

Seaford Parish Newsletter

Sunday 1st February 2026



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

**Frankston North
Carrum Downs
Seaford**



Parish Priest: Rev Fr. Martin Jeramias

Deacon: Pselio Lemalu

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FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

REFLECTION FOR THIS WEEK

Today's reading is the beginning of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, which is found in Matthew's Gospel. The form of the Beatitudes found here is not unique to Jesus. Beatitudes are found in the Old Testament, in the psalms, and in wisdom literature, for example. They are a way to teach about who will find favour with God.

We quickly note in this reading that the people whom Jesus calls "blessed" and "happy" are not people we think of as blessed or happy . . . the poor in spirit, the meek, the persecuted. This Gospel is one of reversals. Jesus' blueprint for happiness reflects little of what the world might call happiness.

"Blessed" is sometimes translated as *happy*, *fortunate*, or *favoured*. In other words, Jesus is saying that divine favour is upon those who are poor, those who mourn, those who are persecuted. This news might have been welcome—and surprising—to the crowds who heard Jesus that day.

The Beatitudes can be understood as a framework for Christian living. Our vocation as Christians is not to be first in this world, but rather to be first in the eyes of God. By referring to the good things that the faithful will experience, Matthew reminds us that those who act in the manner described in the Beatitudes will find their reward with God.

RETURN OF BLESSED PALM LEAVES OF 2025

As Ash Wednesday is approaching close, it would be appreciated if you could please bring back the blessed palms of last year and leave it in the basket, which is in the foyer of the Church.



MINISTRIES ROSTERS

Thank you for your time and dedication to St Anne's Parish. Roster for Reading, Eucharistic Minister, Altar Servers has been sent by email to all who have volunteered last week. Few copies of the roster is kept in the sacristy, please feel free to take them.

Please contact the Parish office, if you have not received the email with the roster, check your spam folder as well.

All new ministers please complete the requirements (WWWC & the online safeguarding training) link has been emailed.



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>

Thanksgiving collection for the Weekend 25/01/2026 \$ 2545.40

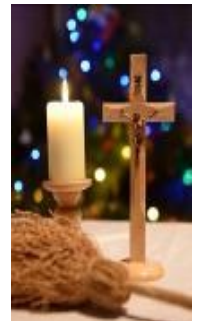


Scan this code with your smart phone camera APP & please follow the prompts.

“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, Jay Sulton, Kerry Marshall, Frances Kinna.** We pray for all those whose anniversaries & remembrances occur at this time especially **Gunter Pyteltek, Ashley Denetto, Albert Simpson, Josie Tawatao, Salvacion Dela Cerna, Bernard Shaw, Alexandra Lourdunathan** and for all those who have died recently deceased **Terry Hore, Stanley Fernandez, Penelope Blakeman, Eduardo Remoquillo.** Rest in Peace.



ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND **7TH & 8TH FEBRUARY**

6:00pm Vigil Mass

Readers: Melanie. J / Deborah. C
Eucharistic Minister: Liam / Rosario
Altar Servers: Jeremy, Bertin, Luke

8:30am Mass

Readers: Sofia. A / Fina. A
Eucharistic Minister: Timothy / Kim
Altar Servers: Fina, Jeanne, Johan

10:00am Mass

Readers: Marylin. V / Willow. H
Eucharistic Minister: Zeeta / Benson
Altar Servers: Gabrina, Victoria, Eric

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

1st Reading: Zep 2: 3; 3: 12 - 13
Responsorial Psalm: Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!
2nd Reading: 1 Cor 1: 26 - 31
Gospel: Mt 5: 1 - 12

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

1st Reading: Is 58: 7 - 10
Responsorial Psalm: A light rises in the
darkness for the upright.
2nd Reading: 1 Cor 2: 1 - 5
Gospel: Mt 5: 13 - 16

Dear Parishioners,

Magi pilgrimages 2026

Welcome to Our Parish Community

A warm welcome to you all—parishioners, families, visitors, and friends. Whether you come every week or are joining us for the first time, we're glad you're here. Our parish is more than a place we gather; it is a community of faith where we pray together, grow together, and support one another in daily life.

This year, our parish focus is on talents—recognising, celebrating, and sharing the gifts God has entrusted to each of us. Every talent matter, whether seen or unseen, and together they build up the Body of Christ. We invite you to reflect on how your gifts might enrich our parish life in the year ahead.

We also wish to keep you informed that we are moving toward a future renovation of our church. This important project will help preserve our sacred space and support our worship for generations to come. More details will be shared as soon as possible, and we ask for your prayers and support as we take these steps together.

Thank you for being part of our parish family. You are always welcome here.

FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL (5th - 20th May 2026)

Fr. Sebastian A.M invites you to a journey in the footsteps of St. Paul, reliving the Acts of the Apostles and exploring the letters of the New Testament. Explore Greece and Turkey with a 3-night Greek Islands cruise in this 14-day pilgrimage for an all-inclusive price of \$9790+ tips (25+ pilgrims). The early bird price expires on January 30th. Please call the number below to negotiate.

