

ST MARY'S PARISH, SALE

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL CHURCH, SALE;
ST PATRICK'S, STRATFORD; ST ROSE OF LIMA, ROSEDALE;
ST PATRICK'S, BRIAGOLONG;
THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF LOCH SPORT.

47 Foster Street, PO Box 183, Sale.

Parish Office Tel: 5144 4100 Hours: Mon - Fri 9am to 3pm

Parish email: Sale@cdsale.org.au

Parish website: <http://www.stmaryscathedralsale.com.au/>

Bishop Patrick O'Regan

Very Reverend Peter Bickley Dean St Mary's Cathedral

Mobile 0408 517 073

Assistant Priest: Fr Edwin Ogbuka Mobile 0469 733 929

Ms Clare O'Brien, Parish Secretary Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am—3pm

Mrs Veronica Barnes, Pastoral Associate. Tel: B.H.: 5144 4100. Sale.pastoral@cdsale.org.au

Mrs Jennifer Fitzgerald, Sacramental Coordinator. Tel: B.H.: 5144 4100. Sale.sacraments@cdsale.org.au

Mr Mark Durrant, Finance Manager, Office Hours Wednesday 8am - 3pm. Tel: B.H 5144 4100



4th Sunday of Advent, Year A *21 - 22 December 2019*

Christmas Message 2019

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ, every year has its mixture of good and bad. Every year has its various successes and failures. Each year has its number of unexpected and unnerving events, as well as its deep joys and successes.

2019 is no different. For many it has been a tough year. Back in February this year our Diocese seemed to be ringed by bushfires in places around Bunyip, Churchill and Dargo. In late November, it seemed as if the whole country was on fire. Some of our people are facing a challenging new year.

Things feel a little fragile right now for some: the economy is tight; there is not much of a social security net; jobs are under major threat in the Latrobe Valley and in our timber country; some of our young people are uncertain about their future.

While we know that uncertainty and the unforeseen are to be expected in our lives, it leaves us a little unsettled.

And then into this uncertainty once again, as it does each year, comes Advent and Christmas. A reminder that the kind of God we have is a God who first comes to us; a God who is not only God for us, but God with us; a God who reminds us that we are not alone.

At Christmas the One who is our light comes into our lives. The prophet Isaiah tells us that the 'people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. On those who dwell in the valley of death a light has shone.' This is our story as well.

Our joy at Christmas is not simply the celebration of another birthday. It celebrates that we have someone who is our Light; One who can show us the path of life; One whose light accompanies us especially in the darkness.

If Christ is that for us then Christmas also challenges us to become that Light in our world.

At Christmas we see in the child born in Bethlehem a God who comes in search of us; a God who is our true Light, a God who teaches us that we are not alone. It shows us that we have someone upon whom we can lean.

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ, may Christmas 2019 be a time of great peace, trust and forgiveness, for you and your families and friends. May we rediscover Jesus Christ our true light, a light that is always there. God is good, good indeed.

Bishop Patrick O'Regan

PARISH CALENDAR



Christmas Mass Timetable

Tuesday December 24

Christmas Eve Masses

6.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass Ashleigh House

6.00pm Family Mass St Mary's Cathedral

7.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass Rosedale

8.30pm Carols in the Cathedral

9.00pm Christmas Night Mass Cathedral

Wednesday December 25

Christmas Day Masses

9.30am St Mary's Cathedral

9.30am St Patrick's Stratford

10.30am Seaspray – Community Hall

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS Advent has been a wonderful help for our preparation for the coming of Christmas. The four candles around the wreath Peace, Hope, Joy and Love invite us to embrace these qualities within our own lives, they are the true qualities present in the lives of all Disciples of Christ. We the Parish Team, Dean Peter, Fr Edwin, Deacon Jithin, Mark Durrant, Veronica Barnes, Jenny Fitzgerald, Clare O'Brien and Myriam Elgueta have joy in our hearts as we wish you all you would wish for throughout Christmas and every safety on the roads this holiday period. May you have a very fruitful 2020.

ECUMENICAL CAROL SERVICE will be held at **8pm this Sunday 22 December** at St Paul's Cathedral, Sale. All welcome.

