

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 Aneesh George IVDei, Mobile 0436 426 092

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 Aneesh, Rose Lee (Chairperson), John Dykun (Deputy Chairperson), Clare O'Brien (Secretary), Doug Waite (Deputy Secretary), Jennifer Fitzgerald, Brenda Burditt, 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 Lent, Year B 24 - 25 February 2024

ALONE WITH NONE BUT THEE MY GOD

This is the title of an ancient hymn that comes to mind as I reflect on the Gospel passage of the transfiguration (Mark 9:2-10). I presume you must have heard this Gospel text proclaimed several times in the past, or you may have read it yourself or heard a homily preached on it. No matter what form you have come in contact with this text, hearing it one more time today on this second Sunday of Lent is something special—it gives us the opportunity to reflect one more time on the text and ask the question: what is the Lord saying to me this time. Reading through, every verse is pretty much loaded with meanings. But as you read or listen to it being proclaimed today, ask the question: Lord, what do you ask of me today?

While the transformation or transfiguration of Jesus is the obvious focus of the text, Jesus' change of appearance was not for himself. He need not change his appearance for himself in order to satisfy himself. No. The transfiguration was for the followers to behold so that it might have some effect in them. This is where Mark's subtle message at the very beginning of this narrative becomes very important: "Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves" (Mark 9:2). This was an intentional special moment spent alone with Jesus, away from the bustling crowd, the busyness of everyday life, the noise of the environment; just alone with Jesus. It was this scenario, inspired by Jesus, that enabled the experience of beholding the transfigured body of Jesus; an experience that had an impact on their perception of Jesus.

Every year during Lent we are particularly encouraged to spend quality time with Jesus in prayer. Jesus continues to invite us to spend time alone with him, to commune with him, to enjoy his presence, just to be with him. Quality time spent with Jesus leads to transformation, not of Jesus, but of ourselves. While the Gospel narrative emphasises that the time spent alone with Jesus on the mountain produced an experience of beholding the outer change in Jesus' appearance, today quality time spent with Jesus alone produces inner change in us; a transformation of the heart. It produces not just a change of heart but of the whole reality of our relationship with God, and "my place in the community." The truth is that, the more time I spend with Jesus, the more the Holy Spirit opens my eyes to understand who Jesus is for me, and so deepens my understanding of my identity as a child of God. This in itself is transformation /transfiguration; not of Jesus, but "me". This was exactly what happened to the apostles on that mountain. They saw the glory of Jesus, then wanted to be in his presence forever.

During this lent, I encourage us all to try and spend some quality time, each day, with God. You will not regret it, rather you will want to continue with this new found "hobby" even after Lent. If you want to take up discussion on this, what to do, how to go about it, please do not hesitate to reach out. My strength, my joys, my passion, my ministry, my entire life flow from this: finding time to be alone with God. In the words of the response to the Psalm this Sunday I encourage you: "I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living" (Ps 116:9). Let us find time to be in the presence of the Lord, even amidst the busyness of life. It is very enriching.

LENTEN DEVOTION/REFLECTION

This is a gentle reminder of our weekly Lenten devotions every **Friday at 5.00pm**. Let us come together as a community to express our love for Jesus in the midst of the faithful. We had our first gathering this past Friday (23rd Feb). Our next session will be next **Friday 1st March at 5.00pm** in the Cathedral. See you there in Jesus' name. God bless you. *Fr Francis*

PARISH CALENDAR.

Fri 1, 8, 15 & 22 March 5.00pm: Stations of the Cross, Lenten reflection & Mass
Sun 3 March 10.30am: First Sunday Cuppa
Thurs 7 March 4.45pm: Serra Club Mass
Sat 16 March 5.30pm: Youth Mass

ST MARY'S PARISH MAFFRA CHURCH

CENTENARY Join us in celebrating the Saint Mary's Maffra Church Centenary on **Sunday, 28 April 2024, with a Mass at 11am in Maffra**, followed by lunch at the Parish Hall. Kindly RSVP to 5147 1921 for catering purposes.

FIRST SUNDAY CUPPA: Next weekend, **Sunday 3 March**, Parish Pastoral Council will be our host for the 1st Sunday Cuppa in St Mary's Cathedral assembly Area. Everyone is **invited to stay after Mass to enjoy a cuppa.**

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM:

ALL SACRAMENTS FOR 2024:

Reconciliation is available to children in Grade 3 who have received the Sacrament of Baptism.

First Communion is available to children in Grade 4 who have received the Sacraments of Baptism and Reconciliation.

Confirmation is available to children in Grade 6 or older who have received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion and Reconciliation.

Enrolment information and forms are now available at the parish office. Phone: 5144 4100. Email: Sale.sacraments@cdsale.org.au or at our Catholic Primary Schools: - St Mary's Sale, St Thomas' Sale, St Patrick's Stratford. Forms can be returned to the Parish office in Sale or to your local Catholic Primary School. **Sacramental enrolments close at the end of Term 1.**

ROSEDALE Stations of the Cross are held in the Church at **1.30pm on Monday** each week during Lent. All welcome.

SERRA CLUB: The Serra Club will gather in the Cathedral on **Thursday 7 March** at 4.40pm for Rosary and **5.00pm Mass** followed by their meeting in Chapter House. All welcome. Apologies to Brenda Burditt.

