

ST. MARY'S PARISH

LANCEFIELD & ROMSEY

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph - Year C

29th December, 2024

Lancefield Church
27 Chauncey Street
Lancefield



Romsey Church
85 Main Street
Romsey



EVERYONE WELCOME

Ministry Roster	28/12/24 6:30pm	29/12/24 9:00am	04/01/25 6:30pm	05/01/25 9:00am
Musician	Rosalie	Agnes	As there are no Rosters during January Volunteers are to share responsibilities each week between who is available at any given Mass – Thank You	
Reader	Leanne	Joanne		
Collector	<i>Vol. Req</i>	Barry		
Cleaner	-----	Florence		
Location	Lancefield	Lancefield	Lancefield	Romsey

Could those listed on the roster please advise if you are unavailable.

CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:

Please pray also for the following who are in continuing need of our prayers: **Merle Trembath, Christine Cheney, Kath Ireland, Gwen DeCarolis, Brendan Coburn & Vittoria Cafari.**

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Sat	Dec 28 th – 6:30pm	Saturday Vigil Mass – LF
Sat	Dec 29 th – 9am	Sunday Mass – LF
Wed	Jan 1 st – 9:30am	New Year's Day Mass – LF
Thur	Jan 2 nd – 9:30am	Weekday Mass – Rom
Fri	Jan 3 rd – 9:30am	Weekday Mass – LF
Sat	Jan 4 th – 6:30pm	Saturday Vigil Mass – LF
Sun	Jan 5 th – 9am	Sunday Mass – Rom

Note:
There will be
NO
HEALING
MASS
in January

SECRETARY ANNUAL LEAVE

Tam will be taking some time off throughout January but will still attend the office one day per week to do the most urgent of tasks.

From January 1st to the 31st the office will only be manned on Fridays.

If you have any queries during this time, email would be the best option and I can reply as time permits.

EXTRA MASS

means extra help needed.

Rosters for 2025 will be produced shortly.

Could Readers please advise which Masses they are happy to attend if rostered on for reading.

St. Mary's Food Drive - CatholicCare Victoria

St. Mary's Food Drive will run from November 17th to December 29th.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this year's Food Drive! This weekend will be the last collection dates for this venture as I will make the delivery early in the New Year. If you would like to contribute, the list of preferred items is below.

- All forms of dry packets of pasta (eg spaghetti, shells, penne etc)
- *Basmati rice* *Long grain rice* *Plain flour packet-not self-raising*
- Tinned tomatoes Tinned corn Tinned peas Dried chick peas
- *Savoury biscuits (eg savoy's)* *2 minute noodles*
- Dried red lentils (not canned) Dried yellow lentils (not canned)

Collection baskets will be placed at the entry of each church during the collection period – please do not include any glass items. Thank you for your support.

Parish Priest

Fr John Healy
47 Urquhart Street
Woodend Vic 3442
Ph: 5427 2690

Assistant Priest

Fr. Brian Muling
C/- Presbytery
27 Chauncey Street
Lancefield Vic 3435
Ph: 5429 2130

Parish Secretary

Tammie Dalgleish
C/- Presbytery
27 Chauncey Street
Lancefield Vic 3435
Ph: 5429 2130

Secretary Hours

Wednesday & Friday
8:00am – 5:00pm

Parish Email

lancefield@cam.org.au

Parish Website

www.melbatholic.org/s/lancefield

St Mary's Primary School

T: 5429 1359
office@smlancefield.catholic.edu.au

School Website

www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au

CHILD PROTECTION

is **everyone's** responsibility

Safety of Children and All Vulnerable People

We hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community. The St. Mary's Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy is on display on the church noticeboards or via the parish office.

Diocesan Policies available at
www.melbournecatholic.org

All children leaving the church during Mass must be accompanied by a parent.

Child Safety Committee

Fr. John Healy
Tammie Dalgleish
Michael Mooney
Monica Tomlinson

The Living Word

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Year C

29 December 2024

First Reading 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28

For the whole of his life, Samuel shall be lent to the Lord.

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.'

When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.'

When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull, and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'if you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.'

There she left him, for the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 83:2-3, 5-6, 9-10

(R.) How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

1. How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, God of hosts.
My soul is longing and yearning, is yearning for the courts of the Lord.
My heart and my soul ring out their joy to God, the living God. (R.)
2. They are happy, who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.
They are happy, whose strength is in you; they walk with ever growing strength. (R.)
3. O Lord, God of hosts, hear my prayer, gave ear, O God of Jacob.
Turn your eyes, O God, our shield, look on the face of your anointed. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24

He calls you his own children, and that is what you are.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;
and that is what we are.
Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us.
My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed,
all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him
because we shall see him as he really is.

