



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

Frankston North
Carrum Downs
Seaford



Parish Priest: Rev Fr. Martin Jeramias

Deacon: Pselio Lemalu

Parish Secretary: Sumitha Moses

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A

ADVENT WREATH BLESSING

Celebrant: As we begin our celebration of the Fourth Sunday of Advent, let us prepare to light the fourth and last candle on our Advent wreath. As advent draws to a close, we pause to pray for faith that opens our lives to the Spirit of God.

Celebrant: Come Lord Jesus, hope of the prophets and desire of all nations.

All: Come! Lead us back to you.

Celebrant: Come Lord Jesus, Son of God, born of Mary.

All: Come! Take flesh in us.

Celebrant: Come Lord Jesus, source of grace and hope for peace.

All: Come and save us, delay no longer.

Celebrant: Let us pray.....

God, our Emmanuel, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

REFLECTION FOR THIS WEEK

Finally, on this the Fourth Sunday of Advent, our Gospel Reading permits us to begin our contemplation of the mystery of the Incarnation we celebrate at Christmas: "Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about" (Matthew 1:18).

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of the birth of Jesus from Joseph's perspective. Today's Gospel passage is the second movement in this story. In the preceding verses of the first chapter of Matthew's



Gospel, the Evangelist has listed the genealogy of Jesus, tracing his lineage through King David to Abraham. In the chapter to follow, Matthew tells of the visit from the Magi, the Holy Family's flight into Egypt, and Herod's massacre of the infants in Bethlehem. (The other stories which we associate with Christmas, the Annunciation, the Visitation, the angel and the shepherds, are found in the Gospel of Luke).

We must not gloss over too quickly the difficult circumstances described in today's Gospel. The way that Joseph and Mary face these circumstances tells us much about these holy people and their faith in God. Joseph and Mary are betrothed to be married. This is sometimes described as an engagement period, but it is more than that. Betrothal in first century Jewish culture was in fact the first part of the marriage contract. A breach of this contract was considered adultery. Mary is found to be with child. If adultery is proven, the punishment might be death. Joseph has rights under Mosaic law, but chooses to act discreetly in his plans to break the marriage contract, so as to protect Mary. Then God intervenes.

The message of the angel of the Lord given to Joseph in his dream tells us much about the child that Mary bears and his role in God's plan. He is conceived by the Holy Spirit. His name will be Jesus, which in the Hebrew means "Yahweh saves." He will be the fulfillment of the prophecy heard in today's first reading from Isaiah: "... The virgin shall be with child ... and shall name him Emmanuel [God with us]."

Joseph does as the angel of the Lord directs. He takes Mary to be his wife and accepts the child in her womb as his own. Joseph and Mary are both cooperative with God's plan. They are both models for us of what it means to be faithful servants of God.

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 14/12/2025 \$ 3176.00



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, Kerry Marshall, Frances Kinna.** We pray for all those whose anniversaries & remembrances occur at this time especially **Jane & Jake O’Grady, John Monger, Cresencia Salih, Jesus Veneffor Cuerpo Jr, Andrey D’Cruz** and for all those who have died recently deceased **John Lloyd, Barbara Bennett.** **Rest in Peace. Amen.**



ROSTER FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

5:30pm Children’s Mass

Readers: Children Readers

Eucharistic Minister: Linda, Zeeta, Franklyn, Marylin

Altar Servers: Dean, Victoria, Mary

8:00pm Family Mass

Readers: Annabelle / Brett

Eucharistic Minister: Ranjani, Rita, Kim

Altar Servers: Volunteer

12:00am Midnight Mass

Readers: Liam / Rosario

Eucharistic Minister: Martin, Ashley, Ignatius, Timothy

Altar Servers: Shenoli, Eric, Issac

9:00am Day Mass

Readers: Wendy / Christina

Eucharistic Minister: Antia

Altar Servers: Jeremy

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND

27TH & 28TH DECEMBER

6:00pm Vigil Mass

Readers: Annet. R / Jarvis. J

Eucharistic Minister: Linda / Kerry

Altar Servers: Eric, Annet, Bertin

8:30am Mass

Readers: Sofia. A / Robert. R

Eucharistic Minister: Jeff / Kim

Altar Servers: Fina, Jeanne, Johan

10:00am Mass

Readers: Wendy. Z / Jamie. F

Eucharistic Minister: Jerome / Shyla

Altar Servers: Mary, Grazinia, Emily

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

1st Reading: Is 7: 10 - 14

Responsorial Psalm: Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

2nd Reading: Rom 1: 1 - 7

Gospel: Mt 1: 18 - 24

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY-Year A **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

