

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



Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year B 9 – 10 March 2024

REFLECTION

Each reading provides us with an example of divine mercy. God's use of Cyrus to deliver the Israelites, even though he was not a believer, shows that every circumstance and any person can demonstrate the scope of God's love. In fact, it is often the situation or the individual that we least expect that has been chosen to manifest God's mercy to us. This same mercy is seen as God brings us to life with Christ even when we were dead in sin.

Mercy means that strict justice is set aside in favour of compassion. Dispossessed people are raised out of defeat and given another chance. Sinners condemned to severe punishment are raised out of despair and offered a reprieve. The whole world is raised up out of darkness when God's own Son is sent into that world as Saviour rather than as judge. God's mercy raises us out of loss and hopelessness, out of darkness and sin, so that we might enjoy the blessings of life. We too have been raised up so that we might live in truth and might become the visible sign of God's mercy in the world. We have been made a new people, free from the restraints of the past. Joined with Christ we become God's handiwork, creations that bear the seal of the great creator. We are the very sacrament of God's mercy. The forgiveness that we have experienced and the new life within us shine forth as witness to the mercy of God.

By Dianne Bergant CSA

Some tit bits...

Working bee: We are now into the fourth week of Lent. Easter is just a few weeks away. In preparation for the Easter ceremonies we may need to tidy up our Cathedral grounds. On this note, I'm appealing to you all to please assist with a working bee on **Wednesday 20th March beginning after Mass at 10.00am**. We will try and identify areas that need particular attention by next weekend. Thank you for your usual and continuous assistance in keeping the Cathedral grounds clean.

Lenten devotion: The Lenten devotion and reflections continue in the Cathedral every Friday starting at 5.00pm. There has been a great response since we started three weeks ago. Please note that **on Friday 22nd** which is the last session before Holy Week begins, there will be Lenten reconciliation incorporated into the program of the day. For all those seeking reconciliation before Easter, please note this date and diarize it.

Easter scavenger egg hunts: This is an exciting news for our young ones. Following the Easter Day Mass on **Sunday 31st March** (for a couple of minutes), there will be the Easter scavenger egg hunt. Families are encouraged to be present to assist and support their little ones in this exciting moment of adventures. It is going to be fun and I look forward to getting some Easter eggs too.

Parish Assembly Recommendations: A few parishioners have asked about the progress and outcome of the Parish Assembly and the Recommendations. That shows our interest in the Assembly and the implementation of its fruits. Thank you. The good news is that the Assembly Implementation Team have been working together to compile the recommendations and put them into a chart and working document easy to read and understand. I'm waiting on them and in a short while a presentation will be made to the parish community on where we are and where we are heading. Suffice to say that some initiatives from the Assembly are already being implemented, such as the current Lenten devotion and reflections and the Easter egg hunt. Both coming from the recommendations for adult spiritual formation and youth ministry respectively. Looking forward to seeing the final draft from the Assembly Team and the presentation to the Parish.

May this Lenten season be for all of us a time of deep spiritual renewal and encounter with the Divine. God bless you all.

Fr Francis

PARISH CALENDAR.

Fri 15 & 22 March 5.00pm: Stations of the Cross, Lenten reflection & Mass
Sat 9 March 10.30am: Lenten Reconciliation Loch Sport
Sun 10 March: Lenten Reconciliation Briagolong
Wed 13 Mar 10.30am: Visitation team meeting
Wed 13 Mar 6pm: Confirmation Parent Info Meeting
Sat 16 Mar 5.00pm: Lenten Reconciliation Rosedale
Sat 16 Mar 5.30pm: Youth Mass
Sun 17 Mar After Mass: Lenten Reconciliation Stratford
Sun 17 Mar 12pm: Parish Lunch at Legends
Wed 20 Mar 6pm: First Communion Reconciliation

RITE OF WELCOME AND BAPTISM: This weekend at St Mary's Cathedral, we welcome for Baptism **Leo & Henry Ryswyk** sons of Maren & Kase. Congratulations to the family from us all.