SAINTS OF ITALY (8th - 21st June 2026)

Fr. Franco Filippetto invites you to a 14-day journey to Italy, visiting Milan, Padua, Siena, Assisi, Rotondo, Sorrento, and Rome, with an all-inclusive price of \$9,290 + tips (for 30+ pilgrims). The early bird price expires on January 30th.

The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in 4-star Premium Hotels, Meals + English speaking professional guides + Entrances as per itinerary and more. For inquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or email [us pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au](mailto:pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au)

Schedule for the Sacraments 2026

Dear Parishioners, Please see the dates for the sacraments this year. We need your help to let the families of non Catholic school know these dates as early as possible. All non Catholic school children will need to do special Religious education program apart from the sacramental program of the parish.

Program	First Reconciliation	First Eucharist	Confirmation
Enrolment form go out	Jan 27	Feb 3	March 31
Enrolment Mass 1	Feb 7/8	Feb 21/22	May 16/17
Enrolment Mass 2	Feb 14/15	Feb 28/Mar 1	May 23/24
Preparation Evening	Feb 25 th	March 11	June 3 rd

Pope Leo XIV 2026 New Year Message

For the 2026 New Year, Pope Leo XIV delivered a message focused on building an "unarmed and disarming" peace, urging the world to replace violence with forgiveness, dialogue, and trust. During his New Year's Day

Mass, he emphasized that the new year is a journey of discovery, urging a, "disarming [of] our hearts".

Key Themes of Pope Leo's 2026 New Year Message:

- **World Day of Peace:** In his message for the 58th World Day of Peace, Pope Leo emphasized that peace is a "gift of unconditional love" from God, requiring active, responsible cultivation rather than reliance on military strength.
- **"Unarmed and Disarming" Peace:** The Pope argued that the world is saved not by violence or oppression, but through understanding, forgiving, and welcoming everyone.
- **A Journey of Hope:** He described the coming year as an "open journey to be discovered," encouraging believers to move forward with confidence, grace, and as agents of forgiveness.
- **Focus on the Family:** The Pope invoked Mary, Mother of God, as a model for intercession, urging families to pray for peace.

Critique of Global Violence: Speaking to the diplomatic corps, he lamented that "war is back in vogue" and criticized the global reliance on weapons over dialogue.

His messages from the Vatican on Jan. 1, 2026, aimed to set a tone of reconciliation for the new year, calling on all people to "start today to build a year of peace".

MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday	6:00 pm Mass
Wednesday	9:15 am Mass 6:30 Rosary and Viewing
Thursday	10:30 am Funeral Stanley Fernandez 6:00 pm Mass
First Friday	7:00 pm Mass
Saturday	5:20 pm Rosary followed by Divine Mercy Chaplet 5:30 pm Reconciliation (other times by appointment only) 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
Friday	6:30 - 7:30 pm MenAlive
Saturday	10:00 - 11:00 Baptism Preparation
Saturday	3:45 - 5:00 pm Senior Legion of Mary



Our Parish Prayer

*We, the people of Seaford Parish
strive to be followers of Jesus
by being a welcoming and supportive
community
in which the talents
of all can grow
and in which we live out
our faith through word,
sacrament and action.
May the Holy Family
St Anne and St Joachim
inspire and intercede for us
that we may be followers of Jesus.
Amen.*

Piety Stall

Piety Stall - Columban Calendars are still available for 2026.

Copies of God's Word 2026 – daily Mass readings, are in stock.

New stock - Booklets 'Handy Little Guide – Holy Spirit; Books - Saints for Boys and Saints for Girls are now in stock as well as "Apostolic Exhortation to all Christians on Love for the Poor from Pope Leo". Call at the Piety stall to see these new items.

VOLUNTEER REQUIRED

Piety Stall is in desperate need of assistants for the 6.00 pm Mass on Saturday evenings; and 8.30 am and 10.00 am Masses on Sunday. Once a month or more for 15 minutes before Mass and 30 minutes after Mass to sell items from the store to the parishioners and make notes of any requests.

If you are able to help in any way please contact the Parish Office during office hours.

LENT 2026 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY, BRUCE DOWNES

Lent is a time when we can grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Easter. Be inspired. Be refreshed. Be renewed!

For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is FREE and you can sign up here: <https://brucedownes.org/lent-2026-sign-up/>

A Prayer of Grace for the New Year

A prayer of grace for the new year seeks divine guidance, strength, and mercy to embrace fresh beginnings with a thankful heart. It acknowledges past shortcomings, asks for wisdom to navigate future challenges, and entrusts personal, family, and worldly matters to God's care, fostering hope, peace, and love for the year ahead.

"Gracious Lord, thank You for the gift of a new year and the promise of a fresh start. We thank You for your faithfulness in the past and ask for Your abundant grace to guide our steps in the days ahead.

Amen.