1st Reading: Sirach 3: 2 - 6, 12 –14

Responsorial Psalm: Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

2nd Reading: Col 3: 12 - 21

Gospel: Mt 2: 13 - 15, 19-23

ANNOUNCEMENT: MEBLOURNE ARCHDIOCESAN SYNOD

Dear friends in Christ, the faithful of Melbourne,



On the third Sunda of Advent, in the days following the Australian Catholic Festival, and as we ready our hearts for the coming of the Lord at Christmas, I write to share with you an important moment in the life of our local church Melbourne.

This Jubilee Year of Hope has been a time of great grace for us. Throughout the year, I have been meeting with clergy and lay leaders, listening to them, and discerning with them as to how the Archdiocese of Melbourne might respond to the call to hold an Archdiocesan Synod.

From this time of prayer, grace and reflection, I now wish to share that I have initiated preparations for a Synod to be held in the Archdiocese of Melbourne in 2026. I have asked Bishop Rene Ramirez RCJ to assist me in leading this process, drawing on the Pathways for the Implementation Phase of the Synod 2025-2028, endorsed by Pope Leo XIV. I have also appointed Ms Cathy Jenkins as Synod Program Lead.

Over recent years, the whole Church has been invited into a renewed way of walking together.

Here in Australia, this journey has been unfolding for many years. The Fifth Plenary Council (2021-2022) arose from a nationwide effort of prayerful listening and discernment. We then contributed to the global Synod (2021-2024), which invited us to reflect on how we live communion, foster participation, and carry out Christ's mission in the Church.

I am grateful for the many people across the Archdiocese who took part in these consultations. You have offered insights filled with faith in Christ, love for the Church, and hope for our future. The fruits of Take the Way of the Gospel, the development of parish formation through the Bethany Way, and the vibrant witness of young people at the recent Australian Catholic Youth Festival likewise continue to shape our discernment.

Three themes will be taken up in the Synod process:

Young Discipleship

Missionary Leadership

Formation and Participation

These three themes have not arisen in isolation. They

have emerged consistently and clearly through all the listening, discernment, and consultation undertaken in recent years across the Archdiocese.

More information about the Archdiocesan Synod process will be shared with you in early 2026.

**Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne**

The copy of the letter can be found in the foyer of the church and our website.

Seaford Parish
ST. ANNE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
84 AUSTIN RD, SEAFORD

Christmas Mass Timings
Friday 19th December
7:00pm - Individual Confession

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve - Wednesday 24th December 2025
5:30pm - Carols followed by Children's Mass
8:00pm - Carols followed by Family Mass
11:30pm - Carols followed by Midnight Mass

Christmas Day - Thursday 25th December
9:00am - Morning Mass

New Year's Day - Thursday 1st January 2026
9:15am - Mass followed by Benediction

Caritas Australia: Be a light in the darkness for families facing adversity this Christmas.

This Christmas, we are inviting Australians to "be a light in the darkness" for families who are living through the trauma of war, displacement, and poverty. The intensity of the conflict in Ukraine has increased and more people are experiencing displacement and poverty. But with your support, we can bring hope to these families. Our partner, Caritas Ukraine are on the ground working hard to prepare food kits, emergency shelter kits and psychosocial assistance to families facing adversity.

