

# 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

Dean of the Cathedral: Very Reverend Francis Otober, Mobile 0448 529 712

Assistant Priest: Fr Jithin Anto Mobile 0490 364 751

Resident Priest: Fr Aneesh George

PARISH OFFICE: Parish Staff: Clare O'Brien, Parish Secretary. Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9.15am - 3pm. Mark Durrant, Finance Manager.

Hours: Wednesday 9am - 3pm. Jennifer Fitzgerald, Sacramental Coordinator Email: Sale.sacraments@cdsale.org.au.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Fr Francis, Fr Jithin, Rose Lee (Chairperson), John Dykun (Deputy Chairperson), Clare O'Brien (Secretary), Doug Waite (Deputy Secretary), Jennifer Fitzgerald, Brenda Burditt, Cijo Kuriakose, 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



## *First Sunday of Advent, Year B 2 - 3 December 2023*

### **REFLECTION**

Today's readings contain several images: the faithfulness of those who suffer, even as they lament their predicament; the admonition to watch and wait; the expectation of the coming of the Day of the Lord. As trustees of the one who is coming, we live in the 'in between' time of ambiguity and hope.

The placement of these readings at the beginning of Advent shapes the context for understanding the entire season. They fix our gaze on the world of human pain and then moves beyond it to the hope of a brighter future. Lamentation and expectation find fulfilment in the Day of the Lord.

Waiting is a prominent image this Sunday. Some people wait to be released from suffering, others await the second coming of Christ. Waiting saps our energies and stifles our enthusiasm. Yet wait we must, and as we wait, we wonder: 'What should I be doing?' The readings suggest that we should wait with patient expectation for the day of reconciliation and peace; we should wait in joyful hope that what is to come will come soon.

While we wait, we should faithfully fulfil our responsibilities. We believe that we have a future worth waiting for, that there are promises that God will keep. And so we look expectantly to the Day of the Lord, that future day of ultimate fulfilment.

*Dianne Bergant CSA*

### **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - BLESSING OF THE WREATH**

**Celebrant:** Lord Jesus Christ, you are our Saviour, the true light that has come into our world. At the beginning of this Advent season, we ask you to bless this Advent Wreath which we honour as a remembrance of your first coming at Bethlehem, your coming amongst us in grace and your final coming in glory. Strengthen our hearts with the example of your love that we may receive you with joy and gladness on the day of our redemption when you will come to reign as Universal King for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

The First candle is lit

The First Candle, called the Prophet's Candle to remind us of the Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah.

**Celebrant:** Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world come that we may have life in its fulness.

**All: Come and let your light shine forth in our lives.**

**Celebrant:** Lord Jesus, you are the Flower from the root of Jesse, the sign of salvation for all.

**All: Come and let your light shine forth in our lives.**

**Celebrant:** Lord Jesus, you were heralded by all the prophets as the one who would save the people from their sins.

**All: Come and let your light shine forth in our lives.**

**Celebrant:** Let us pray that we may take Christ's coming seriously. Father in heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of your love and our minds are searching for the light of your Son. Increase our longing for Christ our Saviour and increase our strength of will for doing good, that the day of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence, where he lives and reigns with you in the Holy Spirit our God for ever and ever.

**All: Amen**

### PARISH CALENDAR.

**Sun 3 Dec 9.30am:** St Thomas' primary school leading Mass. No Sunday Cuppa.  
**Sat & Sun 2-3 & 9-10 Dec:** Leaving Collections for Fr Jithin  
**Mon 4 Dec 6.00pm:** Parish Volunteers BBQ  
**Wed 6 Dec 6.00pm:** Joint Finance Committee and Parish Pastoral Committee Meeting  
**Sun 17 Dec after 9.30am Mass:** Farewell morning tea for Fr Jithin. Lunch 12pm at Legends—sign up required please.  
**Sat & Sun 17 & 18 Dec:** St Vincent de Paul leaving Collection



**LISTEN TO THE WORD** This is a free online Advent Resource 2023 - Listen to the Word from the Sydney Archdiocese  
<https://gomakedisciples.org.au/>

**ADVENT REFLECTION GROUPS** this Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent when we begin preparations for the Birth of Jesus at Christmas. If you have an advent reflection group and would like a resource we have copies available in the Parish Office. Pop in or call Clare on 5144 4100.

**DIOCESAN MISSION COUNCIL** commissioning Mass will be held in the Cathedral at **9.30am on Sunday 10 December**. Bishop Greg Bennet will be presiding at this very special Mass where representatives from our Diocese will be commissioned to their new roles.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS** If you would like to donate money for Christmas Flowers please place the money in a clearly marked envelope and place on the collection plate. If you would prefer to give electronically please call the Parish Office on 5144 4100 for banking details.

