

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 Otopo, 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



Second Sunday of Advent, Year B 9 - 10 December 2023

The voice that speaks of peace (Ps 85)

We live at a time of very fragile peace and stability. We may not know what this really means, living on this side of the globe, but this is the hard reality in many parts of the world today. While the menace of war may be foreign to us, the reality and the dangers of other forms of violence such as: domestic violence, bullying, verbal abuse etc, stare at us in the face—with children and women (and sometimes men) scrambling for peace in the home. People who live in these situations—war torn areas and domestic violence-inflicted homes are constantly looking forward to hearing “what the Lord God has to say; a voice that speaks of peace...” (Ps 85:8).

As we reflect on the words of this beautiful Psalm (85), my mind is drawn to the many parts of the world and homes where there is no peace but war and violence. My mind is drawn to the Israel-Hamas engagement, to the war in Ukraine, to the uneasiness in many parts of Africa and the Middle East. My mind is drawn to many individuals who are suffering silently for no faults of theirs. My hearts aches and I invite you all to pray for peace, especially in this time of advent. The response to the Psalm is: “Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation” (v 7). I believe this is the prayer of many in several parts of the world today. Let us from here join these brethren of ours and re-echo the response: “Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.”

The Psalm, which is a joyful hymn of hope, reflects the happy moment of Israel's return from the Babylonian Exile to the land of their fathers. The life of the nation begins again in that beloved homeland, burnt-out and destroyed in the conquest of Jerusalem by the army of King Nebuchadnezzar in 586 B.C. Many refugees today are longing for a return to their homeland, no matter how battered, shattered, and scattered their homes may have become, they want to be gathered together with family in a peaceful home. This psalm expresses the inner longing of those hearts.

This Psalm describes a new world in which God's love and faithfulness embrace each other as if they were persons. Similarly, justice and peace meet and kiss each other. Truth sprouts up as if in a new springtime and justice appears from heaven to begin its journey in the midst of humanity. Isn't this what the entire world earnestly hungers and craves for at this time: a longing to hear “the voice that speaks of peace; peace for his people.”

The sentiments of this Psalm can actually begin with you today, when you choose to garnish your words, thoughts, and behaviour with respect, kindness, love. You can choose, like St Francis, to become an instrument of peace in our time, so that through you many people can hear the voice that speaks of peace. This must become our prayer to the “Prince of Peace” during this preparatory season for Christmas. Shalom!

DMC inauguration

We are privileged, this Sunday, to be hosting the inauguration of the newly constituted Diocesan Mission Council (DMC). This is a new initiative which is meant to take our diocese to another level of collaboration and co-responsibility in the spirit of synodality. On behalf of Bishop Greg, the Cathedral Pastoral Council, and the entire worshipping community, I welcome Very Rev Bernard Buckley VG, EV, and the members of the DMC to St Mary's Cathedral, Sale. At the end of Mass, there will be morning tea with the parishioners in the narthex of the Cathedral. Please enjoy the hospitality from the “Heart of the Diocese.”

Fr Jithin's farewell

This day is nearly upon us. **It is next Sunday 17th Dec.** Please keep the day free. A gentle reminder that the celebration is two-phased: the morning tea following the **9.30am Mass**, and the lunch at **12 noon at Legends**. We are counting on your generosity, as usual, for the morning tea. Contributions towards giving Jithin a gift will also be appreciated. Thanking you in anticipation. It is going to be a beautiful day for a beautiful servant of God; and for us all. Please remember to indicate your attendance at the lunch **by this Sunday evening**, we need numbers for the venue.

God bless you.

Fr Francis

PARISH CALENDAR.

Tue 12 Dec: Parish office is closed
Sun 17 Dec after 9.30am Mass: Farewell morning tea for Fr Jithin. Lunch 12pm at Legends.
Sat & Sun 17 & 18 Dec: St Vincent de Paul leaving Collection
Thurs 21 Dec 6.00pm: Parish Reconciliation

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.

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**. If you are attending you need to sign up or notify the office by **6.30pm Sunday 10 December, if you wish to attend**.

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

DIOCESAN MISSION COUNCIL commissioning Mass will be held in the Cathedral at **9.30am this 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. There will be morning tea after Mass.

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.

PARISH OFFICE will be closed on **Tuesday 12 December** as Clare will be away.

31 CLUB REMINDER 11 - 17 December. Please pray for vocations.

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**.

THE CATHEDRAL TV SCREEN. So far, we have received donations amounting to **\$6,500**. 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.

RITE OF WELCOME AND BAPTISM: This weekend at St Mary's Cathedral, we welcome for Baptism **Louis & Eleanor** Justice children of Jessica & Tom. At St Patrick's Briagolong, we welcome for Baptism **Aria & River** Channing children of Lauren & Nicholas as well as **Zaylen, Jayla & Zander** Ngapare children of Jemma & Klaze, Congratulations to the families from us all.

