

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: Tues - Fri 9.15am to 3pm (Closed Mondays)

Parish email: Sale@cdsale.org.au

Parish website: <http://www.stmaryscathedralsale.com.au/>

Bishop of Sale, Most Reverend Gregory Bennet. DD

Very Reverend Francis O'tobo, Mobile 0448 529 712

Assistant Priest: Fr Jithin Anto. Mobile 0490 364 751

PARISH OFFICE: Parish Staff: Clare O'Brien, Parish Secretary. Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9.15am - 3pm. **Mark Durrant**, Finance Manager. Hours: Wednesday 9.15am - 3pm. **Jennifer Fitzgerald**, Sacramental Coordinator Email: Sale.sacraments@cdsale.org.au.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Fr Francis, Fr Jithin, Michele Wakeham (Chair), Rose Lee (Deputy Chair), Clare O'Brien (Sec) Doug Waite (Deputy Sec), Brenda Burditt, Cijo Kuriakose, John Dykun, Claire Everard, Tim Morrison, Carmel Kuizenga, Anita Little, Filomena Padula.

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



*Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A
18 - 19 February 2023*

NOT RETALIATION BUT RECONCILIATION (Matt 5:38-48)

This weekend, I'd like to recall the wise and inspiring words attributed to Martin Luther King Jr which says: "Returning hate for hate multiplies hate. It is like adding darkness to the sky already devoid of stars." Equally uplifting and heartening are the words of Maya Angelou which goes thus, "Hate: it has caused a lot of problems in this world, but it has not solved one yet." These touching words from these two great figures in contemporary human history sure make a lot of sense.

Both Martin Luther and Maya certainly echo the words of Jesus in our Gospel text this weekend from Matt 5:38-48. The exhortation contained in these verses is referred to as one of the most radical of Jesus' teachings and demands of his disciples. He exhorts his followers to not take revenge but instead to love those who regard themselves as their enemies and pray for their persecutors. Humanly difficult, isn't it? But that is what the master asks of the disciples. But why would Jesus ask this of his followers?

Reason it this way: For any community to grow and thrive, it must be build on peace and harmony. One of the great promoters of a peaceful community is forgiveness. Where there is forgiveness, which naturally leads to reconciliation, peace flourishes. The bottom line is the kind of community that Jesus wants for his followers: a community devoid of hatred, violence, vengeance; hatred for one's enemies and even persecutors is also not permitted. Believers in Jesus are instead called upon to imitate our perfect God who loves everyone equally. Jesus thus craves for a community that is filled with love and peace, flourishing on the wings of forgiveness, reconciliation and open mindedness towards one another.

"An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" was the norm of the day. But Jesus wants his followers to go beyond the ordinary every day yardstick. Hence, do not resist the evildoer, turn the other cheek also, give your cloak as well, go the second mile, do not refuse those who come to borrow from you. In other words, no to hatred, no to vengeance, no to bearing of grudges; yes to love which produces forgiveness, reconciliation, and peace. We see this demonstrated in Jesus' ministry several times. For instance on his way to Jerusalem Jesus was refused entry into Samaria. His disciples, upset by this, desired to call down fire to consume the Samaritans. Jesus however proposed the path of love and peace (Luke 9:51-56).

We are human, living in a human society, with human defects and inconsistencies. There are bound to be times when and where we face unkind, unpleasant and uncharitable behaviour, actions and reactions from fellow humans; sometimes from fellow believers. This amounts to slapping you on the cheek, taking your coat from you, dragging you along... The texts today invites and encourages us to, in our community and wherever we find ourselves, continue to be instruments and agents of love, reconciliation and peace.

Indeed, hatred and vengeance is a sign of weakness. On the other hand, love and forgiveness leading to reconciliation is a manifestation of strength. This is what Jesus desires for, and expects of, his followers.

Praise the Lord! Alleluia!!

Fr Francis

PARISH CALENDAR.