**SERRA CLUB MEETINGS** will finish for 2023 with the Mass and BBQ **on Monday 4 December** and reconvene on the first Thursday in February.

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE** is shown on the next page. Please note: as Christmas Eve is a Sunday and Christmas Day is a Monday we will be having our regular Masses at Loch Sport—**Sat 23 Dec at 11am**, Rosedale—**Sat 23 Dec at 5.30pm** and Briagolong—**Sun 24 Dec at 9..30am**. The only Mass that will be replaced is the 5.30pm Sunday Mass which will now be the Christmas Eve family Mass at **6pm on Sunday 24 December**.

**31 CLUB REMINDER** 4 - 10 December. Please pray for vocations.

### 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*

**PARISH END OF YEAR BBQ** will be held in the Chapter House at **6pm on Monday 4 Dec**. All Parishioners are invited to attend. As per previous years sign up sheets have been placed in all Parish churches to indicate your attendance in the next couple of weeks. If you can help by bringing a salad or dessert there will be spaces on the signup sheets to indicate what you are bringing. Hope to see you all there!

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL GIVING TREE** will be in the assembly area of the cathedral from **1 to 17 December**. Parishioners are invited to take tags from the tree and purchase these goods then return them to the box under the tree to be distributed to families. There will be a leaving collection at all masses on **17 & 18 December**. Please take your items and give generously to those who are less fortunate.

**SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER** Our 9.30am Cathedral Mass will be led by St Thomas' Primary School. We would like to thank Anita Little and the school members. As we have a Parish morning tea coming up later in December there will be no Sunday Cuppa after this Mass.

**FAREWELL MORNING TEA** we will be having a farewell morning tea for Fr Jithin, on **Sunday 17 December after 9.30am Mass**. We will also be holding leaving collections on **Sat & Sun 2-3 & 9-10 December** for Fr Jithin.

**PLEASE SIGN UP:** Fr Jithin's farewell lunch will be held at Sporting Legends at **12pm on Sunday 17 December**. As numbers **MUST** be confirmed with Legends, preferably on the booking sheet at your local church, you need to sign up or notify the office by **6.30pm Sunday 10 December** if you wish to attend.

**SOCIAL SERVICES CONFERENCE** Catholic Social Services Victoria (CSSV) and Catholic Social Services Australia (CSSA) are jointly presenting the Catholic Social Services National Conference 2024, the theme being: Commons, Commonality, Common Good. This conference is taking place in Melbourne from 21-23 February 2024 and is designed to bring together staff, volunteers, clergy, religious, parishioners, board members and those with an interest in Catholic community services to discuss current concerns in the sector, be inspired by innovative leaders and connect with others working to build a more just and compassionate society. More information about the conference is also available on the website: <https://css.org.au/css-national-conference-2024/>

**THE CATHEDRAL TV SCREEN.** So far, we have received donations amounting to \$3,100.00 It is even more exciting that more parishioners are still inquiring about ways to support this project. I thank you all for your generosity and support. With this amount, we have placed order for the items. Once the system is assembled and delivered we will then be able to give you details of the donations/contributions and the expenses. For now all we say is thank you very much for all you do for our parish community. God bless you.

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

**ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament,** Friday before Mass 10.00am — 11.00am  
At St Rose of Lima, Rosedale on 1st Wednesday of each month 9.30am — 10.30am

**RECONCILIATION: Cathedral: Friday** 10.30-11am before Mass.

**At Other times:** Available on request

**Stratford and Briagolong on Sunday or Rosedale on Saturday evening:** Available on request.

**MARRIAGES:** Not less than six months notice please.

### COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:

Planned Giving:	\$1,114.00
Presbytery:	\$949.85
Credit Cards	\$0.00
Direct Debits & Credits:	\$737.00
Cathedral EFTpos:	\$110.00

With thanks from a grateful parish.

### K.J.ALLMAN LL.B

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**Mass Timetable this week  
First Sunday of Advent, Year B  
2 - 3 December 2023**

Day/Date	Time	Place
<b>Saturday 2 December</b>	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
<b>Sunday 3 December</b>	5.30pm	Rosedale
<i>St Thomas' school led Mass</i>	9.30am	Stratford
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
<b>WEEKDAYS</b>		
<b>Monday 4 December</b>	5.00pm	Cathedral
<b>Tuesday 5 December</b>	9.30am	Cathedral
<b>Wednesday 6 December</b>	9.30am	Cathedral
<b>Thursday 7 December</b>	9.30am	Cathedral
<b>Friday 8 December</b>		
<i>Exposition &amp; Reconciliation Mass</i>	10.00am	Cathedral
	11.00am	Cathedral
<b>WEEKEND</b>		
<b>Saturday 9 December</b>	9.30am	Cathedral
	11.00am	Loch Sport
	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Rosedale
<b>Sunday 10 December</b>	9.30am	Briagolong
<i>Diocesan Commissioning Mass</i>	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral



**Activity tubs & books:** available in the Youth Corner for all children attending mass.

**Youth Mass:** The next youth mass will be held on the 3rd Saturday in **February 2024**.

**Children's Liturgy:** Running every Sunday on school term during **9:30am Mass** (If you would like to volunteer please contact Parish Office, A WWCC & Parish Code of Conduct required)

**Family Fun & Faith Day:**  
Unfortunately due to bad weather forecast this event had to be postponed. When a new date is decided we will communicate same to you all. Meanwhile thank you for supporting this initiative and the youth ministry in general. Keep an eye on this corner.

Date & Time	Sat 2 Dec 5.30pm	Sun 3 Dec 9.30am	Sun 3 Dec 5.30pm
<b>Welcomer</b>	John Dykun	St Thomas' school	Mary Chiller
<b>Commentator</b>	Emma Morrison	St Thomas' school	Adam Collins
<b>Reader</b>	Liz Tabuteau	St Thomas' school	Lyn Althaus
<b>Eucharist</b>	Brenda Burditt	Anna Allen	Jennifer Fitzgerald
<b>Counters</b>	Len & Lyn Althaus		

Date & Time	Sat 9 Dec 5.30pm	Sun 10 Dec 9.30am	Sun 10 Dec 5.30pm
<b>Welcomer</b>	Theo Smolenaars	Vince Beer	Gweneth & Angel
<b>Commentator</b>	Brenda Burditt	Susan Mattson	Andreena Jolly
<b>Reader</b>	Sandra Smolenaars	Nick Hall	Faye Flint
<b>Eucharist</b>	Carmel Wade	Margaret Shirreffs	Doug Waite
<b>Counters</b>	John Dykun & John Vermaelen		

**MASS INTENTIONS:**

**Sat 2 Dec 9.30am:** Fr Gerard Dowling, Lifetime Serran Priest; **Sun 3 Dec 9.30 Stratford:** Frances Boyd (A) & **Tues 5 Dec 9.30am:** Roshanee Fernando  
**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** We offer prayers for those who have died **Fr Gerard Dowling, Joseph O'Connor, Tom Wathen, Peter Hendriks,** and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Frances Boyd, Fr Frank Young, Fr Patrick O'Donohue.** We pray for those who are sick **Jim Durrant, Emma O'Hare, Moira Petrie, Hurbert Somasiri, Andrew Lyon, Jim Clottin, Nimal and Vajira, Dushyanthi, Helen O'Kane, Michael McGrath, Troy Barney, Bill Harkin and Maureen O'Kane.** **We pray in thanks for all who care for the sick.**

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE  
St Mary's Cathedral Parish**

**SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS EVE**

**9.30am** Sunday Mass — Cathedral  
**9.30am** Sunday Mass — Briagolong  
**5.00pm** Christmas Vigil Mass — Ashleigh House (residents only)  
**6.00pm** Christmas Vigil Family Mass — Cathedral  
*St Mary's Cathedral Parish invite all families to attend the Christmas Mass. Children are welcome to dress up as a character from the Nativity.*

**SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS NIGHT**

**9.00pm** St Mary's Cathedral — Sale

**MONDAY 25 DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS DAY**

**9.30am** St Mary's Cathedral — Sale  
**9.30am** St Patrick's — Stratford  
**11.00am** Seaspray Community Hall — Seaspray



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:

To you, I lift my soul, O my God.  
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.  
Nor let my enemies exult over me;  
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

### FIRST READING:

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down – at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any God but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

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

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**Lord, make us turn to you,  
let us see your face and we shall be saved.**

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,  
shine forth from your cherubim throne.  
O Lord, rouse up your might,  
O Lord, come to our help. **(R.)**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,  
look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it,  
the vine your right hand has planted. **(R.)**

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,  
the man you have given your strength.  
And we shall never forsake you again:  
give us life that we may call upon your name. **(R.)**

### SECOND READING:

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 1:3-9

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace. I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

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

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.  
**Alleluia!**

### GOSPEL:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**The Lord will bestow his bounty,  
and our earth shall yield its increase.**



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**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Cathedral**  
**Every Friday 10 - 11am**  
**RECONCILIATION: Cathedral**  
**Friday 10.30 - 11am**

### READINGS NEXT WEEK:

**Second Sunday of Advent, Year B**

1st Reading: **Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11**  
2nd Reading: **2 St Peter 3:8-14**  
Gospel: **Mark 1:1-8**

### 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.**