

ST MARY'S PARISH, SALE

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL, 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 9.30am to 3pm

Parish email: Sale@cdsale.org.au

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

Bishop of Sale, Most Reverend Gregory Bennet. DD

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

Assistant Priest: Fr Jithin Anto. Mobile 0490 364 751 Mr Mark Hughes, Seminarian

Clare O'Brien, Parish Secretary. Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9.30am - 3pm

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

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

Mark Durrant, Finance Manager, Office Hours Wednesday 9.30am - 3pm. Tel: B.H 5144 4100

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Dean Peter, Fr Jithin, Bill Smolenaars (Chair), Veronica Barnes, Lorel Donnelly, Jennifer Fitzgerald,

Filomena Padula, Anita Little, Carmel Kuizenga, Margaret Shirreffs, Len Althaus, Doug Waite, Pat Carmody, Claire Everard.

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.



Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year C 18 - 19 December 2021

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE BISHOP GREG BENNET, DIOCESE OF SALE

Warmest blessings and greetings as we gather to celebrate Christmas 2021!

One of my priest friends wishes his parishioners each year a, “very messy Christmas”. He does so not to wish them an unhappy Christmas, but as a reminder to be realistic about Christmas. Because it can be “messy” - as it was from the beginning of the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem.

The Gospels of Matthew and Luke the evangelists contain the infancy narratives of the birth of Jesus. Over the years, these stories become so familiar to us: Mary and Joseph on their journey to Bethlehem, away from home and unable to find a place to rest, give birth to their child, the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, the Wonder Counsellor. The reality lived experience of “mess” is where God meets us in his son, Jesus, Emmanuel – God with Us.

As we gather for Christmas this year we are mindful of the journey we have had throughout 2021 – and it has been pretty “messy”. We think of the COVID experiences of families and others this year: people working at home; parents assisting their children to learn remotely and all that has gone on throughout this long time. We think of the aged and vulnerable, the sick and dying and those who felt alone, dislocated and disconnected. We think of those families and businesses who have been under so much stress, some in fact have lost their livelihoods. We are mindful of these people and their needs as we approach Christmas (the Christmas manger?). Alongside this, we are grateful for the gifts of goodness shared by so many.

Throughout the pandemic the parishes of the Diocese of Sale (clergy, religious and lay people) have continued to find ways to connect, to pray and accompany their people. In this “messy” time we witnessed the love of Emmanuel. There have been times of grief and sadness, and lots of postponements of important celebrations. Thankfully we now begin to re-emerge from this time.

Christmas reminds us that we gather as a people of hope and promise. The children from our Catholic primary schools have produced some beautiful Christmas cards based on the theme on the visitation of the Magi who bring their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to the infant King. The lives of the Magi were changed forever by daring to follow the star to find where Jesus lay. – And the same can be true for us – once we meet Jesus Christ and accept him, our lives are changed forever.

We remember at Christmas the gifts which we receive from the birth of Jesus: peace, hope, promise, mercy, compassion, and above all, the knowledge that Jesus accompanies us in every moment of our lives.

As you gather this year, hopefully with family and friends for the first time in a very long time, may you experience the God of Promise in the birth of Jesus. May you be blessed and enjoy the gifts of this time for God has sent his son, born among us and for us – God-with-us.

May you have a very blessed, holy and a “messy” Christmas!

Bishop Greg Bennet
Bishop of Sale



PARISH CALENDAR

Events may change due to Covid Restrictions

18 Dec: Farewell Mass for Dean Peter 5.30pm. Farewell BBQ 6.30—8.30pm for those who are double vaccinated only.

20 Dec: Monsignor Allman's Funeral Mass 11am

CURRENT COVID RESTRICTIONS:

Currently for the all parishioners we can revert to pre Covid numbers at Mass. There is no longer a requirement to wear masks. QR Codes are still required to be used at ALL parish Masses.

Livestream of 9.30am Sunday Mass will continue till further notice We are grateful to Jeff and Chloe for making this possible.

LIVESTREAM MASS from the Cathedral this **Sunday 19 December at 9.30am**. The YouTube link is <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiD2hf8A1xPXAJVG3nEYTZQ>. The channel name is St Mary's Cathedral Sale.