My dear people,
if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience,
we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him,
we shall receive,
because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants.
His commandments are these:
that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ
and that we love one another as he told us to.
Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him.
We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel Acclamation See Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Open our heart, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!*

Gospel Lk 2:41-52

His parents found him in the temple, sitting among the learned men, listening to them.

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere.

Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant.

He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Forget the tinselly sentimentality of most depictions of the Holy Family. This Gospel is real life. Anyone who has temporarily lost their child in a crowd knows the stabbing pain of uncertainty and fear. Even more real, and occurring more often, is the adolescent impatience of Jesus: 'Did you not know I must be about my Father's business?'

Every parent, bewildered and saddened by the growing up and the growing distance of a son or daughter, knows what Mary and Joseph must have felt.

By the time Mary and Joseph found Jesus, he had found the words to express his unique identity. In this little scene so full of pathos and heartbreak, we hear the first words of Jesus in the Gospels: 'Did you not know I must be about my Father's business?'

What was his 'Father's business' which was so engaging for Jesus? To draw every human being into the same family relationship as He enjoys.

But did you note that it is our privilege to celebrate this realisation as a community? Only Jesus can say 'My Father'. We say 'Our Father'. We enter into the grace of intimate relationship with God, not as an atomised individual, but as a person within a society of baptised Christians – the Church.

We could take a moment to pray for the integrity which will enable us to express this sense of identity in the unfolding of our lives. We can pray also for those saddened or bewildered by our following of the One who taught us to pray 'Our Father'.

mtate@bigpond.com

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MYSTERY OF FAITH

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL – RESPONSE: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

R: We pray for ourselves and the special needs of all in our parish community. We pray for those who are sick – especially those on our parish prayer list – the frail, and for all who care for them. For the faithful departed: for those who have died recently, especially **Jan Bassett** and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially **Dan & Freda McCarthy**. May this time help their families to renew their love and continue their memory throughout the year ahead.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

All HAIL MARY

Collections last week Presbytery \$866 Thanksgiving \$710
1st collection: Presbytery & Priest 2nd collection: Thanksgiving (envelope)

Next week's readings: Isaiah 60: 1-6, Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6, Matthew 2: 1-12

Feast Days this week.

January 1st – Feast of Mary the Mother of God



Each January 1st, we ring in not only the new calendar year, but we also celebrate a holy day of obligation devoted to Mary under the title “Mother of God.”

On this feast day, the Church calls our attention to the Blessed Mother as *Theotokos* which is **Greek for “God-bearer.”**

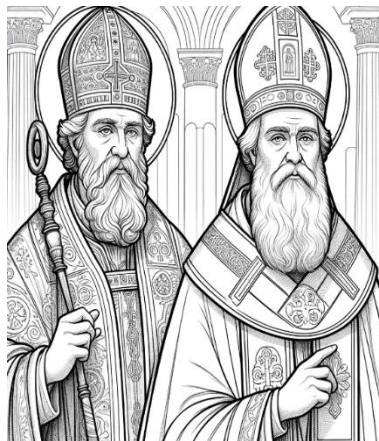
Stunning as these words are, they are true: Mary is - by wondrous mystery and divine condescension –

“Mother of God the Son.”

January 2nd – St. Basil the Great and Gregory of Nazianzen.

‘Basil was born to a saintly family in Cappadocia in 330. Known for his learning and virtue, he lived as a hermit for several years before being named bishop of Caesarea in 370. As bishop, he fought against the Arian heresy and wrote many influential works on the Trinity and the Incarnation, as well as a rule of life for monks that is still used today. Saint Basil died on January 1, 379.

Gregory Nazianzen, like his friend Basil, was born in 300 to a family of saints. While traveling as a youth, he met Basil while studying in Caesarea. In 381, Gregory reluctantly accepted the office of bishop of Constantinople. Because of rival factions that were dividing the Church, he returned to Nazianzen a short time later. He died there on January 25, 389 or 390. Saint Gregory is especially remembered for his outstanding and eloquent teachings about the Trinity.



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

Our parish would not function without the service of many volunteers who keep our Masses and all other special events running so smoothly.

I am reluctant to list them in fear I may omit someone but on behalf of our parish may I thank the following:

Sacristans, Readers, Special Ministers, Florists, Musicians, Singers, Cleaners, Gardeners, Visitors of the sick, Handypeople, Fundraisers, Committee members & everyone who says yes when we ask for help! **You are AMAZING!!!**

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

St. Mary's Parish

Sunday's at 9:00am

Saturday's at 6:30pm

28/12/24 – Lancefield

29/12/24 – Lancefield

4/1/25 – Lancefield

5/1/25 – Romsey

11/1/25 – Lancefield

12/1/25 - Lancefield

HEALING MASS

1st Saturday at 10:00am

NO HEALING MASS JANUARY

01/02/25 – Romsey

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

St. Ambrose Parish - Woodend

Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 11:00am

Wednesday, Thursday

& Friday 9:30am

Baptism

As arranged with the Parish Secretary on the 4th Sunday of the month

Marriages

Arranged by appointment with at least 6 months' notice. Please contact parish office.

