

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 Francis Otobo, Mobile 0448 529 712

Assistant Priest: Fr Jithin Anto. Mobile 0490 364 751

Fr Mark Hughes 5144 4100

PARISH OFFICE: Parish Staff: Clare O'Brien, Parish Secretary. Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9.30am - 3pm. **Mark Durrant**, Finance Manager.

Hours: Wednesday 9.30am - 3pm. **Jennifer Fitzgerald**, Sacramental Coordinator Email: Sale.sacraments@cdsale.org.au.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Fr Francis, Fr Jithin, Rose Lee, Brenda Burditt, Cijo Kuriakose, John Dykun, Michele Wakeham, Doug Waite, Claire Everard, Tim Morrison, Carmel Kuizenga, Anita Little, Filomena Padula, Jennifer Fitzgerald.

Safeguarding Statement: 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 Officer is Tim Morrison.** Ph 5144 4100



Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year A 17 - 18 December 2022

A MAN OF HONOUR

The Gospel story today from Matthew 1:18-24 refers to St Joseph as a man of honour. Joseph is recognised for his role in the Christmas story, as the husband of Mary as well as the step father of Jesus. Scripture tells us very little about Joseph, but in knowing that God chose him to be such an important figure in the lives of both Mary and Jesus, we can only imagine what an extraordinary person he must have been.

His betrothal to Mary would not have seemed to be so extraordinary. It would have been an arrangement made by their families. He undoubtedly knew Mary having grown up in the same area. He was pleased as her qualities as a young woman were apparent to all. So, it came as a considerable shock to discover that she was pregnant. The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of his struggle: When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly (Matt 1:18-19). Joseph loved Mary, and did not wish her to be shamed and exposed to snide comments or being outcast. He would quietly end the betrothal.

But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." (Matt 1:20-21). Joseph's difficulties ended in revelation in a dream. He discovered that he was chosen by God to be the earthly father of Jesus and the protector of his family. As a faithful Jew, Joseph would also know the promise of the Messiah. As Mary did, he also said "Yes!" to God and acted in obedience to the Holy Spirit.

It was not an easy life. It involved the taking his family to Egypt to save Jesus from Herod's soldiers (Matt 2:13-15). When they returned to Nazareth, Joseph had the daily concerns of finding enough work to feed his family. Even after making the costs of everyday life, the family managed to save enough to participate in the yearly Passover celebration in Jerusalem accompanied by their family and friends. (Luke 1:41-51)

Joseph's life, work, and his continuing care and protection of the Holy Family is hidden from us. And in this way, he is a model for all men who in their families and religious communities in their daily labour love and support all who come under their protection. It is for this reason that Pope Pius IX declared St Joseph to be the Patron of the Church. St Joseph was also declared the patron of workers celebrated on May 1. St. Joseph does not appear during Jesus' public ministry, nor is he mentioned during the Gospel accounts of Jesus' passion and death. Due to this, it is believed that St. Joseph died prior to these events. As tradition tells us that he died in the presence of Mary and Jesus, we may also pray for his intercession for a holy death.

PARISH CALENDAR.

Tue 20 Dec 6.00pm: Parish Reconciliation
24 Dec - Tues 17 Jan: Parish Office Closed.

PARISH RECONCILIATION will take place at 6.00pm on Tuesday 20 December in the Cathedral. Let's all make this a good opportunity to prepare for Christmas. All parishioners are encouraged to attend.

ADVENT APPEAL FOR UKRAINE During the November 2022 plenary meeting of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, the Bishops strongly supported a proposal from Bishop Mykola Bychok CSsR, Eparch of Sts Peter and Paul for the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Australia, to hold an appeal for the people of Ukraine. We have been asked to have a "leaving" collection which will be held next weekend, 17 & 18 December at all Parish Masses. The collections will support the work of Mudra Sprava (Wise Action), a Patriarchal Charitable Foundation in Ukraine. The organisation has three focus areas: Evacuation of people from frontline territories; Food packages for people in need; Shelters for internally displaced persons.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL FLOOD APPEAL In response to the ongoing Flood emergency in Victoria – SVDP have been conducting a Flood Appeal which you may wish to support. You can donate via the SVDP online portal.
<https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/vinnies-vic-flood-appeal-2022>

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS if you would like to donate money for Christmas Flowers you can either bring the money into the Parish office or place the money in an envelope on any collection plate.

