

# 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](mailto: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.



*23rd - 24th December, 2017*

## Christmas Message 2017

Where is God? At some stage of our life we are bound to ask that question. It might come after a particularly tough time in our life: a close member of the family or a friend suddenly dies, maybe a long-time job is unexpectedly lost. It might come in a joyous manner, such as seeing the unrestrained joy on the faces of our young people at the recent *Australian Catholic Youth Festival*. 2017 might have given us pause to ask that question when we in Victoria have passed legislation allowing Physician Assisted Suicide; maybe we are still coming to terms with the recently wrapped up Royal Commission. Where is God indeed! Maybe 2017 has been a wonderful year for us as it has witnessed new life come into our family. Where is God? is one of those questions that can sum up both our joys and our sorrows, our hopes and our despairs.

And then comes Christmas. For Christmas reminds us once again how to fully answer that, what at times is a persistent question, "Where is God?" Christmas reminds us that the answer is simple. Where is God? Why right with us of course; God is with us, Emmanuel. God has not forsaken us, for in fact it is God who took the first step in coming to meet us. I often ask why, in the Northern hemisphere, Christmas falls in Winter. Maybe to remind us that it is often at the darkest times that the light can be brightest.

May Christmas be a time of faith and family, and may Jesus Christ, the true light of the world, draw us ever into the mystery of God's love.

PS Of course those of a certain generation will always know how to answer that old Catechism question: Q: Where is God? A: God is everywhere. Christmas guarantees that.

+Pat O'Regan

Bishop of Sale

## 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



**RITE OF WELCOME AND BAPTISM:** This weekend at St Rose of Lima, Rosedale, we welcome for Baptism Callum and Anna Smith, children of Brendan and Dini. Congratulations to the family from all of us.

**DONATIONS FOR THE CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:** Thank you to all of the Parish Groups and Parishioners who donated money for the Christmas Flowers.

**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.

**PARISH OFFICE** will be closed from 3pm on Friday 22nd December and will reopen at 9am on Monday 22nd January. **The Parish staff would like to wish you all a holy, happy and safe Christmas and New Year.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Parish office will now be open from 9.00am to 3.00pm each weekday

**STAMPS FOR THE MISSIONS** Ann Broberg is requesting that Parishioners please save their used stamps for Missions. Stamps can be left at the Piety Stall in the Cathedral. Ann can be contacted on 5144 6631.

**MEALS ON WHEELS ROSTER** for this week  
Wed 27 December - Bernadette Van Lier & Elves  
Thurs 28 December - Carmel Wade & Helper  
Fri 29 December - Margaret Hickey/Maureen McLeod

**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. So far we have Peace - the dove, Adam and Eve - the apple, Noah - the ark, Abraham - the Ram and stars, Moses - the burning bush, Aaron - the lamb, Joshua - the trumpet, King Hezekiah - the tents, Isaiah - the Angel, Jeremiah - a fountain of tears, Habakkuk - the watchtower, Nehemiah - the wall, John the Baptist - the scallop shell. This week we add Mary the Mother of Jesus - the White Lily, Elizabeth - Mother and Child, Zechariah - the tablet of stone, Joseph - the carpenter's hammer, the three Magi - the white candle, the Shepherds - the Manger and Christ - the Chi Ro.

**ST VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL** The giving response was very heart-warming. More details are to come in future bulletins. From all at St Vinnies thank you very much for your contributions. We wish you a very Holy Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

### MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday 24th December Cathedral 6pm  
Focorro and Tomas Oliquino (A)

### COUNTERS:

No Counters are required for 24 or 31 December 2017

7th January 2018: Team 3: Mary Cooper, Pat Dowd, Pat Lord

### COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:

Planned Giving: \$ 1,980.60

House: \$940.75

With thanks from a grateful parish.

### SACRISTY:

Team 3: (31st December) Emmy Van Berkel, Lana Nedelko, Carmel Allman

Team 4: (7 January) Maree Centra., Angela Ronchi, Margaret Hickey, Huong Clancy

## 4th Sunday of Advent

### Advent Wreath Prayers

(4 candles are lit)

**Celebrant:** Come Wisdom of our God most high, guiding, creating with power and love.

**Response:** Teach us to walk in the paths of knowledge

**Celebrant:** Come leader of ancient Israel giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai

**Response:** Rescue the world with your almighty power.

**Celebrant:** Come, flower of Jesse's stem, sign of God's love for all his people.

**Response:** Save us without delay.

**Celebrant** Come, Radiant Dawn, splendour of eternal light, sun of justice.

**Response:** Shine on those lost in the darkness of death.

**Celebrant:** Come Emmanuel, God's presence among us, our King, our Judge.

**Response:** Save us, Lord our God.

**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 Emmanuel  
Come Emmanuel  
Come Emmanuel  
come and be born in our hearts



