



**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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FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A

REFLECTION FOR THIS WEEK

Our Gospel on this day, the fifth Sunday of Lent, is again taken from the Gospel according to John. The reading from John continues the break from Cycle A's focus on the Gospel of Matthew. Today's Gospel reading recounts another sign, or miracle, found in John's Gospel, the raising of Lazarus. As our catechumens move closer to the celebration of their Baptisms at the Triduum, today's reading invites us to reflect upon what it means to call Jesus the Resurrection and the life.

The context for the story of the raising of Lazarus is the Jewish leaders' growing animosity toward Jesus. Jesus has been in Jerusalem, taking part in the feast of the Dedication, which we have come to know as Hanukkah. The people have been pressing him to declare plainly whether he is the Messiah. Jesus tells them to look to his works, which testify to his coming from God. Many do not believe Jesus, however, and some try to stone him for blasphemy.

Into this scene of confrontation, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus, send word to Jesus that his friend is ill. Jesus is said to love Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, but he delays his journey for two days. The delay heightens the drama and shows Jesus' obedience to God, who is to be glorified through Lazarus's resurrection. When Jesus finally declares that he will journey to Bethany, his disciples fear for his life. Thomas declares that he and the other disciples should prepare to die with Jesus.

The scene described at Bethany is a sad one. Martha meets Jesus weeping and saying that if Jesus had been there, Lazarus would not have died. Yet she remains confident that God will do whatever Jesus asks. Martha affirms her belief that there will be a resurrection of the dead in the last days. Then Martha's sister, Mary, comes to Jesus with the same



confidence, saying that Jesus could have cured Lazarus. Jesus asks to be brought to Lazarus's tomb where he prays and calls Lazarus out from the tomb. At this sign, many

come to believe in Jesus, but others take word of the miracle to the Jewish authorities, who begin their plans for Jesus' death.

Set against the backdrop of Jesus' impending death, many elements of the raising of Lazarus foreshadow the good news of Jesus' own Resurrection. Jesus, facing the conflict with the Jewish authorities, acts in complete obedience to God. In raising Lazarus, Jesus shows his power over death so that when Jesus dies, those who believe in him might remember that and take hope. Just as Jesus calls for the stone to be rolled away from Lazarus's tomb, so too will the disciples find the stone rolled away from Jesus' tomb.

Therefore, Gospel calls us to reflect on Baptism as a dying and rising with Jesus. In Baptism we die to sin's power over us, rising as children of God. In Baptism we join ourselves with Christ, who conquered death once and for all so that we who believe in him may have eternal life. With Martha and Mary, we are called to profess our belief that Jesus is indeed the Resurrection and the life.

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 15/03/2026 \$ 3086.75



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.

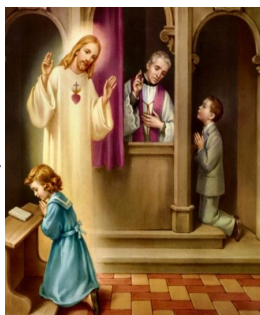
Please pray for the sick and suffering of our parish especially **Alexander, Felipe, Anne, Chelsea Borg, Ida Perry, Constance Anderson, Jean McGregor, Jacqueline Ware, Allyson Joel, Frank Bartosy, Siyumi, Eliza Wilmot, John McCready, Yeng Omo, Myra Buyco, Patricia Upton, Alex, Jay Sulton, Kerry Marshall, Frances Kinna, Philomina, George Paul, Tracy Dalmau.** We pray for all those whose anniversaries & remembrances occur at this time especially **Joseph & Mary Bartholomeusz, Liesl Sofia Cheng Vallester, Michelle Monger, Maria Palma, Antonio Josie, David Ranasinghe, Reggie Ranasinghe, Francis Silva, Ashley Denetto, Donald Curran** and for all those who have died recently deceased **Mary Aizelaine T Cura, Assuncao Palma.**
Rest in Peace. Amen.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

As you may be aware of the Reconciliation or Confession times at our church every weekend is on Saturday before Mass and other dates for the Holy Week. Please see the information in the last page. We encourage you to take advantage of this time to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It’s a wonderful opportunity to seek God’s forgiveness, reflect, and renew your spiritual journey.

