

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/>

Diocesan Administrator: Fr Peter Slater, Warragul/Drouin

Very Reverend Peter Bickley Dean St Mary's Cathedral Mobile 0408 517 073

Assistant Priest: Fr Edwin Ogbuka Mobile 0469 733 929

Deacon Jithin Anto Mobile 0490 364 668

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

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Dean Peter, Fr Edwin, Deacon Jithin, Cijo Kuriakose (Chair), Bill Smolenaars (Vice-Chair), Yvonne Hope (Secretary), Veronica Barnes, Lorel Donnelly, Jennifer Fitzgerald, Filomena Padula, Nelly Coomber, Margaret Shirreffs, Len Althaus, Andrew Liyanage

Safeguarding - Our Parish is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all people with special concern for children, young people and adults at risk. Our Safeguarding Officers are Lorel Donnelly and Bill Smolenaars who can be contacted via psa.sale@cdsale.org.au.



The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
26 - 27 December 2020

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2020

Warmest blessings to you as we prepare to celebrate the Feast of Our Saviour's birth. How different our lives are as we gather to celebrate Christmas this year! So many things have changed. Yet, Jesus has been born for us. The beginning of this year was marked by the tragedy of the bushfires which ravaged land, homes, livelihoods and precious lives. In our own Diocese of Sale, and beyond, so many grieved the loss of livestock, land and infrastructure. Others sifted through ashes searching for precious memories held in the rubble of their homes. Others huddled in fear awaiting safe passage as roads and highways remained closed. Holiday centres no longer filled the sound of joyful holiday makers became centres of refuge and welcome for the weary. Yet, Jesus has been born for us! And as the haze began to settle, a new crisis emerged with Covid-19. Life for all us was changed. Lock-downs and restrictions halted our freedom and our contact. Our hearts broke as we heard of the aged and frail being isolated from those they loved, and for the many lives taken by the virus. Families and friends could only gather in small numbers to honour their beloved dead. For our Catholic community church doors closed, we were unable to gather to share in the Bread of Life and Word of the Eucharist, and to gather and connect with our brothers and sisters in faith. The buildings were closed but the Church was alive. And in all this we were not alone: Jesus has been born for us! As we celebrate the Birth of Jesus, we remember that he has been born for us, and he is with us - Emmanuel. In spite of the challenges, grief, suffering and sadness's of the year, a child was born for us, a son given to us...and the name given him is: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. Jesus has been born for us. It is into this 2020 reality of our life that he is born.

For did we not see him in the faces and courage of those who came to rescue the afraid, lost and despairing? Did he not reveal himself in the gentle hands and words of those who cared for the Covid afflicted as they gently reassured those separated from their loves ones that they were not alone? Did we not feel the surprise of the "hello" phone call knowing someone was thinking of us? And when those once strangers reached out to help, to care, to heal? Did not our hearts connect in a new way with the creative beauty of music, poetry, story, and as we learned to unmute the mute button on Zoom so others could share their lives with us, and we with them? Did we not feel a call within to go beyond, to reach out, to be mindful of others? Perhaps we found new empathy for those who live alone every day. And as we lived in the enforced quietness that this Covid time brought, perhaps we reflected on our lives, our meaning and our purpose in a new way. Jesus has been born for us. We yearn for his return. We listen once again to this familiar story as we celebrate Christmas: Mary, her husband Joseph and their precious baby a gift given and received. The story is the same, but perhaps our ears have been opened and our hearts have been shaped by the griefs of this very different year. And as we draw breath and remember that "Silent Night – that – Holy Night" of long ago, may the God of Promise, who has sent his Son to us, be light in our darkness, joy in our despair, consolation in our grief, and bring peace for our journey! Jesus has been born for us! Allow him to be born in you!

+Greg Bennet

This was recorded as a video. The recorded message can be viewed at:
<https://www.cdsale.org.au/news/bishop-greg-bennet-s-christmas-message-2020>

MASS REQUIREMENTS: Mass can now be held for up to 80 people in the Cathedral. All standard Covid-19 directives to be strictly followed. When you enter your Cathedral or local church you will see **QR codes on display**. Use this QR code to register your attendance. If you don't have a smart phone or don't have it with you the Covid attendant will have sign in sheet available and can mark your attendance. This allows us to have more Parishioners attend each Mass as the space ratio drops from 1 person per 4 square metres to 1 person per 2 square metres. This is a State Government requirement for holding services.