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

PLANNED GIVING: Please take your envelopes if you have not already done so. If you are not currently part of the planned giving program and would like to be please email or call and speak to Clare or Mark in the parish office on 5144 4100 to discuss your planned giving options.

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 at 2.00pm on **Sunday, 7 April 2024** 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

VOLUNTEERS: We are seeking volunteers join the pastoral visitation team. This is the group who visits individuals who are unable to attend regular Masses and could take them communion. There will be a meeting in the Chapter House this **Wednesday 13 March at 10.30am**. Current members and new members are all welcome. If you cannot attend this meeting but would like to be involved please see Fr Francis.

PARISH LUNCH Legends **12pm Sun 17 March**.

LENTEN DEVOTION thank you for promoting and participating in the Cathedral Lenten Devotions. The devotions will continue every Friday evening from 5.00pm during Lent. May we continue to come together and celebrate our faith as a community.

LENTEN RECONCILIATION will take place at 5pm on **Saturday 16 March** in Rosedale. After 9.30am Mass on **Sunday 17 March** at Stratford. From 5pm on **Friday 22 March** in the Cathedral with Lenten Reflection.

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.

GOOD FRIDAY HOLY LAND COLLECTION

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, 29 March. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment, housing, Parishes, and orphanages. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Due to the ongoing war, the Church and people of the Holy Land are still struggling with reduced income due to fewer pilgrims and lower church attendance around the world. In 2023 Australian Catholics were once again extremely generous and we were able to send to the Holy Land nearly \$1.4 million. The reality for the Holy Land mission is that they will continue to face challenges financial and spiritual and so we again ask Catholics around the world again to be as generous as possible, with their financial support as well as the spiritual support. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday. Thank you.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM Confirmation Parent Information Meeting will be held at **6pm on Wednesday 13 March** in the Cathedral. First Communion Reconciliation will take place in the Cathedral at **6pm on Wednesday 20 March**.

31 CLUB REMINDER 11 to 17 March. 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*

NEW PASTORAL LIFE AND MISSION TEAM

Bishop Greg Bennet has established a new Pastoral Life & Mission Team, appointing Tara Bau, Anne Taylor, Siji Dominic, and Br. Tony Clark as team members. The team will coordinate the support people in the Diocese who hold key pastoral leadership roles (priests and lay leaders) through consultation, providing formation opportunities, and building strong networks.

Pope's Prayer intention for the month of March: For the New Martyrs - We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.



Fourth Sunday of Lent
9 & 10 March



As the eldest child in a low-income farming family in rural Malawi, Memory faced many barriers to her education. But, with the support of Caritas Australia, she enrolled in a technical school and became the first female carpenter in her village.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

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 parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

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:	\$1,312.00
Presbytery:	\$1,135.30
Credit Cards	\$1,485.00
Direct Debits & Credits:	\$1,487.00
Cathedral EFTpos:	\$130.00

With thanks from a grateful parish.



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**Mass Timetable this week
Fourth Sunday of Lent Time, Year B
9 - 10 March 2024**

Day/Date	Time	Place
Saturday 9 March	9.30am	Cathedral
	11.00am	Loch Sport
	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Rosedale
Sunday 10 March	9.30am	Briagolong
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
WEEKDAY MASSES		
Monday 11 March	NO	MASS
Tuesday 12 March	9.30am	Cathedral
Wednesday 13 March	9.30am	Cathedral
Thursday 14 March	9.30am	Cathedral
Friday 15 March		
Exposition & Reconciliation Mass	10.00am	Cathedral
Stations of the Cross, Mass & Reflections	11.00am	Cathedral
	5.00pm	Cathedral
WEEKEND MASSES		
Saturday 16 March	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Rosedale
	5.30pm	Rosedale
Sunday 17 March	9.30am	Stratford
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral

Date & Time	Sat 9 March 5.30pm	Sun 10 March 9.30am	Sun 10 March 5.30pm
Welcomer	John Dykun	Marie & Nick Centra	Gweneth & Angel
Commentator	Veronica Stewart	Amanda & Maya V	Andreena Jolly
Reader	Emma Morrison	Christine Lyon	Faye Flint
Eucharist	Carmel Wade	Margaret Shirreffs	Lyn Athaus
Counters	Len & Lyn Althaus		