JESSE TREE the Advent Jesse tree is a valued Christmas Tradition first started in medieval times. The biblical figures tell the story of the Bible from creation to Christmas. Each week different biblical figures are added to the tree.

DIOCESAN MASS TIMES have been loaded to the Diocesan website and can be found by Parish location via the following link: www.cdsale.org.au/mass-time.

BAPTISMS: By arrangement through the Parish Office or with Veronica, phone 5144 4100.
ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament, Friday after Mass 1130am—12.00noon **First Friday of the Month** 11.30am-4.00pm At St Rose of Lima, Rosedale on 1st Wednesday of each month 9.30am—10.30am **RECONCILIATION: Cathedral: Friday** 11.30am after Mass, **Saturday** After the 9.30am Mass—10.30am **Stratford and Briagolong on Sunday or Rosedale on Saturday evening:** Before or after Mass or anytime by arrangement with the priest. **MARRIAGES:** Not less than six months notice please.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

ELECTIONS We welcome to the Parish Council newly elected Nellie Coomber, Margaret Shirreffs and Lorel Donnelly. We are grateful to the outgoing members who have given great and generous service these immediate three years, Brenda Burditt, Susan Mattson and Brett Morris. We should have a completed Framed Photo presentation of all members in the near future. Copies of which will be placed in each of the Church Foyers throughout the Parish.

FLOWER ROSTER FOR THE CATHEDRAL.

As some of our flower ladies have resigned after many years of service we have issued a new flower roster commencing **2 January 2020**. If you are on the roster please collect your copy from the foyer of the Cathedral if you have not already done so.

Thank you to the ladies who have dedicated so many hours to the flowers for the Cathedral over many years and have now retired.

31 CLUB REMINDER for 25 - 31 Dec. Please pray for vocations.

CLERGY APPOINTMENTS Bishop Patrick O'Regan has announced the following: The ordination to the priesthood of Deacon Stanly Devasia in Kerala, India will take place on Saturday 4 January by Archbishop George Njaralatt, Archbishop of Tellicherry. Bishop Pat will travel to India on 31 December to attend his Ordination. Please continue to keep Stanly in your prayers. He will return to the Diocese in February.

Effective 15 January 2020.

Rev Fr Janeesh Puthenpurackal Parish Priest of St Patrick's Pakenham

Rev Fr Anthony Rebelo Parish Priest of Foster and Yarram.

ACCOMMODATION WANTED for a man who has been posted to DHHS in Sale. He is seeking a single room with a small kitchen and bathroom in Sale. If you may have suitable accommodation please email rajan5@optusnet.com.au.

PARISH PRAYER.

God our loving Father, we give you thanks and praise

for our Cathedral Parish of Sale, for your people and your Creation.

Nourish us by your daily Word and Eucharist.

Enrich us in our faith, hope and love.

Strengthen us with the spirit of your mercy and grace.

Make us grateful for your gifts as we journey through our lives together.

May we be a welcoming and serving community,

always discerning and doing your will for one another.

We make this prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

A very happy and holy Christmas to everyone. We welcome all visitors and in your travels during the holidays keep safe on the roads.

COUNTERS: 22 December: Team 1: Mark Durrant, Robert McKenzie, Lou Centra
29 Dec: Team 2: Mary Cooper, Pat Lord

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:

Planned Giving: \$2,117.00

Presbytery: \$811.30

Credit Cards: \$0.00

Direct Debits: \$800.00

With thanks from a grateful parish.

FLOWERS: 26 December: Sue Harvey & Myriam Elgueta organizing.