2023 ADVENT APPEAL FOR UKRAINE: During Advent 2022, all Australian dioceses were invited to take up a special collection for the people of Ukraine. Hundreds of thousands of dollars was raised to support people in the war-torn nation through 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. At the Bishops Conference's November 2023 meeting, bishops agreed to an appeal for the people of Ukraine during Advent. If you would like to donate you can do so online using a normal bank deposit to: Account Name: Trustees of UCC in Au BSB: 704-235 Account: 00007183 There will be no leaving collection for this appeal in our Parish.

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*

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Second Sunday Candle Introduction:
Celebrant: O WISDOM, who came from the mouth of the Most High, reaching from end to end and ordering all things mightily and sweetly:
Response: COME, and teach us the way of prudence.
Celebrant: O LORD AND RULER of the House of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the flame of the burning bush and gave him the law on Sinai:
Response: COME, and redeem us with outstretched arms. Amen.
 2 Candles lit ... The Advent hymn is sung "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"



PARISH RECONCILIATION will be held at **6.00pm on Thursday 21 December** in the Cathedral.

THANK YOU to all those who bought food or helped in any way with the Parish BBQ. Special thanks to Brenda Burditt, the Serra Club and the Bereavement Group for all their hard work to make this function so special each year.

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:	\$1,290.00
Presbytery:	\$847.65
Credit Cards	\$1,555.00
Direct Debits & Credits:	\$1,277.00
Cathedral EFTpos:	\$120.00

With thanks from a grateful parish.

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**Mass Timetable this week
Second Sunday of Advent, Year B
9 - 10 December 2023**

Day/Date	Time	Place
Saturday 9 December	9.30am	Cathedral
	11.00am	Loch Sport
	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Rosedale
	5.30pm	Briagolong
Sunday 10 December Diocesan Commissioning Mass	9.30am	Cathedral
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
WEEKDAYS		
Monday 11 December	NO	MASS
Tuesday 12 December	9.30am	Cathedral
Wednesday 13 December	9.30am	Cathedral
Thursday 14 December	9.30am	Cathedral
Friday 15 December Exposition & Reconciliation Mass	10.00am	Cathedral
	11.00am	Cathedral
WEEKEND		
Saturday 16 December	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Rosedale
	5.30pm	Stratford
Sunday 17 December Fr Jithin's Morning Tea & Lunch	9.30am	Cathedral
	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:
Has been rescheduled and will now be held on **Saturday 10 February 2024**. Please put this date in your diary. Please contact Shari on 0430 932 220 if you would like more information.

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

Date & Time	Sat 16 Dec 5.30pm	Sun 17 Dec 9.30am	Sun 17 Dec 5.30pm
Welcomer	John Dykun	Marie & Nick Centra	Claire Everard
Commentator	Emma Morrison	Christine Lyon	Sophia Kartobi
Reader	Faye Flint	Amanda & Maya V	Veronica Stewart
Eucharist	Frank Fidge	Dalia Ellison	Len Althaus
Counters	Sue Harvey & Mary Cooper		

MASS INTENTIONS:

5.30pm Sun 10 Dec: Vincent Pustumucans, Andy & Marie Geary (A's) **9.30am Sun 10 Dec, Briagolong:** Wally Grant (RD) **11.00am Fri 15 Dec:** Renato & Stephen Segafredo

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We offer prayers for those who have died **Wally Grant, Joseph O'Connor, Tom Wathen**, and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Renato & Stephen Segafredo, Kerry Lee, John & Rosa Centra, Vincent Carubia, Andy & Marie Geary, Vincent Pustumucans, Archbishop Eric D'Arcy, Fr Cornelius Sheehan**. We pray for those who are sick **Jim Durrant, Emma O'Hare, Moira Petrie, Hurbert Somasiri, Andrew Lyon, Jim Clottin, Nimal & 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**

SATURDAY 23 DECEMBER: SUNDAY MASS

11.00am Loch Sport
5.30pm Cathedral
5.30pm Rosedale

SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS EVE

9.30am Sunday Mass — Cathedral
9.30am Sunday Mass — Briagolong
6.00pm 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:

**O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice
heard in the joy of your heart.**

FIRST READING:

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 40:1-5. 911

'Console my people, console them' says your God. Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for her crimes.' A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. **(R.)**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. **(R.)**

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. **(R.)**

SECOND READING:

A reading from the second letter of St Peter 3:8-14

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up. Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;
he will prepare your way.

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight,

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.**



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

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

Third Sunday of Advent, Year B

1st Reading: **Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11**

2nd Reading: **1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

Gospel: **John 1:6-8, 19-28**

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.