**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.

## P.J. Delahunty Funeral Services

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## Mass Timetable this week

4th Sunday of Advent—Year B - 24th December & Christmas Timetable

Day/Date	Time	Place
<b>Saturday December 23</b>	11.00am 5.30pm 7.00pm	Loch Sport Cathedral Rosedale
<b>Sunday December 24</b>  <b>CHRISTMAS MASSES</b>	9.30am 9.30am 6.00pm 6.00pm 7.00pm 9.00pm	Cathedral Briagolong Ashleigh House - <i>Vigil Mass</i> Cathedral - <i>Christmas Family Mass</i> Rosedale - <i>Vigil Mass</i> Cathedral - <i>Christmas Night Mass</i>
<b>Monday December 25</b> <b>CHRISTMAS MASSES</b>	9.30am 9.30am 10.30am	Cathedral Stratford Seaspray Community Hall
<b>Tuesday December 26</b>	9.30am	Cathedral
<b>Wednesday December 27</b>	10.30am	Ashleigh House
<b>Thursday December 28</b>	9.30am	Cathedral
<b>Friday December 29</b>	11.00am 1.00pm	Cathedral Cathedral ( <i>Dick Bloink's Funeral</i> )
<b>Saturday December 30</b>	9.30am 5.30pm 7.00pm	Cathedral Cathedral Rosedale
<b>Sunday December 31</b>	9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm 6.00pm	Cathedral Stratford Seaspray Community Hall Loch Sport 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*

*Dear Friends all*

*2017, has been a wonderful year with you, your family as friends. Fr Solomon, Deacon Avinash and myself, along with Kath Bird, (now recently retired,) Clare O'Brien (our new parish secretary,) Jenny Fitzgerald (Sacrament – program and pastoral) Veronica Barnes (Baptism Preparation - and pastoral). Mark Durrant (Parish Manager) and Miriam Elgueta (who serves the priests delicious meals) each join in wishing you all the happiest of Christmas cheer, a safe holiday with the gifts of peace, joy and happiness.*

*Let us continue to pray for each other as we welcome Emmanuel, God with us.*



*Dean Peter, Fr Solomon, Deacon Avinash, Kath, Clare, Jenny, Veronica, Mark and Myriam.*

We remember those who have died recently **Richard (Dick) Bloink, Judith Lund, Giovanni Luigi Marsiglio, Sister Joy Hanrahan PBVM & Gregory Pigot** and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Fr John Nolan, Fr Daniel Lorden, Mgr James Fitzpatrick, Fr Daniel Dee, Fr George Todd, Focorro & Tomas Oliquino.** **We pray for those who are sick** 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, Rosie Carroll, Coty Tobar and Maureen O'Kane. **We pray in thanks for all who care for the sick.**

Date 24/12/2017	Welcomer	Commentator	Reader	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Minister of Communion
<b>Saturday 5.30pm</b>		Ann Neville	Bryan Leake Brenda Burditt		Bill Smits, Theo Smolenaars,
<b>Sunday 9.30pm</b>	Dave Ellison	Diane Ward	Clare O'Brien Carmel Kuizenga	Dave Ellison	John Cooper, Peter Centra, Please offer
<b>CHRISTMAS 24 - 25th December</b>	Welcomer	Commentator	Reader	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Minister of Communion
<b>Sunday 6.00pm Family Mass</b>		Liz Tabuteau	Ann Neville Jeff Hobbs	Clare O'Brien Pauline Aitken	Pam Edgley, John Cooper John Vermaelen
<b>Sunday 9.00pm Christmas Night Mass</b>	Fitzgerald Family	Jo Jones	Andrea Elgueta Brenda Burditt	Shasini & Manuja	Clergy
<b>Monday 9.30am Christmas Mass</b>		Ann O'Brien	Brenda Bowden John Vermaelen	Please offer	Please offer

 <p><b>SHOP 2 GIPPSLAND CENTRE</b> Gippsland health and beauty specialists</p>	<p><i><b>Captains Lodge International</b></i> Motel &amp; Restaurant 46 Princes Highway, Sale Telephone 5144 3766 Fax 5143 1311 Specialises in Austrian and International cuisine Dinner from 7.00pm Wednesday—Sunday or by special arrangement.</p>	<p><b>Barry &amp; Annette Lett</b> <b>FUNERAL DIRECTORS</b> We offer care, compassion and service with dignity, for the people of Gippsland Caring and personal 24-hour service . Chapel facilities available. <b>67 Macarthur Street, Sale</b> <b>Phone: 5143 1232</b></p>
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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 open and bring forth a Saviour.

**FIRST READING:**

A reading from the second book of Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12.14.16

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent'. Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

**The word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;  
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.  
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,  
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **(R.)**

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;  
I have sworn to David my servant:  
I will establish your dynasty for ever  
and set up your throne through all ages.' **(R.)**

He will say to me: 'You are my father,  
my God, the rock who saves me.'  
I will keep my love for him always;  
for him my covenant shall endure. **(R.)**

**SECOND READING:**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 16:25-27

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

**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 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

**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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**MARY'S SOUP KITCHEN  
CHAPTER HOUSE**

Mary's Soup Kitchen reopens on

Serves 'Soup and Sandwiches'  
on Thursdays, from 12.00 noon-1.30pm  
Tea and Coffee provided.  
At Chapter House.  
All welcome.



**NEXT SUNDAY**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Year B**

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3;  
Second Reading: Hebrews 11:8,  
11,12,17-19;  
Gospel: Luke 2:22-40.

**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.

**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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