

# 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 [psale@cdsale.org.au](mailto:psale@cdsale.org.au).



## *The NATIVITY of the LORD* *25 December 2021*

### *A BIG THANK YOU*

*(I thank my God each time I think of You and when I pray for you, I pray with Joy)*

*I have been overwhelmed at the many kind words personal and public in regards to my moving into retirement from Jan 12, 2022.*

*So many gathered over a BBQ last weekend. It was a happy occasion and most of all your kind words have been so affirming and humbling – I only wish I could have done more for you all. This is my 3rd stay as your Administrator and Dean of the Cathedral parish. The first - way back there in 1979 to 1984, as Bishop Secretary to Bp Fox and Chaplain to Serra Club Sale. The second in 1993-1995 as Administrator under Bishop Jeremiah J Coffey, short though it was, I really enjoyed it as with Monsignor John P Allman of fond memory we witnessed the beautiful addition of the Assembly area so spectacular and welcoming to all who enter into our admired prayerful and beautiful Cathedral.*

*Since 2016 to 2021, counting 2016 that's 6 years of meaningful pastoral presence under Bp Pat O'Regan and now Bp Greg Bennet. It would be remiss of me not to thank the Parish Pastoral Council under the leadership of Bill Smolenaars and its membership, the Serra Club under the leadership of Brenda Burditt, the Finance Council under the leadership of Nick Lee and our Parish Manager Mark Durrant. The generous and untiring work of Myriam Elgueta having everything in place supported by her many helpers is so appreciated by all. The professional work at the secretary's desk by Clare O'Brien, the untiring work of our Sacristans Brenda Bowden and Sue Harvey. I also thank the leadership that keeps Stratford, Briagolong, Rosedale, Loch Sport and Seaspray in the umbrella of our Cathedral parish – making our parish truly blessed. The untiring work of our Sacrament co-ordinator Jenny Fitzgerald and Baptism contact: Veronica Barnes vital to ongoing evangelisation for contact with - our school principals, Secondary Chris Randell, St Thomas': Anita Little, St Mary's: Brett Morris and St Pat's Stratford: Joel Brayshaw so important to moving together as church for our young families and many children knowing they belong in the Cathedral Family. One comment I cherished - 'thank you for bringing us together Father Peter'*

*Words are weak tools when we want them to express what is felt in the heart. I leave to go into my new way of being priest with inner peace. It's my desire to be of support to the parishes of Morwell and Traralgon, as they now are one priest parishes. I want too, to visit the aged care places and the Latrobe Valley Hospital in support of these already over worked priests. The movement from Administration to pastoral care and warm attention to the aged and the lonely will be my special concentration in the years the good Lord blesses me with. I'd like also to look after O'Mara House, my close friendship with Monsignor John P Allman heads me in this direction where his presence was so invaluable to residents, administration and staff.*

*I have never forgotten the words on my Ordination Card 18th May 1974, 'Lord, I your priest, will make the whole earth my altar, and on it I will offer you all the labours and sufferings of the world.' These words have always been the engine room in my heart, to do special things for God wherever that call comes. The visiting of the elderly, visiting the sick, visiting the lonely are very beautiful calls indeed - being a presence of love hope and peace in the person of Christ is so special to me.*

*Christmas reminds us of the great love God has for us all, he gifted us with his Son who moves the heart of his disciples to give without counting the cost to love and to care, to bring his peace Joy and healing to all.*

*In my heart will be the blessing I had received from the priests with which I have lived and worked, planned and carefully prepared mission in our Cathedral parish, these 6 years.*

*I offer special thanks to my friend Fr Jithin Anto for his loyalty, care and kind considerations to me. Fr Jithin thank you for coming to our Diocese for leaving home, for making your home here in the Diocese of Sale, you have many gifts and have been kind to share them, you have our prayers love and support always. We know the Church is in good hands.*

*Mark Hughes is preparing for Ordination to the Priesthood – Mark your Ordination will be special to the Cathedral Parish. We have enjoyed your singing, your talents in beautifying our Cathedral and your sensitive way in which you include others and encourage them and affirm them in using their talents. It's a special gift - I thank you for your friendship and support. I cannot wait to receive your priestly blessing.*