SYNOD 2023 LETS WALK TOGETHER Our Celebration: Communal celebrations where we explore God's Word and break bread are our glue. Are our celebrations guiding and inspiring our decisions & our lives and where are they failing? Have your say <https://tinyurl.com/HavingASay> or use the QR code. Introductory video, prayers and resources at <https://www.cdsale.org.au/synod-of-bishops>

31 CLUB REMINDER for 20 - 26 Dec 2021. Please pray for vocations.

SURVEY ON SION As you are aware there is currently a project being run by the Diocese of Sale on future use of the Sion Convent in Sale. Below is the link for the community survey which Dean Peter would like parishioners to use to provide their feedback on this project. <https://forms.office.com/r/4R2fHpQTef>

VOLUNTEER SIGN UP SHEETS for Christmas will be in the Cathedral till **Monday 20 December** for those who would like to help. We need Covid Marshalls, commentators, readers, covid cleaners for all Masses and Eucharistic Ministers for some Masses.

FAREWELL TO DEAN PETER celebrations will be held after 5.30pm Mass this **Saturday 18 December** with Bishop Greg. **As we will be celebrating there will be no 7.00pm Mass in Rosedale this Saturday.** Those whose vaccination status is unknown can now attend any Mass. **However, due to Government regulations, only those who are double vaccinated can attend the barbeque as this is an activity involving hospitality.**

PURE HARMONY MUSIC & EVENTS is proud to join with *St Paul's Anglican Cathedral, Sale* to present the most enduring choral work in history, **Handel's Messiah. Sunday 19 December, 2:30pm at St Paul's Cathedral.** Tickets available at www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=830387

ARE YOU A SPIRITUAL LEADER? – The Spiritual Leaders Program is an online (via Zoom) one-year, part-time program and will be a mix of selected Thursday evenings, Saturdays, and a 3-day Intensive. It is suitable for people in outreach ministries and various positions of leadership within their faith community, such as priests, ministers, members of religious Orders, lay ecclesial ministers, community and spiritual leaders, chaplains, pastoral carers, and those in health and education. The program, which commences in March 2022, focuses on personal integration of the theory and practice of a contemplative, discerning approach to pastoral ministry. Previous participants have commented that this Program has been transformational in terms of their personal spirituality and their leadership skills. The closing date for applications for the Spiritual Leaders Program is 28 January 2022. Places are limited and so we encourage applications as early as possible. Apply to Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation in Malvern, VIC. Fee-Help is available to qualifying participants. Brochure and application form at www.heartoflife.melbourne or tel 03 9890 1101.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL leaving collection raised **\$2,758.00** for this very worthy cause. Those who need help in the local area appreciate the generosity of all parishioners.

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.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES OF THE ADVENT WREATH.

Today as we gather on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, we light the fourth candle representing peace, and the hope that the Prince of Peace mend divisions, heal our hearts and unite us as one human family. We remember how God's love was manifested to the world through the generosity and courage of Mary.

Fourth Candle is lit by a parishioner

Sing Come, Lord Jesus



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

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 25 Dec 9.30am: Andy & Marie Geary (A's)

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:	\$1,674.00
Presbytery:	\$764.85
Credit Cards:	\$0.00
Direct Debits & Credits:	\$1,006.00
Cathedral EFTpos:	\$40.00

With thanks from a grateful parish.

K.J.ALLMAN LL.B

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**Mass Timetable this week
Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year C
18 - 19 December 2021**

Day/Date	Time	Place
Saturday 18 December	9.30am	Cathedral
<i>Dean Peter's Farewell Mass</i>	5.30pm	Cathedral
Sunday 19 December	9.30am	Stratford
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
WEEKDAYS		
Monday 20 December	11.00am	Cathedral
<i>Monsignor Allman's Funeral Mass</i>		
Tuesday 21 December	9.30am	Cathedral
Wednesday 22 December	9.30am	Cathedral
Thursday 23 December	9.30am	Cathedral
CHRISTMAS		
Friday 24 December		
CHRISTMAS VIGIL	6.00pm	Cathedral
	7.00pm	Rosedale
CHRISTMAS NIGHT	9.00pm	Cathedral
Saturday 25 December	9.30am	Cathedral
CHRISTMAS DAY	9.30am	Cathedral
	9.30am	Stratford
	11.00am	Seaspray
Sunday 26 December	9.30am	Cathedral
HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH	9.30am	Briagolong
	5.30pm	Cathedral
<i>Use the QR Reader to record your attendance please at all Masses.</i>	<i>Use hand Sanitiser</i>	