PARISH MASSES Weekday Masses are held on **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 9.30am**. Friday Mass is at 11.00am and is followed by Reconciliation and Exposition. Please continue to make **bookings for weekend Masses** at the Cathedral through Clare in the Parish office on 5144 4100 **9.00am to 3.00pm Monday to Friday**.

Our outer Church Mass times are as follows. Please keep these times handy:

Rosedale	Sunday Dec 27	9.30am
	2021	
Stratford	Sunday Jan 3	9.30am
Loch Sport	Saturday Jan 9	11.00am
Rosedale	Sunday Jan 10	9.30am
Briagolong	Sunday Jan 17	9.30am

RITE OF WELCOME AND BAPTISM: This weekend at St Mary's Cathedral, we welcome for Baptism **Zylan Pagatpat** daughter of Andrew and Joan. Congratulations to the family from us all.

31 CLUB REMINDER for 28 December - 3 January 2021. Please pray for vocations.

MASS INTENTIONS

REMINDER – Connect with the Diocese via social media The Diocese of Sale has Facebook page. You can 'like' the page by visiting Facebook and searching for Catholic Diocese of Sale or by going to www.facebook.com/dioceseforsale. Through the Facebook page you can learn more about what is happening across the Diocese.

DAILY PRAYER Short daily Gospel reflections with access to readings and prayers of the faithful can be found at <https://www.pray.com.au>

EMMAUS SPIRITUALITY: FREE – Introduction to Spiritual Direction. The Emmaus Team is offering a free 45-minute Zoom session to anyone who wishes to know more about Spiritual Direction and the Emmaus programs. Phone: 0477 474 848 to arrange a suitable time or Email: salespirituality1@gmail.com

THERE IS JOYFUL HOPE

We are confident the light of Christ shines for us as every Christmas turns saddened and suffering hearts to joy. We gaze on the gift of God's Son. The family that prays together stays together: As Christmas falls softly upon the world.....

we are hoping all will feel God's promise, presence, and peace.

HAPPY AND HOLY CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

from

Bishop Gregory, Dean Peter, Fr Edwin, Fr Jithin, Mark Durrant, Clare O'Brien, Veronica Barnes, Jennifer Fitzgerald, Myriam Elgueta and the Parish Pastoral Council.

Love Peace Joy and Care to one and all :

Dean Peter

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

We offer prayers for those who have died **Gaetano Zapulla, Fr Frank Young, Joan Turner** and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Chris Everard, Mgr Jim Fitzpatrick, Fr Dan Dee, Fr George Todd, Fr Kevin Moriarty**. We pray for those who are sick **Sue Barr, Barry Lyon, Daryl Leggett, Kim Yacoub, Celie Smith, Robert Hopkinson, Fr Brian O'Connor, Joan Whitford, Bill Harkin, Angela Jones, Cynthia Freshwater, Fr Bernard Buckley and Maureen O'Kane**. **We pray in thanks for all who care for the sick.**



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.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:

Planned Giving:	\$1,750.00
Presbytery:	\$414.00
Credit Cards:	\$0.00
Direct Debits:	\$944.00

With thanks from a grateful parish.

K.J.ALLMAN LL.B
ALLMAN, MORONEY
BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

121-123 Raymond Street, Sale
DX 85002 PO Box 100

Tel: 5144 3011 or 5144 3272
Fax: 5144 7782



For all your accounting, financial planning & taxation needs, whether personal or business, simply call:

(03) 5144 4422

www.dmgfinancial.com.au

Pre-planning your funeral is one way you can make a difficult time easier for your loved ones.

Talk to a locally owned business serving Gippslanders for over 125 years.

1390 Maffra Road Sale
03 5143 2477



GIPPSLAND
FUNERAL SERVICES



To find out more please call 1300 386 375 or visit gippslandfuneralservices.com.au

Mass Timetable this week
The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
26 - 27 December 2020

Day/Date	Time	Place
<i>Weekend Masses</i>		
Saturday 26 December	5.30pm	Cathedral
Sunday 27 December	9.30am	Rosedale
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
<i>Weekday Masses</i>		
Tues 29 December	9.30am	Cathedral
Wed 30 December	9.30am	Cathedral
Thurs 31 December	9.30am	Cathedral
Fri 1 January 2021	11.00am	Cathedral
Mary, the Holy MOTHER OF GOD		
Reconciliation & Exposition	11.30am	Cathedral
<i>Weekend Masses</i>		
Saturday 2 January	9.30am	Cathedral
Sunday 3 January	9.30am	Stratford
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
<i>Use QR Reader Code and Register or the sign in sheets and have the attendant tick your attendance please.</i>		
	<i>Use hand Sanitiser</i>	<i>Please social distance</i>

Prayer for the Year of Laudato Si'

Loving God, Creator of Heaven, Earth, and all therein contained. Open our minds and touch our hearts, so that we can be part of Creation, your gift.