*I go with sincere thanks to one and all, I have been blessed to have been with you and know my returns in the future will be as if I have never left you. I will be returning home.*

*God Love and Heal you, may his love strengthen you and bring you his peace.*

*With every kind wish and mountains of Love and peace,*

*Dean Peter A Bickley, St Mary's Cathedral Sale*

Currently for the all parishioners we can revert to pre Covid numbers at Mass. **PLEASE ENSURE YOU WEAR MASKS FOR ALL MASSES. QR Codes are still required to be used at ALL parish Masses.**

**LIVESTREAM MASS** from the Cathedral this **Saturday 25 December at 9.30am**. The YouTube link is <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiD2hf8AixPXAJVG3nEYTZQ>. 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. 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>.

**MANY THANK YOU's.** Thank you to Brenda Burditt for the coordination of my Farewell and thanks to Bill Smolenaars as MC. Thanks also to the members of the Serra Club for cooking the BBQ and coordinating delivery of the food. Thank you to all those who provided such wonderful dishes to share. A very big thank you to Geddes Meats, Sale Fresh Poultry, Covino's, and Tip Top Bread for going over and above expectations with our BBQ supplies. Thank you also to all those who helped with arrangements for **Monsignor Allman's Funeral Mass**. Your support was greatly appreciated. Thank you to all the Parishioners who have **volunteered for roles at Christmas Masses**. Your service to our Parish is greatly appreciated as it helps these special Masses and occasions to run smoothly. Thank you to Amanda, Mark, Lyn and Myriam for enhancing our beautiful Cathedral for Christmas. Thank you to all the musicians for the music that is so important to our celebration.

### **LAUNCH BY VICTORIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF PATHWAYS VICTORIA**

Bishop Greg Bennet said: I join the Catholic Bishops of Victoria in our renewed and sincere apology to all victims of sexual abuse by clergy and Church personnel. We pledge our ongoing commitment to ensure all those who have allegations of abuse have an appropriate independent process in order for them to tell their story in safety, and to have an appropriate pastoral response which respects their particular individual needs and circumstances. I am pleased the Catholic Diocese of Sale is able to join other Victorian Dioceses in providing Pathways Victoria for those who seek an alternative to National Redress Scheme or Civil Litigation. Our ongoing disposition as a Diocese and a Church must be to respond in a manner to all those who wish to bring an allegation of abuse in a manner which is pastoral, independent, compassionate, trauma-informed and independent.

Pathways Victoria which will commence 1 January 2022 is governed by a Board of Independent Directors and will be Chaired by Professor Rosemary Sheehan AM. The consultation and development of Pathways Victoria has ensured those most affected by the trauma of sexual-abuse have been listened to, together so many expert professionals dedicated to the care, support and healing of victims. Engagement with civil authorities has enabled a broad community exploration and refinement of the model. May this new approach be one avenue, among others, in our efforts to repair the lifelong harm which individuals have suffered. Further information about Pathways company and the new model if available in the **Pathways website: [www.pathwaysvictoria.com](http://www.pathwaysvictoria.com)**

**THE PARISH OFFICE** will be closed from **24 December to Monday 17 January**. We look forward to seeing you in 2022.

### **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.*

**Welcome to our Parish!**



Thanks for joining us to celebrate the birth of Christ

**31 CLUB REMINDER** for 27 Dec 2021 - 2 January 2022. Please pray for vocations.

**WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM BISOP GREG, DEAN PETER, FR JITHIN, MARK AND THE ALL THE PARISH TEAM. PLEASE STAY SAFE ON THE ROADS AND ENJOY YOUR TIME TOGETHER.**

### **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:**

<b>Planned Giving:</b>	\$1,032.00
<b>Presbytery:</b>	\$713.55
<b>Credit Cards:</b>	\$30.00
<b>Direct Debits &amp; Credits:</b>	\$1,175.00
<b>Cathedral EFTpos:</b>	\$70.00

**With thanks from a grateful parish.**

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

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**DX 85002 PO Box 100**

**Tel: 5144 3011 or 5144 3272**  
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**Mass Timetable this week  
The NATIVITY of the LORD  
25 December 2021**