2021 CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL PARISH, SALE

FRIDAY 24 DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS EVE

5.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass – Ashleigh House
(residents only)

6.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass - Family Mass – Cathedral

7.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass - St Rose of Lima - Rosedale

CHRISTMAS NIGHT MASS

9.00pm St Mary's Cathedral - Sale

SATURDAY: 25 DECEMBER CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30am St Mary's Cathedral - Sale

9.30am St Patrick's - Stratford

11.00am Seaspray Community Hall – Seaspray

Please note that due to the change in Government Regulations there is now no need for an 11.30am Mass in the Cathedral on Christmas Day. This Mass has been cancelled.

St Mary's Cathedral Parish invites all families to attend the Christmas Mass. Children are welcome to dress up as a character from the Nativity for Mass.

VALE MONSIGNOR JOHN PATRICK ALLMAN

Monsignor John Allman died on Friday 10 December aged 96. He was originally from Denison and was ordained on 22 July 1951, at St Mary's Cathedral. He was a dedicated Priest to the people of Sale, Traralgon and districts in his 70 years of ministering to the people of the Diocese of Sale. Most of his ministry was centred upon St Mary's Cathedral and he served under 8 of the 10 Bishop's of Sale. Monsignor was responsible for the renovations to the Cathedral. The Mons held a special place in the heart and homes of many of us in this Parish. Pontifical Requiem Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral at **11.00am on Monday 20 December** with burial to follow at Sale Cemetery.

Livestream link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiD2hf8AixPXAJVG3nEYTZQ>



FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

THE JESSE TREE

The ornaments of the Jesse tree tell the story of God in the Old Testament, connecting the Advent season with the faithfulness of God across four thousand years of history. The fourth week of Advent the ornaments tell the story of the Life of Jesus and those he loved.

Sunday: John the Baptist *Ornament: Scallop Shell*

Monday: Mary *Ornament: White Lily*

Tuesday: Elizabeth *Ornament: Mother and Child*

Wednesday: Zechariah *Ornament: Pencil and Tablet* Thursday:

Joseph *Ornament: Carpenter's Square/Hammer*

Friday: Jesus *Ornament: Manger*

Saturday: Christ *Ornament: Chi-Rho*



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

We offer prayers for those who have died **Monsignor John Allman, Lucy Dessmann, Joy (Carroll) Thomas, Val Popov (Maffra), Sr Elizabeth Costigan RSC, Sr Margaret Barry RSJ** and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Andy Geary, Marie Geary, William & Enid Lyons, Gaetano Zappulla, Mgr Thomas Lynch, Fr John Gowen, Fr James Duffy, Fr John Nolan, Fr Daniel Lordon**. Please pray for those who are sick **Nikora Shaw, Terry Chiller, Fr Brian O'Connor, Andrew Geary, Gabriel Hall, Dawn Carroll, Helen Cantwell, Anthony Lee, Michael McGrath, Harold Hopkins, Peter Kerr, Troy Barney, Miguel Stehr, Bernard Clancy, Kim Yacoub, Celie Smith, Bill Harkin, Cynthia Freshwater** and **Maureen O'Kane**. **We pray in thanks for all who care for the sick.**

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

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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 Micah 5:1-4

The Lord says this: You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**Lord, make us turn to you;
let us see your face and we shall be saved.**

O Shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. **(R.)**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.

Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. **(R.)**

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

A reading from St Paul's letter to the Hebrews 10:5-10

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, 'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done. **Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 1:39-44

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

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



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



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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 HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Year C

1st Reading: **1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28**

2nd Reading: **1 St John 3:1-2, 21-24**

Gospel: **Luke 2:41-52**

WEEKEND MASS TIMETABLE

Saturday: Loch Sport - 11.00am (2nd & 4th Saturday of the Month)

Saturday: Cathedral - 5.30pm Vigil

Saturday: Rosedale - 7.00pm

Sunday: Cathedral - 9.30am and 5.30pm

Sunday: Stratford - 9.30am (1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday of the Month)

Sunday: Briagolong - 9.30am (2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month)

Please check the bulletin each week for weekday Mass times.