

Seaford Parish Newsletter

Sunday 22nd February 2026



**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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FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A

REFLECTION FOR THIS WEEK

In each of the three Synoptic Gospels (Mark, Matthew, and Luke), after Jesus' baptism by John, Jesus is reported to have gone to the desert to fast and pray for 40 days. In each case, while in the desert, Jesus is tempted by the devil.

Matthew and Luke give more detail than Mark does, but each one tells how the devil tempts Jesus in the desert. In Matthew, as in Luke, the devil presents three temptations to Jesus. The devil tempts Jesus to use his power to appease his hunger; he tempts Jesus to put God's promise of protection to the test; and he offers Jesus all of the kingdoms of the world if Jesus will worship the devil. In each case, Jesus resists the temptation, rebuking the devil with words from Scripture.

The account of Jesus' temptation in the desert is filled with allusions and parallels to the Old Testament, including the story of the people of Israel. The Israelites spent 40 years wandering in the desert in Exodus, for example, and Jesus spends 40 days in the desert. As the Israelites were tempted during the Exodus, so too is Jesus tempted.

Each temptation offers insight into both God and the human condition. Jesus' rejection of the temptations shows that he will not put God to the test. Grounding himself on the word and authority of Scripture, Jesus rebukes the devil, confident in God's protection and

faithfulness.

As we start our journey through Lent, our Sunday readings call us to adopt the same confidence that Jesus had in the face of temptation: God's word alone will suffice; God's promise of protection can be trusted; God alone is God.

PROJECT COMPASSION 2026

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

Your generosity this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

LENTEN PROGRAM 2026

**Lenten Program starting Wednesday 25th February 7:00 pm at
St Anne's chapel.**

You are welcome to join us for this Lenten Program. The focus this year will be on inviting the Holy Spirit to guide us in mission. We would like you to join these sessions, sign up sheet is available in the foyer of the church.

Please scan the QR code for the Divine Renovation Ministry.



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 15/02/2026 \$ 3041.00



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, 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, Philomina, George Paul.** We pray for all those whose anniversaries & remembrances occur at this time especially **Sylvester De Silva, Navamanie De Costa, Raymond Hoareau, Brandon Bouchereau**, and for all those who have died recently deceased **Fr Joy Musolini OCD, Brian Marshall Brookes, Elizabeth Menzies, Christopher Long.** Rest in Peace. Amen.



*The Lord your God
is the one to whom
you must do
homage.*

Jesus, Mat 4:10

CATH
FAMILY.org

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND **28TH FEBRUARY & 1ST MARCH**

6:00pm Vigil Mass

Readers: Alden. M / Melanie. J

Eucharistic Minister: Kerry / Ashley

Altar Servers: Bertin, Luke, Alden

8:30am Mass

Readers: Brett. H / Lily. D

Eucharistic Minister: Rita / Angela

Altar Servers: Fina, Jeanne, Johan

10:00am Mass

Readers: Shyla. M / Rosetta.Q

Eucharistic Minister: Franklyn / Amelia

Altar Servers: Shenoli, Mary, Gabrina

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY-Year A **First Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading: Gen 2 : 7 - 9, 3: 1-7

Responsorial Psalm: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

2nd Reading: Rom 5: 12 - 19

Gospel: Mt 4: 1 - 11

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

1st Reading: Gen 12 : 1 - 4

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

2nd Reading: 2 Tim 1: 8 - 10

Gospel: Mt 17: 1 - 9

Ash Wednesday and Lenten season

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a sacred season of repentance, renewal, and preparation for Easter. On this day, we receive ashes on our foreheads as a sign of humility and a reminder of our mortality—“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” This ancient practice calls us to turn away from sin and embrace the Gospel with renewed faith.

Lent is a time of spiritual discipline, centred on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Through prayer, we deepen our relationship with God. Through fasting, we practice self-discipline and detach from worldly distractions. Through almsgiving, we express love and charity toward others, especially those in need. These practices help us grow in holiness and prepare our hearts to celebrate the joy of Christ’s Resurrection at Easter.

As we begin this Lenten journey this week, we encourage you to join the services and let us embrace it as an opportunity for personal and communal renewal. May this season draw us closer to God and transform our lives in His love and mercy.