31 CLUB REMINDER 26 February — 3 March. Please pray for vocations.

COME AND SEE: Bishop Greg has called for the young men of our Parishes of the Diocese to come to St Agatha's Parish, 129 Sladen St, Cranbourne VIC 3977 on **Sunday, 7 April 2024 at 2:00pm** particularly those who sense a call from God to life as a priest. Or, who simply want to come and enquire. It will be an opportunity to meet and greet those living the life, to pray with them and have all your questions answered. And, remember, "the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it" Mt13:45

Enrich your Marriage with The Marriage Kit

by SmartLoving. An enrichment course for married couples wanting a lasting, passionate relationship as God intended. Accessed from the privacy of your home on your own timetable, this online course will energise your relationship, revitalise your passion and equip you with practical tools for every day. To find out more visit: smartloving.org/marriage-kit Marriage Week Sale - Ends **29 February**. For 50% off use coupon code: MarriageWeek24

PROJECT COMPASSION

Please take home a Project Compassion box or a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and for all future generations. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction to build a better future for all. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for all future generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your local Church, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling **1800 024 413**.

A NIGHT WITH FR ROB GALEA St Michael's Parish Traralgon is hosting a night with Fr Rob Galea at 6.30pm on Thursday 14 March. Fr Rob Galea is an ordained Catholic Priest, currently serving in Sandhurst Diocese. He is an internationally acclaimed author, singer and songwriter.

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*

APPRECIATION FROM BISHOP GREG

Dear Fr Francis, Fr Aneesh, generous parishioners of St Mary's Cathedral Parish,

Warmest greetings from Sion House, Warragul

I wanted to write and thank you for the wonderful Rite of Election you hosted last Sunday at St Mary's Cathedral. As always, the amount of work and attention to detail you gave to the preparation of this ceremony was evident in the way everything ran so smoothly. I am sure our Catechumens and Candidates who were able to join us at the Cathedral as part of their journey towards the Easter Ceremonies experienced a day filled with grace and joy.

I also wish to thank you all for the wonderful hospitality offered at both the Chapter House before the Rite of Election and in the Narthex of the Cathedral afterwards. As always, this generous hospitality added to the wonderful atmosphere of joy!

With every grace and blessing as we journey towards Easter.

Bishop Greg Bennet
Bishop of Sale

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES AND

RECEIPTS will be available from next weekend. If you need to make any changes please notify Clare in the Parish Office on 5144 4100.

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:	\$994.00
Presbytery:	\$1,636.30
Credit Cards	\$0.00
Direct Debits & Credits:	\$927.00
Cathedral EFTpos:	\$170.00

With thanks from a grateful parish.



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**Mass Timetable this week
Second Sunday of Lent Time, Year B
24 - 25 February 2024**

Day/Date	Time	Place
Saturday 24 February	9.30am	Cathedral
	11.00am	Loch Sport
	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Rosedale
Sunday 25 February	9.30am	Briagolong
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
WEEKDAY MASSES		
Monday 26 February	NO	MASS
Tuesday 27 February	9.30am	Cathedral
Wednesday 28 February	9.30am	Cathedral
Thursday 29 February	9.30am	Cathedral
Friday 1 March		
Exposition & Reconciliation Mass	10.00am	Cathedral
Stations of the Cross, Mass & Reflections	11.00am	Cathedral
	5.00pm	Cathedral
WEEKEND MASSES		
Saturday 2 March	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Rosedale
Sunday 3 March	9.30am	Stratford
	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 this **Saturday 16 March 2024 at 5.30pm.**

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)

If you have any further questions about youth ministry or would like to be involved please call the Parish Office of 5144 4100 or Shari, Youth Volunteer, on 0430 932 220

Date & Time	Sat 24 Feb 5.30pm	Sun 25 Feb 9.30am	Sun 25 Feb 5.30pm
Welcomer	Theo Smolenaars	Margaret Shirreffs	Gweneth & Angel
Commentator	Emma Morrison	Amanda & Maya V	Sophia Kartobi
Reader	Sandra Smolenaars	Kate Meehan-Oxford	Leny Waite
Eucharist	Carmel Wade	Anna Allen	Doug Waite
Counters	Sue Harvey & Mary Cooper		

Date & Time	Sat 2 March 5.30pm	Sun 3 March 9.30am	Sun 3 March 5.30pm
Welcomer	John Dykun	Dalia Ellison	Claire Everard
Commentator	Veronica Stewart	Susan Mattson	Andreena Jolly
Reader	Brenda Burditt	Nick Hall	Faye Flint
Eucharist	Frank Fidge	Margaret Shirreffs	Len Althaus
Counters	Sandra & Theo Smolenaars		

MASS INTENTIONS:

Wed 28 Feb 9.30am: Mollie & Kevin Hickey (A's)

Wed 28 Feb 10.30am Ashleigh House: Neville McLeod (A)

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We offer prayers for those who have died and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Mollie & Kevin Hickey, Neville McLeod, Fr Daniel O'Shea, Fr John Shanley, Fr Tom O'Connell, Fr John Phelan.** We pray for those who are sick **Teolinda Barrera, Jayantha, Jim Durrant, Emma O'Hare, Moira Petrie, Hubert 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.**



A PURE HEART CREATE FOR ME, O GOD. PS 51:10

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

LENTEN

Devotion's

FRIDAY 23RD FEB 5PM - 6.15PM
FRIDAY 1ST MAR ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL, SALE
FRIDAY 8TH MAR
FRIDAY 15TH MAR
FRIDAY 22ND MAR

Contact Parish Office for inquiries - 51444100 in office hours or Fr Francis Otobo on 0448 529 712

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:

**Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.**

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham,' he called.' Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

I trusted, even when I said: 'I am sorely afflicted.'

O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful. **(R.)**

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.

A thanksgiving sacrifice I make: I will call on the Lord's name. **(R.)**

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst,
O Jerusalem. **(R.)**

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 8:31-34

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard:

This is my beloved Son, hear him

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him.**



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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 Lent, Year B

1st Reading: **Exodus 20:1-17**

2nd Reading: **1 Corinthians 1:22-25**

Gospel: **John 2:13-25**

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.