Day/Date	Time	Place
<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>		
<b>Saturday 25 December</b>	9.30am 9.30am 11.00am	Cathedral Stratford Seaspray
<b>Sunday 26 December</b> <i>The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</i>	9.30am 9.30am 5.30pm	Cathedral Stratford Cathedral
<b>WEEKDAYS</b>		
<b>Monday 27 December</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>MASS</b>
<b>Tuesday 28 December</b>	9.30am	Cathedral
<b>Wednesday 29 December</b>	9.30am	Cathedral
<b>Thursday 30 December</b>	9.30am	Cathedral
<b>Friday 31 December</b> <i>Exposition &amp; Reconciliation</i>	11.00am 11.30am	Cathedral Cathedral
<b>NEW YEARS DAY</b>		
<b>Saturday 1 January 2022</b>	9.30am	Cathedral
<i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i>	5.30pm 7.00pm	Cathedral Rosedale
<b>Sunday 2 January 2022</b>	9.30am 9.30am 5.30pm	Cathedral Stratford Cathedral
<i>Use the QR Reader to record your attendance please <u>at all Masses.</u></i>		
		
	<i>Use hand Sanitiser</i>	

In October 2023, the Catholic Church will gather to reflect on the theme **“For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission”**.

Pope Francis is inviting everyone to share their experiences of synodality (walking together): a decisive theme for the life and mission of the Church.

Your voice matters! You are invited to be a part of this journey by reflecting on the Synod themes and sharing your story.

Visit <https://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch> for more information OR scan the QR code below.



**Sion Campus Update**

The Our Lady of Sion site is a much-loved local landmark. In August, the Catholic Bishop of Sale, Most Reverend Gregory Bennet, and Director of Catholic Education for the Diocese of Sale, Ms Maria Kirkwood, announced plans to relocate St Thomas' Primary School to the former Catholic College Sale site.

Significant work is being undertaken to determine the suitability of this plan. Diocese of Sale Catholic Education Limited (DOSCEL), in consultation with the Diocese of Sale, has conducted a demographic study projecting forward for St Thomas' Primary School, and a wider demographic study for the Sale Cathedral Parish. A community survey was also distributed so interested parties could share their thoughts on the proposal. The feedback received was largely positive.

We have commenced an engagement with an architect to develop a master building plan. Our focus has been re-development options of the former Catholic College Sale site to make it suitable for a primary school, whilst also working to maintain the historical significance of the buildings and surrounding land. An engineering assessment is slated to take place in January 2022.

In the meantime, Central Gippsland Health is operating a COVID testing and vaccination clinic from the site. The clinic at this point is expected to operate until February 2022. DOSCEL is pleased to work with the team at Central Gippsland Health to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the Sale community.



**READINGS - 26 December 2021**

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

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

We offer prayers for those who have died **Richard Klimas, Frank Saleta, Maureen Rutter, the Six Children from Devonport, Lucy Dessmann, Monsignor John Allman** and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Andy Geary, Marie Geary, Paul A Tsing Lay, Mgr Jim Fitzpatrick, Fr Dan Dee, Fr George Todd, Fr Kevin Moriarty**. Please pray for those who are sick **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

The Lord said to me: You are my Son.  
It is I who have begotten you this day.

## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 9:1-7

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt and consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

**The Word of the Lord.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.**

O sing a new song to the Lord,  
sing to the Lord all the earth.  
O sing to the Lord, bless his name. **(R.)**

Proclaim his help day by day,  
tell among the nations his glory  
and his wonders among all the peoples. **(R.)**

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,  
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,  
let the land and all it bears rejoice,  
all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
at the presence of the Lord for he comes,  
he comes to rule the earth. **(R.)**

With justice he will rule the world,  
he will judge the peoples with his truth. **(R.)**

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus 2:11-14

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

**The Word of the Lord.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Good News and great joy to all the world:  
today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

**Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 2:1-14

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing:

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.

### 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 EPIPHANY of the LORD**

1st Reading: **Isaiah 60:1-6**

2nd Reading: **Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6**

Gospel: **Matthew 2:1-12**

### **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.**