Lenten regulations 2026

The Lenten season has a twofold character:

- 1) it recalls baptism or prepares for it;
- 2) it stresses a penitential spirit.

By these means especially, Lent readies the faithful for celebrating the paschal mystery after a period of closer attention to the Word of God, and more ardent prayer.

In the liturgy itself and in the liturgy-centred instructions, these baptismal and penitential themes should be more pronounced. Hence:

- a) Wider use is to be made of baptismal features proper to the Lenten liturgy.
- b) The same approach holds for the penitential elements.

During Lent, penance should not be only internal and individual but also external and social.

In any event, let the paschal fast be kept sacred. It should be observed everywhere on Good Friday and, where possible prolonged throughout Holy Saturday, so that the joys of the Sunday of the resurrection may be visited on uplifted and responsive spirits.



Dear Parishioners,

You are warmly invited to join us for the celebration of the Feast of the Annunciation, information below in the flyer

This beautiful feast commemorates the moment when the Angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would be the Mother of our Lord. Mary’s generous “Yes” changed the course of history and remains a powerful example of faith, humility, and trust in God.

This feast also holds special significance for the me and my friends, as it is the Patronal Feast of the Voluntas Dei Congregation (IVDei). On this day, we give thanks for the mission and spirituality of the Congregation — to seek and live the Will of God in all things — inspired by Mary’s faithful response: “Let it be done to me according to your word.”

After the Holy Mass, we will gather for a parish barbecue and fellowship. We expect around 100–120 people, and we would greatly appreciate your support to make this a joyful and welcoming celebration for all.

We are seeking help with:

- Barbecue preparation and cooking
- Things needed for barbecue meal (sausage, bread and etc)
- Salads and savoury dishes
- Desserts and sweets
- Setup and cleanup

Soft drinks

If you are able to contribute food or assist on the day, please add your name to the sign-up sheet at the back of the church or contact the parish office.

Let us come together in prayer and fellowship as one parish family, celebrating Mary’s “Yes” and our shared call to do the Will of God.

We look forward to celebrating with you!

Blessings, **Rev Fr. Martin Jeramais**

Welcome to the
FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION



9TH MARCH, 11 AM
ST. ANNE'S CHURCH
84 AUSTIN ROAD, SEAFORD, 3198
HOLY EUCHARIST PRESIDED BY
VERY REV TONY KERIN JCL
(VICAR GENERAL)

MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday & Thursday	6:00 pm Mass
Wednesday	9:15 am Mass
Silent adoration	5:30 - 6:30 pm
Friday	9:15 am Mass
Rosary	6:30 pm
Station of the Cross	7:00 pm
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)

A Prayer of Grace for this 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.

Mary Magdalene – The Musical

An uplifting Lenten production retelling the journey of Mary Magdalene through music and story. Presented by **COG Theatre Group** and directed by **Beth Mondragon Williams**, this moving work reflects on redemption, grace, and hope.

□ **When:**

Fri & Sat 13–14 March, 7:00 pm
Sat & Sun 14–15 March, 1:00 pm

□ **Where:** Renaissance Theatre, High Street, Kew

□ **Tickets:** trybooking.com/DHZPD

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Monday	6:00 - 8:00 pm Marian Cenacle Group
Wednesday	5:30 - 6:30 pm Finance Meeting 6:30 - 7:30 pm Reconciliation Evening 7:00 - 8:00 pm RCIA Session
Friday	6:30 - 7:30 pm MenAlive
Saturday	3:45 - 5:00 pm Senior Legion of Mary

LENTEN RETREAT - A 2-DAY RETREAT FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS (AGES 5 - 15)

Date and Time:

March 14 and 15, 2026
Saturday and Sunday
9:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Venue: St Agatha's Church,
Cranbourne VIC

For parents who wish to enrol their children to the retreat can visit our website: www.divinekids.com.au



World Day of Prayer 2026

Focus on **Nigeria**

Date: Friday 6th March

Location: St Francis Xavier Church

Address : 60 Davey Street, Frankston

Time : 7:00 Pm

Contact: 03 9783 3484(Church Office)

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. This is the last weekend for Reconciliation Enrolments.

Program	First Reconciliation	First Eucharist	Confirmation
Enrolment form goes 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