Sat 18 & Sun 19 Feb: First Communion Commitment Masses

Wed 22 Feb: Ash Wednesday

Sun 26 Feb 3.00pm: Rite of Election Mass

Wed 1 Mar 6pm: First Communion Parent/Child Workshop

Fri 3 Mar 7.00pm: World Day of Prayer at Salvation Army, Cunningham St Sale

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

FIRST COMMUNION Commitment Masses this weekend on **Saturday 18 & Sunday 19 Feb.** Parent/Child workshop will be held on **Wed 1 March at 6pm** in the assembly area of the Cathedral. Enrolment forms for all Sacraments can be obtained from the Parish Office by ringing 5144 4100 or emailing Sale@cdsale.org.au

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC) First meeting for 2023 was held on **Wednesday 15 February.** PPC Chair is Michele Wakeham, Deputy Chair is Rose Lee, Secretary is Clare O'Brien and Deputy Secretary is Doug Waite. The Inauguration Mass for members of the PPC will be held in the **Cathedral at 9.30am this Sunday 19 February.**

PALMS AUSTRALIA Mission: Change their lives ... and yours. Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents. Explore 35 positions checking the Palms Australia website. On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know: **RING: 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567.**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: Taiwan will be held at the Salvation Army in Cunningham St, Sale at **7pm on Friday 3 March.** For enquiries contact Min on 0430 861 114.

RITE OF WELCOME AND BAPTISM: This weekend at Stratford, we welcome for Baptism Opie Joy son of Daryl & Casey-Lee. Congratulations to the family from us all.

RITE OF ELECTION for Catechumens and the Formal Recognition of Baptised Candidates. An invitation is extended to all catechumens, candidates, and their families, RCIA team members and parishioners to the Rite of Election, to be celebrated by Bishop Greg Bennet at **3.00pm on Sunday 26 February** in St. Mary's Cathedral, Sale.

2.00pm Bishop Greg warmly invites catechumens, candidates and their families, godparents, sponsors and RCIA teams to meet him at the Chapter House.

3.00pm The Rite of Election of Catechumens and Formal Recognition of Baptised Candidates in the Cathedral

4.00pm Afternoon tea in the Cathedral gathering space. Please bring some food to share.

ATTENTION: Parish Singers and Musicians Wanted for the Rite of Election! As in past years, we are forming a Diocesan choir for the Rite of Election at St Mary's Cathedral at **3.00pm on Sunday 26 February**

1.30-2.30 pm Choir rehearsal

3.00-4.00 pm Rite of Election

To register your interest and receive the music pack and rehearsal links, please contact Sophy Morley on smorley@sale.catholic.org.au without delay or phone the diocesan office on **5622 6677.**

PARISH FAMILY GROUPS Would you like to get to know other members of the parish in a social setting, then you may like to join the Passionist family group. Some of the social activities have been footy theme luncheon, Christmas in July, Pizza night, BBQ, games afternoon, trivia night. The aims of the movement are:

- to get to know other members of the parish
- to support each other, sharing each other's joys and sorrows and so building the Christian community as in the early church.
- to involve our children in our Christian sharing directly, if possible. If not, then indirectly by our example. For more information contact Veronica or Keith 0455121949 salegyps@bigpond.net.au

THANK YOU from Fr Mark to all who gave so generously to his leaving collection

LOST PROPERTY a wireless earbud was left in the Cathedral a few weeks ago and is still unclaimed. Please ring the office if you lost one.

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.*

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED is still supporting the Catholic Church in Ukraine in its commitment to stay on the ground and keep serving its flock in the face of material and economic war. ACN is helping priests and religious, who are working across the country in parishes, with refugees, in orphanages and homes for the elderly. The main cities where we are sending immediate help are Kyiv, Zaporizhyya, Odessa and the region of Donetsk. We are doing everything we can to assist our Ukrainian brothers and sisters to be strengthened in their faith so that they may continue to be a light in Ukraine. ACN needs your help to continue this mission.

To make an offering and learn more visit <https://aidtochurch.org/ukraine>
HELP SYRIA. Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) has launched an emergency appeal for the people in northern Syria desperate for help following the devastating earthquakes. ACN is begging for funds to support their long-time local project partners on the ground in Syria. To read more about what ACN is doing and to make an offering please visit www.aidtochurch.org/syriaearthquake

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 18 Feb 5.30pm: Dave Rebbeschi (A)
Tue 21 Feb 9.30am: Kevin and Mollie Hickey (A's)

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: | \$1,458.00 |
| Presbytery: | \$1,072.95 |
| Credit Cards | \$30.00 |
| Direct Debits & Credits: | \$1,911.00 |
| Cathedral EFTpos: | \$80.00 |

With thanks from a grateful parish.