RITE OF WELCOME AND BAPTISM: This weekend at St Mary's Cathedral, we welcome for Baptism Alexander & Hugo Pakulsky sons of Nathan & Jennaya. Congratulations to the family from us all.

31 CLUB REMINDER for 19 to 25 December..

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun 17 Dec 5.30pm: Richard Klimas (A)

PARISH OFFICE: has moved and is now next to the Chapter House in the Old Chancery office behind the Presbytery. The opening hours of the Parish Office changed with effect from the week of Monday 5 December. Clare will be working **Tuesday, Thursday and Friday only**. Mark will continue to work on **Wednesday's**. **This means both the office and the Cathedral will be closed on Mondays**. The Parish Office will be closed from **Friday 23 December 2022** for the Christmas break and will reopen on **Tuesday 17 January 2023**.

ELECTRONIC BULLETIN if you would like to have the bulletin sent directly to your email each week please email your details to Clare in the Parish Office at Sale@cdsale.org.au. Alternatively, the bulletin is added to the Bulletin page on the Parish office website which is located at:

<http://www.stmaryscathedralsale.com.au/weekly-bulletins/>

ST VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTION thank you to our very generous parishioners we raised \$900.45. The Conference would also like to thank all Parishioners who were so generous with canned goods and donations.

ANNOUNCING THE DAMASCUS SPIRITUAL LEADERS PROGRAM! Part-time in Feb-Nov 2023 - either in person or online - through Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. This program is designed for people in various positions of leadership, spiritual formation and parish or outreach ministries. It will equip individuals to lead with integrity, vulnerability and resilience, and will focus on the inner spiritual journey in order to create fully-formed leaders who listen, learn and accompany others with strength and sensitivity. 'Damascus' can be studied as a Graduate Certificate in Divinity through the University of Divinity (Yarra Theological Union/ Catholic Theological College), or as an audit student to receive a Certificate in Spiritual Leadership from Heart of Life. Attendance on Monday mornings and some Saturdays. Read more about the program on the Heart of Life website or contact us on (03) 9890 1101. **Applications close on 6/1/23.**

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.

SYNOD OF BISHOPS: The Church around the world has entered the Continental Stage for the Synod of Bishops on Synodality. Groups around the country are praying with and responding to the Document for the Continental Stage, which was published recently. Groups around Australia have spent time in responding to the Document which reflect the voices of the People of God from over 114 countries around the world. A collation of the Australian submissions is being prepared for the Bishops from the Oceania region when they meet in Fiji in February 2023. Access the Document for the Continental Stage www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED is asking for support to aid our brothers and sisters who are suffering so deeply in Syria and Lebanon through our Christmas appeal Sharing Hope with Christians in Syria and Lebanon this Christmas. The support we are pledging to them is very much emergency relief to sustain the Christian population in hope. The projects we are supporting are projects such as medical aid, community help and gifts for children in Lebanon, as well as support for lay faithful and accommodation for families in Syria. It is only with your help that ACN can support Christians in Lebanon and Syria this Christmas! To watch videos and read stories of the projects we are supporting visit www.aidtochurch.org/christmas2022

BAPTISMS: By arrangement through the Parish Office phone 5144 4100.

ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament, Friday after Mass 11.30am — 12.00noon

At St Rose of Lima, Rosedale on 1st Wednesday of each month 9.30am — 10.30am

RECONCILIATION: Cathedral: Friday 11.30am after Mass, **Saturday** 10.00 — 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:	\$1,367.00
Presbytery:	\$994.60
Credit Cards	\$0.00
Direct Debits & Credits:	\$1,056.00
Cathedral EFTpos:	\$60.00

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**Mass Timetable this week
Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year A
17 - 18 December 2022**

Day/Date	Time	Place
Saturday 17 December	9.30am 5.30pm	Cathedral Cathedral
Sunday 18 December	5.30pm 9.30am 9.30am 5.30pm	Rosedale Stratford Cathedral Cathedral
WEEKDAYS		
Monday 19 December	NO	MASS
Tuesday 20 December	9.30am 6.00pm	Cathedral Cathedral
Parish Reconciliation		
Wednesday 21 December	9.30am	Cathedral
Thursday 22 December	9.30pm	Cathedral
Friday 23 December	11.00am 11.30am	Cathedral Cathedral
Reconciliation & Exposition		
WEEKEND		
Saturday 24 December	11.00am	Loch Sport
Christmas Family Mass	6.00pm	Cathedral
Christmas Eve Vigil	7.00pm	Rosedale
Christmas Night Mass	9.00pm	Cathedral
Sunday 25 December	9.30am 9.30am 11.00am	Cathedral Stratford Seaspray
Christmas Day Mass		