2 January 2020: Lyn Althaus and Jenny Rebbeschi

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sun 22 Dec 9.30am: Deceased members of the Stefanetti family

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**Mass Timetable this week
4th Sunday of Advent, Year A
21 - 22 December 2019**

Day/Date	Time	Place
Sat 21 December	5.30pm 7.00pm	Cathedral Rosedale
Sun 22 December	9.30am 9.30am 5.30pm	Cathedral Briagolong Cathedral
Mon 23 December <i>10 - 10.30am Reconciliation</i>	9.30am	Cathedral
Tues 24 December <i>10 - 10.30am Reconciliation</i> Christmas Eve Family Mass Vigil Mass Christmas Night Mass	9.30am 6.00pm 6.00pm 7.00pm 9.00pm	Cathedral Ashleigh House Cathedral Rosedale Cathedral
Wed 25 December Christmas Day	9.30am 9.30am 10.30am	Cathedral Stratford Seaspray - Community Hall
Thurs 26 December	9.30am	Cathedral
Friday 27 December Pauline Hollier's Funeral	11.00am 1.00pm	Cathedral Cathedral
Sat 28 December <i>Reconciliation 10.00am</i>	9.30am	Cathedral

Plenary Council Prayer

*Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.
Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.
O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia
and guide us on the pilgrim way
of the Plenary Council.*

*Give us the grace to see your face in one another
and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.
Give us the courage to tell our stories
and to speak boldly of your truth.*

*Give us ears to listen humbly to each other
and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.
Lead your Church into a hope-filled future,
that we may live the joy of the Gospel.*

*Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
bread for the journey from age to age. Amen.*

*Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.
St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.*

Bishop Patrick O'Regan's Christmas Message

Bishop Patrick's Christmas Message is now online on the Diocesan website at the following address <https://www.cdsale.org.au/news/video-bishop-patrick-o-regan-s-2019-christmas-message>

It can also be found on the main page of the website which is simply www.cdsale.org.au.

The Christmas message can also be found on the bulletin board in each of our churches.



We offer prayers for those who have died **Pauline Hollier, Allen Garrett, Dennis Crane, Sr Bridie O'Bryan** and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Fr John Nolan, Fr Daniel Lorden, John Tullen, deceased members of the Stefanetti family**. We pray for those who are sick **Marie Adjemovic, Fr John O'Kelly, Eliza Watkins, Angela Jones, Ercilia Tobar, Ann (Bernie) Formaran, Fr Bernard Buckley and Maureen O'Kane**. **We pray in thanks for all who care for the sick.**

Date: 29 Dec 2019	Welcomer	Commentator	Readers	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Minister of Communion
Saturday 5.30pm					
Sunday 9.30am	<i>Please</i>	<i>Offer</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>All</i>	<i>Masses</i>
Sunday 5.30pm	<i>Sign</i>	<i>Up</i>	<i>Sheets</i>	<i>are in</i>	<i>Cathedral foyer</i>

NEW IN THE PARISH? CHANGED ADDRESS IN THE LAST YEAR? NEED PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES OR TO UPDATE THE PARISH RECORDS?
Please let us know we'd like to meet you!

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE: _____
EMAIL: _____

Please tick: If you would like to join the Planned Giving Program
If you would like to join a Family Group

Please place on the plate at Mass or drop into the Parish Office

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 7:10-14

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David:
are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men
without trying the patience of my God, too?
The Lord himself, therefore,
will give you a sign.
It is this: the maiden is with child
and will soon give birth to a son
whom she will call Immanuel,
a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. (R.)

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. (R.)

He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. (R.)

SECOND READING:

A reading from St Paul's letter to the Romans 1:1-7

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures. This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;
his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 1:18-24

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel.**



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Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Cathedral: Friday after Mass from 11.30am -12noon
1st Friday of each Month 11.30am - 4.00pm
RECONCILIATION: Cathedral - Saturdays
Following Mass: 10.00am to 10.30am

READINGS NEXT WEEK:
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
First Reading: **Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6, 12-14**
Second Reading: **Colossians 3:12-21**
Gospel: **Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23**

MARY'S SOUP KITCHEN
Has finished until February 2020. Thank you to all who helped in any way in 2019. Have a wonderful break.



SUNDAY MASS TIMETABLE
Saturday: Cathedral - 5.30pm Vigil
Saturday: Rosedale - 7:00pm Vigil
Saturday: Loch Sport - 11.00am (2nd & 4th)
Sunday: Cathedral - 9:30am
Sunday Stratford - 9.30am (1st,3rd & 5th)
Sunday. Briagolong - 9.30am (2nd & 4th)
Sunday: Cathedral - 5.30pm