

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 Fax: 5143 2831
Parish email: st.marys.sale@bigpond.com
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 Solomon Okeh Mobile 0469 730 756

Ms Clare O'Brien, Parish Secretary
Mrs Veronica Barnes, Pastoral Associate.
Mrs Jennifer Fitzgerald, Sacramental Coordinator.



9th —10th December, 2017

THE GREATNESS OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

2nd Sunday of Advent - 10th Dec 2017.

I remember being out on my early morning walk one cold winter's day. The sun had just come up. As I walked along I noticed also that the moon was in the sky, pale against the sun I could just see it. Through the night the moon was bright and beautiful and dominated the sky, its faithful light had seen people through the darkness of the night. Now overcome by the sun it paled into insignificance, it had been pushed into the background. It was like the faithful candle made redundant by electric light.

The moon reminds us of the Old Testament prophets, who had kept alive the hopes of the people during the long night of expectation. It was thanks to them - the flame never went out. John the Baptist was the last and greatest of these. He worked tirelessly to bring his light to the people. He once dominated the scene, enjoying great popularity, but he was always conscious that a greater light was coming.

When that light appeared in the person of Jesus he knew his task was done. He didn't hinder or seek to delay the advent of the new light. He welcomed it. We can learn from John 1) He devoted his heart and soul to a great task. 2) He was a living example of what he preached. 3) We can learn from his humility. He recognised that Jesus was more important than he was. He was only the moon; Jesus was the sun. He stepped aside and allowed Jesus to shine. 4) We can learn from his generosity of spirit. 5) We can learn from his courage. He died a martyr's death, his last and greatest act of witness to Jesus. In John we see commitment, self-discipline, self-sacrifice, humility, generosity of spirit and courage. These are great virtues. Virtues like these build a Christian character. To make way for another person is not easy. It calls for a dying to self.

Parents spend the best years of their lives preparing the way for their children, and unselfishly they step back so that their children can come into their own.

All of us are tempted to hug the limelight, sometimes we relegate others to the shadows. As a result people feel oppressed and a lot of light is lost to the world. We must be careful not to block the light of others and be conscious of the debt we owe to others who prepared the way for us.

Jesus is the light of the world. To those disciples who saw and recognised his light he said: 'I tell you, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and didn't see it. (Mt 13:16-17). Jesus opened the way to salvation for all of us. We must strive to walk in his light and avoid being a source of darkness to anyone - John the Baptist said :- Look there is the Lamb of God!!!

Love and prayers – take care one and all. Dean Peter

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE

Sunday Dec. 24th—Christmas Eve

6.00pm Christmas Vigil - Ashleigh House
6.00pm Family Mass - St Mary's Cathedral
7.00pm Vigil Mass - St Rose of Lima Rosedale
9.00pm Christmas Night Mass - St Mary's Cathedral

Monday Dec. 25th—Christmas Day

9.30am St Mary's Cathedral
9.30am St Patrick's Stratford
10.30am Seaspray Community Hall



RECONCILIATION: CATHEDRAL: The Second Rite of Reconciliation will be held in the Cathedral on Wednesday, 13th December at 6.00pm.

ROSEDALE: 1st Rite Prior to 7.00pm Mass on Saturday 9th December.

DONATIONS FOR THE CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS

FLOWERS: If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of this year's Christmas flowers, please place your donation in an envelope clearly marked "Christmas Flowers". Donations may be placed on the plate at Mass or left at the Parish Office. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS LITURGY: We are inviting volunteers to place their names on sheet provided for Commentators, Readers, Offertory Procession, Collectors, Musicians. Please note: No Eucharistic Ministers are required for the Christmas Night Mass at 9.00pm.

DAILY MASS BOOK 2018. These books are available to all who attend daily Mass. Easily seen as you enter front door, please pick up one as you enter, and return to table upon leaving. This encourages all to participate through the recitation of the entrance antiphon, The Responsorial Psalm, the Alleluia and verse and the communion antiphon.

Please remember whenever there is singing throughout the mass the communion antiphon is not said

CATHEDRAL WORKING BEE: We are looking for volunteers for a working bee to be organised for a general clean-up around the Cathedral before Christmas to be held on Saturday 16th December from 10.30am.

If you are able to assist please call the Parish Office. Phone 5144 4100. It would be a great help if you are able to bring along long handled brooms, dusters, etc to assist with the cleaning.

Morning tea will be made available for volunteers in the Assembly area of the Cathedral. Your help is most appreciated.

SERRA CLUB: 31 CLUB: reminder for the 11th—17th December.