Date & Time	Sat 17 Dec 5.30pm	Sun 18 Dec 9.30am	Sun 18 Dec 5.30pm
Welcomer	Marietta Dykun	Dalia Ellison	Mary Chiller
Commentator	Damian Hogan	Margaret Shirreffs	Veronica Stewart
Reader	Brenda Burditt	Vince Beer	Ann Neville
Counter	Len & Lyn Althaus		

Date & Time	Sat 24 Dec 6.00pm	Sat 24 Dec 9.00pm	Sun 25 Dec 9.30am
Welcomer	Claire Everard	Please offer	Kate Meehan-Oxford
Commentator	Liz Tabuteau	Christine Lyon	Susan Mattson
Offertory	Morrison Family	Please offer	Please offer
Readers	Lilli O'Brien Clare O'Brien	Lyn Althaus Brenda Burditt	Nick Hall Vince Beer
Counter	Theo & Sandra S (any time before 29/12)		

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

We offer prayers for those who have died **Vince Pasmusans, Prof Barbara Kelly** and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Richard Klimas, Gaetano Zappulla, Fr John Gowen, Mgr Thomas Lynch, Fr James Duffy, Fr John Nolan**. Please pray for those who are sick Eric Tabuteau, John Schroeder, Jim Clottin, Neha De Alwis, Helena Klimas, Gabriel Hall, Helen O'Kane, Rachel Stefanetti, Andrew Geary, Michael McGrath, Troy Barney, Miguel Stehr, Bill Harkin and Maureen O'Kane. **We pray in thanks for all who**

The Advent Wreath

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Celebrant: Today, as we gather on the fourth Sunday of Advent, we light the fourth of the candles, remembering how God's love was manifested to the world through the generosity and courage of the Virgin Mary.

**We now light the fourth candle,
called the Angel's Candle to
remember the heralds of Christ's birth.**

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

R. (Sung) Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus, come and be born in our hearts.

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

R. (Sung) Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus, come and be born in our hearts.

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

R. (Sung) Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus, come and be born in our hearts.

Celebrant: Come, radiant dawn, splendour of eternal light, sun of justice.

R. (Sung) Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus, come and be born in our hearts.

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

R. (Sung) Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus, come and be born in our hearts.

Celebrant: May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

Celebrant: Let us pray,

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.



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 Isaiah 7:10-14

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David:
are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men
without trying the patience of my God, too?
The Lord himself, therefore,
will give you a sign.
It is this: the maiden is with child
and will soon give birth to a son
whom she will call Immanuel,
a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples. It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm. **(R.)**

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **(R.)**

He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **(R.)**

SECOND READING:

A reading from St Paul's letter to the Romans 1:1-7

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures. This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;
his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 1:18-24

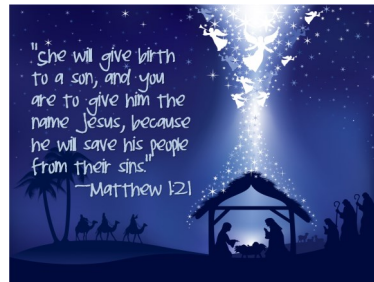
This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,
a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

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



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Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Friday from 11.30am —12.00pm

RECONCILIATION: Cathedral

Friday & Saturday morning following Mass

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

The Nativity of the Lord, Vigil

1st Reading: **Isaiah 62:1-5**

2nd Reading: **Acts 13:16-17, 22-25**

Gospel: **Matthew 1:1-25**

The Nativity of the Lord, Night

1st Reading: **Isaiah 9:1-7**

2nd Reading: **Titus 2:11-1**

Gospel: **Luke 2:1-14**

The Nativity of the Lord, Day

1st Reading: **Isaiah 52:7-10**

2nd Reading: **Hebrews 1:1-6**

Gospel: **John 1:1-18**

WEEKEND MASS TIMETABLE

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

Saturday: Cathedral - 5.30pm

Saturday: Rosedale - 5.30pm

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.