

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.
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Bishop Patrick O'Regan
Very Reverend Peter Bickley Dean St Mary's Cathedral
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The Holy Family of Mary, Jesus and Joseph, Year A 28 - 29 December 2019

Mass Timetable this week

Day/Date	Time	Place
Sat 28 December	5.30pm	Cathedral
	7.00pm	Rosedale
Sun 29 December	9.30am	Cathedral
	9.30am	Stratford
	11.15am	Seaspray
	5.30pm	Cathedral
Mon 30 December	<i>NO</i>	<i>MASS</i>
Tues 31 December	9.30am	Cathedral
Wed 1 Jan 2020	11.00am	Ashleigh House
Thurs 2 January	9.30am	Cathedral
Friday 3 January	11.00am	Cathedral
Sat 4 January <i>Reconciliation 10.00am</i>	9.30am	Cathedral

Date: 4 - 5 Jan
2020 Roster

Please offer for all roles

We offer prayers for those who have died **Pauline Hollier, Alice Leeds** and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Mgr James Fitzpatrick, Fr Dan Dee, Fr George Todd, Fr Kevin Moriarty**. We pray for those who are sick **Marie Adjemovic, Fr John O'Kelly, Eliza Watkins, Angela Jones, Ercilia Tobar, Ann (Bernie) Formaran, Fr Bernard Buckley and Maureen O'Kane**. **We pray in thanks for all who care for the sick.**

COUNTERS: 29 Dec: Team 2: Mary Cooper, Pat Lord

5 Jan: Team 3: Reg & Pat Carmody

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:

Planned Giving: \$2,109.20

Presbytery: \$1,204.65

Credit Cards: \$30.00

Direct Debits: \$699.00

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

\$2,379.85

With thanks from a grateful parish.

FLOWERS: 9 January:

Team 4: Mary Cooper, Sue Harvey, Therese Cooper

PARISH OFFICE will be closed from Christmas Day until Monday 20 January. We hope you have a wonderful New Year and 2020.

DEAN PETER will be taking a well deserved holiday after this weekend and will return on **10 January**. During this time Fr Edwin will be the main contact. We welcome Fr Malcolm Hewitt next weekend, 4 - 5 Jan.

Christmas Message 2019

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ, every year has its mixture of good and bad. Every year has its various successes and failures. Each year has its number of unexpected and unnerving events, as well as its deep joys and successes.

2019 is no different. For many it has been a tough year. Back in February this year our Diocese seemed to be ringed by bushfires in places around Bunyip, Churchill and Dargo. In late November, it seemed as if the whole country was on fire. Some of our people are facing a challenging new year.

Things feel a little fragile right now for some: the economy is tight; there is not much of a social security net; jobs are under major threat in the Latrobe Valley and in our timber country; some of our young people are uncertain about their future.

While we know that uncertainty and the unforeseen are to be expected in our lives, it leaves us a little unsettled.

And then into this uncertainty once again, as it does each year, comes Advent and Christmas. A reminder that the kind of God we have is a God who first comes to us; a God who is not only God for us, but God with us; a God who reminds us that we are not alone.

At Christmas the One who is our light comes into our lives. The prophet Isaiah tells us that the 'people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. On those who dwell in the valley of death a light has shone.' This is our story as well.

Our joy at Christmas is not simply the celebration of another birthday. It celebrates that we have someone who is our Light; One who can show us the path of life; One whose light accompanies us especially in the darkness.

If Christ is that for us then Christmas also challenges us to become that Light in our world.

At Christmas we see in the child born in Bethlehem a God who comes in search of us; a God who is our true Light, a God who teaches us that we are not alone. It shows us that we have someone upon whom we can lean.

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ, may Christmas 2019 be a time of great peace, trust and forgiveness, for you and your families and friends. May we rediscover Jesus Christ our true light, a light that is always there. God is good, good indeed.

Bishop Patrick O'Regan

Bishop of Sale

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 Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6. 12-14

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons. Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune. Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord. My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life. Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!

By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper. (R.)

Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table. (R.)

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
all the days of your life! (R.)

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians 3:12-21

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful. Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
and the fullness of his message live within you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 2:13-15,19-23
After the wise men had left, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you, and escape into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, because Herod intends to search for the child and do away with him.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, left that night for Egypt, where he stayed until Herod was dead. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken through the prophet:

I called my son out of Egypt.

After Herod's death, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you and go back to the land of Israel, for those who wanted to kill the child are dead.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, went back to the land of Israel. But when he learnt that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as ruler of Judaea he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he left for the region of Galilee. There he settled in a town called Nazareth. In this way the words spoken through the prophets were to be fulfilled:

He will be called a Nazarene.

The Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

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



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Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Cathedral: Friday after Mass from 11.30am -12noon
1st Friday of each Month 11.30am - 4.00pm
RECONCILIATION: Cathedral - Saturdays
Following Mass: 10.00am to 10.30am

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**

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.*

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 Stratford - 9.30am (1st,3rd & 5th)
Sunday. Briagolong - 9.30am (2nd & 4th)
Sunday: Cathedral - 5.30pm