However, we understand that there may be instances when this time is not convenient. In such case, please know that you can always make an appointment for Confession with our priest. Your spiritual well-being is of the utmost importance, and we are here to accommodate your needs. To schedule a Confession appointment, simply contact the parish office.



ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND **28TH MARCH & 29TH MARCH**

6:00pm Vigil Mass

Readers: Nikita. F/ Bezlin. M
Eucharistic Minister: Liam / Jarvis
Altar Servers: Rhys, Issac, Bertin

8:30am Mass

Readers: Stephen. W / Sofia. A
Eucharistic Minister: Jeff / Ranjani
Altar Servers: Fina, Jeanne, Johan

10:00am Mass

Readers: Anthony. W / Robert. H
Eucharistic Minister: Joesharan / Zeeta
Altar Servers: Gabrina, Victoria, Eric

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

1st Reading: Ezek 37:12 - 14
Responsorial Psalm: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.
2nd Reading: Rom 8: 8 - 11
Gospel: Jn 11: 1 - 45

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY-Year A **Palm Sunday of the passion of the Lord**

1st Reading: Is 50:4 - 7
Responsorial Psalm: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me.
2nd Reading: Phil 2: 6 - 11
Gospel: Mt 26: 14 - 27:66

Dear Parishioners,

As we approach the sacred and grace-filled time of Holy Week, I warmly invite all to take part in our parish celebrations. These liturgies are the heart of our faith, where we journey with the Lord through His Passion, Death, and Resurrection.

Beginning with Palm Sunday, we will enter into the mystery of Christ's love and sacrifice. During Holy Thursday, we commemorate the institution of the Eucharist and the priesthood. On Good Friday, we gather first for the stations of the Cross in which we also take a journey reflecting the events happened on the way to Calvary and secondly, we join in the solemn remembrance of the Lord's Passion. Finally, at the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday, we rejoice in the victory of Christ over sin and death.

May I remind you that during these liturgies we will see a full church throughout so, welcome all visitors; and these liturgies go more than an hour. Please plan ahead. On Maundy Thursday there will be opportunity for spending time with Eucharist at the chapel after the Mass. On Good Friday there will be a collection taken to support the Holy land. We are also supporting Red Kite: Childhood cancer charity, Australia. Please donate generously.

On Palm Sunday and Holy Saturday service will begin at the lawn area of the office. Car parking spots will be blocked off for these days only.

If you have the tradition of bringing the new Fire and Water after Easter Vigil, bring containers and carry them safely.

(Holy Week schedule is published in our newsletter).

I encourage you and your families to participate actively in these beautiful ceremonies. Let us come together in prayer, reflection, and gratitude, allowing this Holy Week to renew our faith and deepen our relationship with Christ.

Please contact us if you have any concerns. May this sacred time be a source of grace and blessing for us all.

THEFT OF MEMORIAL PLAQUES

We regret to inform you again that the remaining plaques have been stolen from our memorial garden. This is a distressing and unfortunate incident, especially for the families whose loved ones were remembered through these plaques.

Please be assured that the police have been notified and an investigation is currently underway. We have supplied CCTV footage and are assisting the authorities.

We had the plan to give to the families the remaining plaques. We have been approved of the claim from the insurance company and will soon install the plaques. Let us continue to pray for healing, for justice, and for the respect of sacred places and memories.

WORKING BEE ON 28TH MARCH

We need your help to clean our church premises and get ready to welcome parishioners and visitors for Holy week ceremonies.

What we are aiming to complete; Window cleaning; tree branch pruning. Moats cleaning, wiping the pews. Vacuuming. For those who can't manually work, please prepare morning tea for all.

See you all on 28th March from 9:00-11:00 am

LET US KNOW IF YOU CAN DONATE

- Easter Egg for children.

WASHING OF THE FEET

We want 12 volunteers possibly young parishioners for the washing of the feet for Holy Thursday, please write your name on the sign-up sheet that is placed in the foyer of the church.

Rev Fr Martin Jeramias

LENTEN PROGRAM 2026

Lenten Program every Wednesday 6:30 pm at St Anne's chapel during Lent.