VOLUNTEERS BBQ Our annual Volunteer's "Thankyou" BBQ is on Monday night at 6.00pm in Chapter House. RSVP as soon as possible to the Parish Office so we have catering numbers. All welcome!

THE CHOIR has commenced practice for the Christmas Night Mass – let us build its numbers even further and to do so we are asking for parishioners to volunteer and to come to the Cathedral each **Tuesday at 5.00pm** to join in the practices.

THE JESSE TREE is the family tree of Jesus. It goes back to the very beginning, of creation, and traces his family through the Hebrew Scripture (Old Testament), to the birth of Jesus in the Gospels (New Testament). The Jesse Tree tradition focuses on a bible story, a character, and devotion for each day of Advent. It is a countdown to Christmas, each day adding an ornament, symbolising a part of Jesus' story. It begins with Adam and Eve at the bottom, moving upward to the topmost symbol, the Chi Rho representing Christ.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL GIVING TREE: The annual St. Vincent De Paul's "Giving Tree" will be in the assembly area of the Cathedral from the 9th-17th December.

Tags on the tree have different items written on them. SVDP Sale, Conference invite parishioners wishing to give, to take the tags, purchase the item and place their purchases back under the Giving Tree. These items will be distributed to needy families in our community.

A monetary appeal will be taken up after all Masses this weekend. Receipts will be available. Many thanks for your support.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS PLEASE NOTE: Office hours for the Parish Office have been changed. The Parish office will now be open from **9.00am to 3.00pm** each weekday

MEALS ON WHEELS ROSTER for this week
Mon 11 December - Lorraine Callahan/Maureen McLeod

Tues 12 December - Bernadette Van Lier & Elves

Wed 13 December - Jan Mitchell/Marie Centra

Thurs 14 December - Jenny Fitzgerald/Carmel Wade

Fri 15 December - John & Therese Cooper

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/diocesefofsale. Through the Facebook page you can learn more about what is happening across the Diocese.

Call for Communications Advisory Committee

members The Diocese is seeking two interested persons to be part of an advisory committee to provide feedback and input into the implementation of the Catholic Diocese of Sale's Communications Strategy 2016. If you have experience in the Communications field, a keen interest in Catholic News or an interest in how the Diocese communicates with Catholics and the wider community, this may be your opportunity to support the Diocese in its transition to a stronger online presence. The scope of advice will include providing feedback on the image and branding of the Diocese's new website and assisting with promotion of the website in the Diocese. This is a two-year voluntary role which would involve a commitment to approximately 6 to 10 meetings and the capacity provide to constructive feedback by phone or email on request. Interested parties can self-nominate with a short statement of interest including relevant career or volunteer experience and references.

For further detail on the roles please contact Diocesan Digital Media Manager, Liz Roberts on 5622 6673 or email newsonline@sale.catholic.org.au. Nominations need to be received by Wednesday 1 February 2018 by email or post to *Communications Advisory Committee, Diocese of Sale, PO Box 1410, Warragul Vic 3820.*

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday 10th December Cathedral 9.30am

Thomas Whelan (A)

Friday 15th December Cathedral 11.00am

Renato & Stephen Segafredo (A's)

Saturday 16th December Cathedral 9.30am

Maria Vasilisina (A)

COUNTERS:

This week: Team 9: Lenie and Bill Smolenaars, Nick and Maree Centra.

Next week: Team 2: Robert McKenzie, Mark Durrant, Lou Centra

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:

Planned Giving: \$ 2,727.20

House: \$862.95

Credit Cards: \$2,383.33

Direct Debits: \$5,025.00

With thanks from a grateful parish.

SACRISTY:

Team 1: (17th December) Lyn Althaus, Jenny Rebbechi.

Team 2: (24th December) Shirley Slater, Rosie Collins

BAPTISMS: By arrangement through the Parish Office or with Veronica, phone 5144 4100.
ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament, Friday after Mass 11.30am—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.

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Mass Timetable this week
2nd Sunday of Advent—Year B - 10th December

Day/Date	Time	Place
Saturday 9th December	5.30pm 7.00pm	Cathedral Rosedale
Sunday 10th December	9.30am 9.30am 6.00pm	Cathedral Briagolong Cathedral
Monday 11th December	9.30am 2.00pm	Cathedral Funeral Prayers for Noel Bateson at Rosetti's Chapel
Tuesday 12th December Note: No 9.30am Mass	10.30pm 1.30pm	Opal Funeral Mass Nellie Brown - Cathedral
Wednesday 13th December	9.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	End of year Mass - Stratford Ashleigh House Parish Reconciliation - Cathedral
Thursday 14th December	9.30am 6.00pm	Cathedral St Thomas' Grade 6 Graduation Mass - Cathedral
Friday 15th December	11.00am	Cathedral
Saturday 16th December	9.30am 5.30pm 7.00pm	Cathedral Cathedral Rosedale
Sunday 17th December	9.30am 9.30am 6.00pm	Cathedral Stratford Cathedral

PARISH COUNCIL STATEMENTS.