Date & Time	Sat 16 March 5.30pm	Sun 17 March 9.30am	Sun 17 March 5.30pm
Welcomer	YOUTH	Margaret Shirreffs	Mary Chiller
Commentator	MINISTRY	Kate Meehan-Oxford	Veronica Stewart
Reader	VOLUNTEERS	Susan Mattson	Lyn Althaus
Eucharist	Jenny Gunn	Dalia Ellison	Doug Waite
Counters	Theo & Sandra Smolenaars		

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat 9 Mar 5.30pm: Alexei Navalny (D)

Sun 10 March 9.30am: Giulio & Gina Ravagnolo (A's)

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We offer prayers for those who have died **Alexei Navalny**, and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Giulio & Gina Ravagnolo**, **Michael Walsh**, and deceased **Clergy of our Diocese**. We pray for those who are sick **Michelle Fiore**, Teolinda Barrera, Jayantha, Emma O'Hare, Jim Clottin, Moira Petrie, Hurbert Somasiri, Andrew Lyon, 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.**

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL PARISH

LENTEN RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 9 March: 10.30am Loch Sport
Sunday 10 March: After Mass – Briagolong
Saturday 16 March: 5.00pm Rosedale
Sunday 17 March: After Mass - Stratford
Friday 22 March: 5.00pm Cathedral

EASTER MASS and SERVICES TIMETABLE:

Saturday 23 March: 9.30am Mass - Cathedral
11.00am Mass – Loch Sport
5.30pm Mass - Cathedral
5.30pm Mass - Rosedale

Sunday 24 March: 9.30am Mass - Cathedral
Palm Sunday 9.30am Mass - Briagolong
5.30pm Mass - Cathedral

Monday 25 March: NO MASS

Tuesday 26 March: 11.00am Mass of the Oils - Cathedral

Wed 27 March: 9.30am Mass - Cathedral
7.30pm Service of Shadows – *St Paul's Cathedral*

Thursday 28 March: Cathedral
Holy Thursday 7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday 29 March: 9.30am Stations of the Cross - Cathedral
Good Friday 9.30am Stations of the Cross - Stratford
9.30am Stations of the Cross - Rosedale
10.30am Walk of the Cross to St Paul's Cathedral
3.00pm Service of the Lord's Passion - Cathedral

Saturday 30 March: 7.30pm Easter Vigil - Cathedral

Sunday 31 March: 9.00am Mass - Loch Sport
Easter Sunday 9.30am Mass - Cathedral
9.30am Mass - Stratford
11.15am Mass – Seaspray

YOUTH CORNER:

A special message to our youth – you are invited to our first Inspire Tribe formation (along with your parents) on **16th March 3:30pm in the Narthex**. Join us as we learn how to altar serve, read, and run a youth mass. **Youth Mass – 5:30pm 16th March 2024** (volunteers welcome). **Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt – 31st March after mass**. RSVP essential so please sign up via the sign-up sheets in the Narthex. 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.

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:

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

FIRST READING:

A reading from the second book of Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its Sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep Sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."'

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

By the rivers of Babylon there we sat and wept, remembering Zion;
on the poplars that grew there we hung our harps. (R.)

For it was there that they asked us, our captors, for songs,
our oppressors, for joy.

'Sing to us,' they said, 'one of Zion's songs.' (R.)

O how could we sing the song of the Lord on alien soil?
If I forget you, Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! (R.)

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not,
if I prize not Jerusalem above all my joys! (R.)

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of St Paul's letter to the Ephesians 2:4-10

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus. This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glorify and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Glorify and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 3:14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil.

And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together.
It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
to praise the name of the Lord.**



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Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Cathedral

Every Friday 10 - 11am

Reconciliation: Cathedral

Friday 10.30 - 11am

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year B

1st Reading: **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

2nd Reading: **Hebrews 5:7-9**

Gospel: **John 12:20-30**

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.