K.J.ALLMAN LL.B

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**Mass Timetable this week
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A
18 - 19 February 2023**

| Day/Date | Time | Place |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| Saturday 18 February | 9.30am 5.30pm | Cathedral Cathedral |
| Sunday 19 February <i>Inauguration for PPC</i> | 5.30pm 9.30am 9.30am 5.30pm | Rosedale Stratford Cathedral Cathedral |
| WEEKDAYS | | |
| Monday 20 February | NO | MASS |
| Tuesday 21 February | 9.30am | Cathedral |
| Wednesday 22 February ASH WEDNESDAY | 9.15am 9.30am | Stratford Cathedral |
| Thursday 23 February | 9.30pm | Cathedral |
| Friday 24 February <i>Reconciliation & Exposition</i> | 11.00am 11.30am | Cathedral Cathedral |
| WEEKEND | | |
| Saturday 25 February | 9.30am 11.00am 5.30pm 5.30pm | Cathedral Loch Sport Cathedral Rosedale |
| Sunday 26 February <i>Rite of Election Mass</i> | 9.30am 9.30am 3.00pm 5.30pm | Briagolong Cathedral Cathedral Cathedral |

| Date & Time | Sat 18 Feb 5.30pm | Sun 19 Feb 9.30am | Sun 19 Feb 5.30pm |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Welcomer | Marietta Dykun | Dalia Ellison | Claire Everard |
| Commentator | Brenda Burditt | Margaret Shirreffs | Please offer |
| Reader | Emma Morrison | Vince Beer | Lyn Althaus |
| Counter | Sue H & Mary C | | |

| Date & Time | Sat 25 Feb 5.30pm | Sun 26 Feb 9.30am | Sun 26 Feb 5.30pm |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Welcomer | Marietta Dykun | Marie & Nick Centra | Mary Chiller |
| Commentator | Liz Tabuteau | Christine Lyon | Veronica Stewart |
| Reader | Brenda Burditt | Kate Meehan-Oxford | Brenda Bowden |
| Counter | Theo & Sandra S | | |

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

We offer prayers for those who have died **Judy Lazzaro, Gabrielle Mizzi,** and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Dave Rebbechi, Kevin Hickey, Mollie Hickey, Fr Gerard Coffey.** We pray for those who are sick **Concy Tessera, Andrew Lyon, Madeleine Evans, John Schroeder, Jim Clottin, Priyantha Welgama, Nimal and Vajira, J Dushyanthi, Robert Bailey, Helen O'Kane, Andrew Geary, Michael McGrath, Troy Barney, Miguel Stehr, Bill Harkin and Maureen O'Kane.** **We pray in thanks for all who care for the sick.**



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Christopher Trikilis

Guest Artist
John Schmidli
on trumpet

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SUNDAY 5 MARCH 2PM

Bairnsdale Uniting Church Cnr Great Alpine Road and Lanes Road, Lucknow

Admission at the door \$30 School Students free Afternoon tea provided
Enquiries please call : 0409 021 651



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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

**O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.**

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18.

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy."

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. **R.**

It is the Lord who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. **R.**

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. **R.**

As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.

As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **R.**

SECOND READING:

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 3:16-23

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody, should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if anyone of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. so there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Whoever keeps the word of Christ,
grows perfect in the love of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 5:38-48

Jesus said to his disciples; 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away. 'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**I will recount all your wonders,
I will rejoice in you and be glad,
and sing psalms to your name,
O Most High.**



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Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Cathedral

Every Friday following Mass for half an hour

RECONCILIATION: Cathedral

Friday & Saturday morning following Mass for half an hour

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

First Sunday of Lent, Year A

1st Reading: **Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7**

2nd Reading: **Romans 5:12-19**

Gospel: **Matthew 4:1-11**

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.