

Seaford Parish Newsletter

Sunday 7th December 2025



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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A

ADVENT WREATH BLESSING

As we light the second candle, let us pray that nothing may hinder us from receiving Christ with joy...

Celebrant: Prepare a way for the Lord!

All: Make his paths straight!

Celebrant: Let every valley be filled in!

All: Let every mountain and hill be laid low!

Celebrant: Straighten the winding pathways, make the rough roads smooth!

All: That all people may see the saving power of our God.

Let us pray

God of power and mercy, fling wide the doors of our hearts in welcome to the Lord, our Emmanuel.

Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with Joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.



John marks the conversion of those who seek him out with a baptism of repentance. Other groups in this period are thought to have practiced ritual washings for similar purposes, and John's baptism may have been related to the practices of the Essenes, a Jewish sect of the first century. John's baptism can be understood as an anticipation of Christian baptism. In this passage, John himself alludes to the difference between his baptism and the one yet to come: "I am baptizing you with water, for repentance . . . He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." (Matthew 3:11).

In this reading, John makes very clear that his relationship to the Messiah yet to come (Jesus) is one of service and subservience: ". . . the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals" (Matthew 3:11). In the context of Matthew's Gospel, today's passage is followed by Jesus' baptism by John, an event that is attested to in all four of the Gospels and appears to have been the start of Jesus' public ministry.

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus in the first century, we, too, are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by our repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives, as John did, the coming of the Lord.

REFLECTION FOR THIS WEEK

In this week's Gospel Reading and next week's, our Advent preparation for Christmas invites us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. In this week's Gospel, Matthew describes the work and preaching of John the Baptist.

John the Baptist appears in the tradition of the great prophets of Israel, preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel. In fact, the description of John found in this reading is reminiscent of the description of the prophet Elijah (2 Kings 1:8). In this reading, John directs a particularly pointed call to repentance to the Pharisees and Sadducees, parties within the Jewish community of the first century.

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'

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 30/11/2025 \$ 3458.50



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 **Dixson Payet, Sakunthala and Nazerene Fernando** and for all those who have died recently deceased **Conrad Bouchereau, Elvis Payet, Mercedes Ahumada, Betsy Kauv, Fr Michael Shadbolt, Reverend Monsignor Francis Kelly Marriot.** Rest in Peace. Amen.



Baptism

We Congratulate and welcome the following children who will be baptised at St Anne’s Parish this Weekend
7th December 2025

- ☆ Jack Gary Goodes
- ☆ Emily Gail Anne Goodes
- ☆ Eve Joan Goodes
- ☆ Emilia Schmidt
- ☆ Lily Schmidt
- ☆ Brooklyn Grace Forster
- ☆ Ruby Angela Malone
- ☆ Rayn Alexander Paglia
- ☆ Venice Paglia



ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND **13TH & 14TH DECEMBER**

6:00pm Vigil Mass

Readers: Nikita. F / Dean. A

Eucharistic Minister: Allan / Ashley

Altar Servers: Bertin, Luke, Jeremy

8:30am Mass

Readers: Lily. D / Marita. W

Eucharistic Minister: Timothy / Christina

Altar Servers: Fina, Jeanne, Johan

10:00am Mass

Readers: Marylin. V / Anthony. W

Eucharistic Minister: Franklyn / Lloyd

Altar Servers: Gabrina, Victoria, Mary

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

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

1st Reading: Is 35: 1 - 6, 10

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, come and save us.

2nd Reading: James 5: 7 - 10

Gospel: Mt 11: 2 - 11

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.'



Congratulations to Our Grade Six Graduates

This week, we will joyfully celebrate the Grade Six students of our two parish schools as they mark an important milestone in their young lives. Graduation is not only a moment to look back with gratitude, but also a time to look forward with hope.

Dear graduates, we are tremendously proud of all you have achieved—your hard work, your resilience, your friendships, and the way you have grown in wisdom and confidence over the years. As you take your next steps into secondary school, may you carry with you the values you have learned in our Catholic community: faith, kindness, compassion, and a spirit of service. As saints Anne and Joachim were there for Mary and Jesus they will be with you to guide and protect you.

To the parents, families, teachers, and staff who have walked with these students, we offer our heartfelt thanks. Your guidance and dedication have shaped them into the wonderful young people they are today.

May God bless our graduates abundantly, light their path ahead, and keep them always in His loving care.

Congratulations, Class of 2025!

We celebrate you, we pray for you, and we look forward to seeing all the good you will bring into the world.

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: 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Address: 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.

MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday & Thursday	No Mass
Wednesday	9:15 am Mass
Silent Adoration	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Friday	6:30 pm Rosary
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
Tuesday	5:30 - 6:30 SHAC meeting
Wednesday	7:00 - 8:00 pm RCIA Session
	7:00 - 8:00 pm Vinnies Meeting
	1:00 - 2:00 pm Building Committee
Friday	6:30 - 7:30 pm MenAlive
Saturday	3:45 - 5:00 pm Senior Legion of Mary

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.

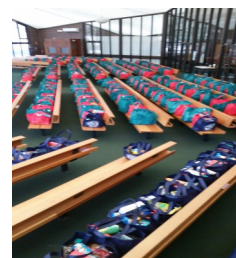
Please take a "Gift Tag" from the tree and return it with an age-appropriate gift. (please do not wrap it)! This year to boost our hampers we would like to provide some personal care items to our families (soaps, shampoo, toothpaste etc.) Any donation of these additional items will be greatly appreciated.

**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**





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