Be present to those in need in these difficult times, especially the poorest and most vulnerable. Help us to show creative solidarity as we confront the consequences of the global pandemic. Make us courageous in embracing the changes required to seek the common good. Now more than ever, may we all feel interconnected and interdependent.

Enable us to succeed in listening and responding to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor. May their current sufferings become the birth-pangs of a more fraternal and sustainable world.

We pray through Christ our Lord, under the loving gaze of Mary Help of Christians,
Amen.

A Prayer for the Catholic Diocese of Sale

Jesus Christ, Yesterday, Today and Forever,
 One with us in our humanity,
 Be with us in birth,
 Be with us in life,
 Be with us in death.
 Lord Jesus, bless our Diocese of Sale.
 Bless us in our mountains and valleys, plains, rivers and seas.
 Bless us in our natural resources.
 Bless us in our cities and towns.
 Lord Jesus Christ, teach us communion with our local community:
 To know, love and serve our families and friends,
 To know, love and serve those who are poor,
 To know, love and serve those who wait for you.
 Lord Jesus Christ, in this ever changing land,
 Grace us to listen to your Word,
 Grace us to wonder at your presence,
 Grace us to welcome you into our midst.
 To you, our Redeemer, the beginning and end of time,
 To the Father, unending source of all good,
 And to the Holy Spirit, seal of infinite love,
 Be all honour and glory, now and forever.
 Amen.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,
 I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.
 I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul.
 Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,
 come at least spiritually into my heart.
 As though you have already come,
 I embrace You and Unite myself entirely to You:
 never permit me to be separated from You.
 Amen



NEW TO 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

Barry & Annette Lett
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

We offer care, compassion and service with dignity, for the people of Gippsland
 Caring and personal 24-hour service .
 Chapel facilities available.

67 Macarthur Street, Sale
Phone: 5143 1232
 www.lettsfunerals.com.au
 Member **Australian Funeral Directors Association**

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

**The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.**

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of Genesis 15:1-6,21:1-3

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great'.

'My Lord', Abram replied, 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless...' Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir.' And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be one of your own flesh and blood.' Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants,' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised her. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.

O sing to him, sing his praise;
tell all his wonderful works! **(R.)**

Be proud of his holy name,
let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.
Consider the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face. **(R.)**

Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, the judgements he spoke.
O children of Abraham, his servant,
O sons of the Jacob he chose. **(R.)**

He remembers his covenant for ever,
his promise for a thousand generations,
the covenant he made with Abraham,
the oath he swore to Isaac. **(R.)**

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets;
now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 2:22-40

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master,
you can let your servant go in peace,
just as you promised;
because my eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared for all the nations to see,
a light to enlighten the pagans
and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.



The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass © 1981 & the prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 1973 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from The Psalms, A New Translation, copyright © 1963 by The Grail, England and used with permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Every Friday from 11.30am—12.00pm
RECONCILIATION: Cathedral
Every Friday from 11.30am –12.00pm

READINGS NEXT WEEK:
The EPIPHANY of the LORD
First Reading: **Isaiah 60:1-6**
Second Reading: **Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6**
Gospel: **Matthew 2:1-12**

MARY'S SOUP KITCHEN CHAPTER HOUSE
Cancelled currently due to Covid restrictions.



WEEKEND MASS TIMETABLE
Saturday: Loch Sport - 11.00am (1st Saturday of the Month)
Saturday: Cathedral - 5.30pm Vigil
Sunday: Cathedral - 9:30am (Live-streamed only)
Sunday: Rosedale - 9.30am (2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month)
Sunday Stratford - 9.30am (1st & 5th Sunday of the Month)
Sunday. Briagolong - 9.30am (3rd Sunday of the Month)
Sunday: Cathedral - 5.30pm