MISSION STATEMENT.

We the parish of Sale believe in the message and mission of Jesus Christ. As a Parish, we seek to live out this belief by enriching the quality of our Parish life and providing opportunities to grow together in God's love.

MOTTO.

Believe! Live! Give!

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.

*May we be a welcoming and serving community,
always discerning and doing your will for one another.*

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

We make this prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Second Sunday of Advent Year B

Celebrant: O Emmanuel, Saviour of Israel, you are God's son among us.

Response: Come, and save us, O Lord our God.

Celebrant: O Wisdom of the most high God, you rule your people with gentle might.

(2 Candles are lit)

Celebrant: May this light remind us of Jesus who is the true light of the world.

Response: God from God, light from light, true God from true God.

Celebrant: O Flower of Jesse's stem you are the sign of salvation for all.

Response: Come and deliver us, do not delay.

Celebrant: O key of David, you open and close by your might and power.

Response: Come and free us from darkness and death.

Celebrant: During the Advent season may almighty God let the light of His Son shine upon us. May He fill our hearts with joy at His coming and lead us to life everlasting.

Hymn: Come Lord Jesus.

Come Lord Jesus.

Come Lord Jesus.

Come Lord Jesus;

come and be born in our hearts

Come O Prince of Peace.

Come O Prince of Peace.

Come O Prince of Peace;

come and be born in our hearts

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Cathedral:

Friday after Mass from 11.30am -12noon

1st Friday of each Month 11.30am - 4.00pm

Reconciliation:

Cathedral: Saturday:

Following Mass: 9.30am to 10.30am.

We remember those who have died recently including **Noel Bateson, Nellie Brown, Sr Genevieve Fitzpatrick, Julie Rogan, Barry Rowe and Robert Surkitt** and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Fr James Hayes, Fr David Cagney, Fr Patrick O'Donohue, Archbishop Joseph Eric D'Arcy, Renato & Stephen Segafredo, Thomas Whelan, Maria Vasilisina, Vincent Carubia, Rosa & John Centra, Kerry Lee & Julia Crosby.** We pray for those who are sick including **Celie Smith, Harry Fuest, Cath Smyth, Luke Packham, Rosa Maria Santos, Daniel Waugh, Fr. Frank Freeman SDB, Joyce Leeds, Jaxon Kent, Kevin Kelly, John Cunningham, Noreen Waud, Valda Armstead, Caroline Robinson, Aussie Boyd and Rosie Carroll.** **We pray in thanks for all who care for the sick.**

Date 17/12/2017	Welcomer	Commentator	Reader	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Minister of Communion
Saturday 5.30pm		Jo Jones	Liz Tabuteau Margaret Shirreffs		Ann Neville, Brenda Burditt, Frank Fidge
Sunday 9.30pm	John Egan	Ann O'Brien	Jeff Hobbs John Vermaelan	Pam Edgley	Lenie Smolenaars, Mirella Segafredo, Elisabeth Staberhofer
Sunday 6.00pm		Nelly Coomber	Colin Coomber Brenda Bowden		Jennifer Fitzgerald, Kath Telling, Anna Allen

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

FIRST READING:

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 40:1-5. 911

'Console my people, console them' says your God.

'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for her crimes.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.

Make a straight highway for our God across the desert.

Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion.

Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem.

Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah,

'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him.

The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him.

He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.

His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. **(R.)**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. **(R.)**

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. **(R.)**

SECOND READING:

A reading from the second letter of St Peter 3:8-14

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;

he will prepare your way.

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,

make his paths straight,

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.



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on Thursdays, from 12.00 noon-1.30pm

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All welcome.



**NEXT SUNDAY
Third Sunday of Advent—Year B**

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians

5:16-24;

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

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. Briagolong 9.30am (2nd & 4th)

Sunday Stratford -9.30am (1st,3rd & 5th)

Sunday: Cathedral - 6.00pm (DST) 5.00pm (EST)

**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! If you complete the form below, you could place it on the plate at Mass or hand it in to the Parish office. We'll hope to catch up soon.

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

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