Donate today at <https://www.caritas.org.au/christmas-appeal/be-the-light-in-darkness/>



MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

Monday & Tuesday 7:30 pm Mass

Wednesday & Friday No Mass

**Saturday 5:20 pm Rosary followed
by Divine Mercy
Chaplet**

6:00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 8:30am & 10:00am Mass

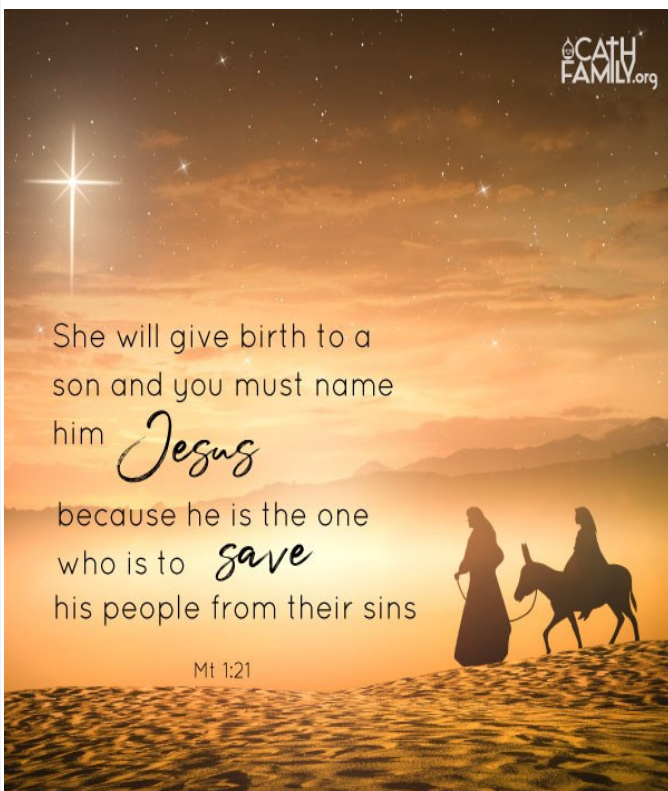
**3rd Sunday 10:30am Filipino Mass
(at Holy Family Hall)**

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Monday 6:00 - 8:00 pm Marian Cenacle Group

Wednesday 7:00 - 8:00 pm RCIA Session

Saturday 3:45 - 5:00 pm Senior Legion of Mary



Baptism

We Congratulate and welcome the following children who will be baptised at St Anne's Parish this Weekend
21st December 2025

- ☆ Noah Eli Leatigaga
- ☆ Perez Kepa
- ☆ Falatuna-Jr Kingston Fuimaono
- ☆ Kehlani Waimarama Fuimaono
- ☆ Nova Epifania Tyrell Fuimaono



'Enough' of Antia Semitic violence, say Pope, archbishops and other leaders after Bondia attack.

The terror attack during a Hanukkah celebration at Bondi Beach, Sydney, last Sunday, left at least 15 people dead and more



than 40 injured, deeply shocking Australia. Pope Leo XIV expressed profound sorrow, condemned antisemitic violence, and called for the elimination of hatred, prayers for victims, and a path of peace.

Australian Catholic leaders—including Archbishops Anthony Fisher, Peter Comensoli, Timothy Costelloe, and representatives of Catholic Religious Australia and the St Vincent de Paul Society—strongly condemned the attack, expressed solidarity with the Jewish community, and urged unity, justice, and renewed efforts to combat antisemitism. They highlighted Hanukkah's message of light overcoming darkness and called on all Australians to be peacemakers.

Political leaders echoed these sentiments. NSW Premier Chris Minns and Prime Minister Anthony Albanese described the attack as an act of evil antisemitic terrorism, affirming that an attack on Jewish Australians is an attack on all Australians, and pledged national unity, justice, and rejection of hatred and violence.

This is the summary of the article published in Melbourne Archdiocesan website.

St Anne's Catholic Church



Simbang Gabi

Come join us to worship in the journey of spiritual preparation for Christmas.

Date : 15th - 23rd December 2025

Time: 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Venue: St Anne's Church

Light Supper and Fellowship follows

The Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed each evening at 7:00pm followed by Holy Mass.