Funerals

Contact Fr. John directly.
Contact Fr. Brian directly.

Reconciliation

Second Saturday of the month at Woodend 10am-10:30am

Third Saturday of the month at Lancefield 10am-10:30am

Thanksgiving

Any parishioner wishing to join the Thanksgiving program is invited to contact Tammie at the parish office to arrange some Thanksgiving envelopes. Thanksgiving contributions by Direct Debit or Credit Card welcome.

Welcome

St. Mary's Parish community warmly welcomes visitors and new parishioners. We invite new parishioners to introduce yourself to Fr. John/Fr. Brian, fill in a census card located in the church foyer and place in either collection or contact Tammie directly at the parish office.

Volunteering Ministries

A current Working with Children Check is required to volunteer within the parish.

Help is always welcome!

Power Point operator at Mass
Reader of the Word
Church Cleaning & Gardening

SAVE THE DATE - 9th FEBRUARY 2024 - 11am

St. Brigid's Parish will celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Gisborne Church.

Mass will commence at 11:00am and will also be live streamed. Memorabilia display, activities & food vendors to follow between 12 & 4pm. Learn more about the St. Brigid's Church story and meet or reconnect with present and past parishioners.

EVERYONE WELCOME

Wordsearch

Try to find these words:



appeared
Archelaus
dream
Egypt
Herod
hurry
looking
Nazarene
promise
return
true
wife

E	I	J	J	H	P	Y	O	J	I	D	H	Y	B	D	V	N
O	W	I	F	E	U	D	Q	Z	A	Y	E	O	F	D	I	L
Q	U	U	Q	D	G	A	J	W	D	D	I	J	A	B	E	X
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T	A	R	C	H	E	L	A	U	S	W	K	V	E	P	S	T
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G	O	H	I	X	O	K	P	H	S	O	N	N	E	Z	E	U
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S	Z	Q	C	M	E	B	I	I	N	R	U	T	E	R	M	U
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U	C	P	R	J	A	G	O	W	E	Q	U	B	W	K	N	D
V	I	V	D	S	G	Q	M	D	P	H	D	U	V	R	Z	F
A	C	E	D	T	U	U	H	T	Z	N	N	E	H	E	Q	O
R	O	J	W	D	R	G	M	L	V	A	A	Z	G	Y	U	S
L	X	H	X	S	Y	R	R	U	H	Q	K	W	P	S	Q	X

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admin@measuredjoinery.com.au

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Director – Tim McCarthy
0403 036 654 or tim@sagegroup.com.au



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ROMSEY | 5429 5254 | 99 Main St

RIDDELLS CREEK | 5428 7591 | 9 Station St



PRIEST & PRESBYTERY BY DIRECT DEBIT

Anyone not already contributing to the Priest & Presbytery expenses who would like to contribute may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Mary's Presbytery Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 64151 8467

Please use your surname as the reference.

THANKSGIVING BY DIRECT DEBIT

Anyone not already on the Thanksgiving Program who would like to contribute to the Church may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Mary's Church Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 64150 3257

Please use your surname and TG number as the reference.

Prayer of the Faithful: We are already God's children, and we believe that we receive from God, whatever we ask. Inspired by the words of today's scriptures, we confidently ask God to hear our prayers.

1. We pray for the family of the Church, for the Pope and the bishops who lead their flock. May they be courageous in speaking out to the world of Christian family values.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our Prayer.

2. We pray for the family of the Church at the grass roots level of every parish and diocese. May they be a sign of Gospel values manifested to their local communities.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our Prayer.

3. We pray for the domestic Church which is the sublime call and responsibility of every family. May the unconditional love of parents mirror God's unconditional love in calling us his children.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our Prayer.

4. We pray for families who experience illness, separation or unemployment. May they find hope in experiencing the invitation to take up the cross daily with Jesus.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our Prayer.

5. We pray for those communities who are currently impacted by the bushfires. May all be kept safe, especially those who have responded to help fight these fires to protect lives and property.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

6. We pray for ourselves and the special needs of all in our parish community. We pray for those who are sick – especially those on our parish prayer list – the frail, and for all who care for them. For the faithful departed: for those who have died recently, especially **Jan Bassett** and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially **Dan & Freda McCarthy**. May this time help their families to renew their love and continue their memory throughout the year ahead.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

Hail Mary

Celebrant: Loving God and Father, like Hannah who prayed to you in her need,
we have brought you our petitions.
With her, we trust that you will grant our requests.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Next week's readings: Isaiah 60: 1-6, Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6, Matthew 2: 1-12