You are welcome to join us for this Lenten Program.

We are reflecting on the Sunday readings in a prayerful manner. We would like you to join these sessions, sign up sheet is available in the foyer of the church. **All are Welcome**

Melbourne Synod 2026

The Archbishop formally signed the Decree of Convocation of the Melbourne Synod. These frequently asked questions can help gradually build awareness about the Synod and what it means for the life and mission of our local Church.

A Synod is not a parliament

The Church is not a democracy where truth is decided by majority vote. A Synod is not about winning arguments or pushing agendas. Instead, it is a spiritual process of listening deeply—to God, to Scripture, to tradition, and to one another—so that decisions are shaped by faith and mission, not ideology.

Why listening matters in the Church

Listening is not a sign of weakness. In the Christian tradition, listening is an act of humility and faith. We believe that God can speak through the experiences, joys, and struggles of His people. Synodality reminds us that listening is a form of love and a path to wisdom.

Who participates in a Synod?

A Synod involves the whole People of God: bishops, priests, deacons, religious, and lay faithful. Each has a distinct role, but all share responsibility for the Church's mission. Synodality does not blur roles—it helps each vocation flourish in service of the Gospel.



MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday & Thursday	6:00 pm Mass
Wednesday	9:15 am Mass
Individual Confession	Up to 10:30 am
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)

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Monday	6:00 - 8:00 pm Marian Cenacle Group
Wednesday	6:30 - 7:30 pm Lenten Reflection
	7:00 - 8:00 pm RCIA Session
Friday	5:30 - 6:30 pm Youth Group
	6:30 - 7:30 pm MenAlive
Saturday	9:00 - 11:00 am Working Bee
	3:45 - 5:00 pm Senior Legion of Mary

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE NEW SEMINARIANS

We have 3 new seminarians enter Corpus Christi this year: George Becerra, Luke Rochford and Ambrose Meehan. Please keep them in your prayers.



Holy Week SCHEDULE 2026



84 Austin Rd, Seaford. VIC

MARCH 25 WED	9:15 am up to 10:30	Feast of Annunciation Mass Individual Reconciliation
APRIL 1 WED	9:15 am up to 10:30	Mass Individual Reconciliation
APRIL 2 THU	7:30 pm until 10:30 pm	Maundy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper Silent adoration
APRIL 3 FRI	10:30 am 3:00 pm	Good Friday The Stations of the Cross At St. Anne's school ground Commemoration of the Lord's Passion
APRIL 4 SAT	7:00 pm	Holy Saturday The Easter Vigil
APRIL 5 SUN	8:30 am 10:00 am	Easter Sunday Mass Mass

SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB

Speaker : Patricia Long on Wednesday March 25th, 2026 @ 12:30pm Venue: Hampton RSL, 25 Holyrood Street, Hampton **BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL – BY FRIDAY 20th March** **SHARING THE MEAL IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE TIME TOGETHER** Meals from 12.30pm. The presentation & conversation will follow; Event will conclude about 3.00pm For Bookings and/or further details contact: MICHELE: michelekennan@presvic.org.au OR 0415 956 107(mob) CATRIONA: catriona3171@gmail.com OR 0419 109 830 (mob)

Piety Stall Notice

We have miniature Stations of the Cross available at the Piety Stall to help this Lenten season. Book for toddlers on the Saints and Prayers to the Saints for pre school children. Columban Calendars have been restocked, these have space for daily memos and give the name of the saint for the day as well as beautiful paintings for each month. Some new children's booklets from "Little Golden Book. Call at the Piety Stall to view the selection. See all the various helps for Lenten prayers whether booklets or visual items.

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.

There are 56 students preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and 46 students for the First Eucharist this year 2026. Please pray for them.

Confirmation Enrolment form goes out on 31st March (available on our website). Enrolment Mass 1 & 2 May 16/17 & 23/24. Preparation evening, June 3rd at 6:30pm in the Church.

All non Catholic school children will need to do special Religious education program apart from the sacramental program of the parish. There will 2 session for the children for the preparation of Reconciliation.

- ☆ Wednesday, 6 May 2026 @ 6 -7 pm
- ☆ Wednesday, 13 May 2026 @ 6 -7 pm