943, Glowrey

founded what is now India's largest non-government healthcare network, the Catholic Health Association of India (CHAI). She died in Bangalore (Bengaluru) in 1957. Glowrey's cause was initiated in India by the Bishop of Guntur, where she spent much of her life. It continues to be supported by the Congregation of Jesus Mary Joseph, the religious society to which she belonged.

Pope Leo's decree marks the second major step in the formal process toward sainthood, signifying that the Church has officially found evidence of a life marked by extraordinary virtue. The next phase, beatification, will require the approval of a miracle attributed to her intercession.

Glowrey's story has been remembered and shared in Australia by her family and by members of the organisation of which she was the first president when it was formed in Melbourne in 1916, now known as the Catholic Women's League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga. Current president Jane Munro said Glowrey's faith and selfless dedication have inspired many for more than a century.

'We hope more people come to know about Mary Glowrey's life and legacy,' she said. 'We invite everyone to view the Archdiocesan webpage about Mary Glowrey or arrange to visit the Mary Glowrey Museum in Fitzroy.'

Archbishop Comensoli encouraged the faithful across Australia and beyond to keep her cause for canonisation in prayer.

'May the day come when the Church names her Saint Mary of the Sacred Heart,' he said. 'May she pray for us and help us walk ever more closely with Christ.'



Reflection of the Week

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of a new liturgical year for the Church. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. It is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. Key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice. In this new liturgical year, the Gospel of Matthew will be the primary Gospel proclaimed (Lectionary Cycle A). In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus speak about the need for wakefulness, for watchful waiting, for the coming of the Son of Man. Matthew's Gospel is dated by most scholars after 70 A.D. Most believe that Matthew wrote for a primarily Jewish community, but one that was no longer centered on the Temple in Jerusalem.

These were Jewish Christians trying to come to terms with their relationship to Judaism in a new situation: Judaism after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. There may have been Christians who believed that the events of the world around them gave evidence of the imminent return of the Lord in glory. The passage from Matthew we read today is rather straightforward. No one knows the precise time of the coming of the Lord in glory, so watchful waiting and vigilance are required. The passage speaks to the uselessness of looking for signs; there will be none. As a thief sneaks in during the night, so will the Lord's coming in glory be. The question for us as members of the Christian community, then, is how do we prepare for this? Today's passage speaks more about the manner of waiting, rather than the details of the preparation. Jesus compares the vigilance required of Christians to the vigilance of a homeowner who knows the plans of the thief. If one knows that the thief's action is imminent, one remains watchful. As Christians, we know *that* our Lord is coming even if we cannot know the precise timing.

Jesus calls us to be watchful and vigilant, like the homeowner. If we become lax in our Christian living, we may be caught unprepared.

MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday & Thursday 6:00 pm Mass
Wednesday 9:15 am Mass
Silent Adoration 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Friday 6:30 pm Rosary
First Friday 7:00 pm Mass
Saturday 5:20 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
Wednesday 7:00 - 8:00 pm RCIA Session
Thursday 7:00- 8:00 pm VIBE
Friday 6:30 - 7:30 pm MenAlive
Saturday 3:45 - 5:00 pm Senior Legion of Mary

Congratulations to Russell and Dianne Gaynor

*who are celebrating their 57th Wedding Anniversary
May the Lord bless you, on your anniversary day,
may He always be your companion, and guide you
on your way for many more years to come.*



Congratulation to Deacon Pselio Lemalu on his 13th Anniversary of Ordination.

*God bless him for the wonderful service he renders
at
St Anne's Church*

Christmas Mass Timings

Christmas Eve Wednesday 24th December 2025

5:30 pm—Carols followed by Children's Mass

8:00 pm—Carols followed by Family Mass

11:30 pm—Carols by Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Thursday 25th December 2025

9:00am Mass

New Year's Day –Thursday 1st January 2026

9:15am Mass followed by Benediction

PIETY STALL

We have received stock of Children's books including colouring books; Picture books of lives of Saints; Prayers to favourite Saints; Brother Francis DVD – Our Heavenly Friends. And many more. Call at the Piety Stall to view.

The Piety stall is collecting used postage stamps (or stamp collections no longer wanted) which will be given to Columban Mission.

GIFT EDITION BIBLE

A special Gift Edition Bible is now available for purchase. This beautifully presented Bible features a leather cover and comes in a variety of colours (**Black, Brown, White and Teal**) which costs \$60.00

ST ANNE'S MEDALS FROM ROME

We are delighted to share that a limited number of St Anne's medals—brought from Rome and blessed by the Holy Father—are now available. These special medals are offered for a donation, with all proceeds supporting our parish initiatives. We extend our sincere thanks to Paul, Principal of St Joachim's School, for generously arranging and bringing these medals for our community.



ST. ANNE'S VINNIES CHRISTMAS TREE

Our Children's Christmas Gift Tree is up!
Dear parishioners,

Every Christmas you have been so generous, and we are asking again.

Please take a "Gift Tag" from the tree and return it with an age-appropriate gift. (please do not wrap it)!

This year to boost our hampers we would like to provide some personal care items to our families (soaps, shampoo, toothpaste etc.) Any donation of these additional items will be greatly appreciated.

**The Gifts will be delivered on the
20th December 2025 from
9:00am –12:00pm.**

**Drivers/Helpers needed for only
approximately 1 hour.
Signup sheet in the foyer of the
Church.**

**Please contact/text Peter V on
0432 120 704**

**Many thanks and blessings,
St Anne's Vinnies Hamper
Team**

