

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 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), Michele Wakeham (Secretary), Doug Waite (Deputy Secretary), Andrew Liyanage, Andrew Pagatpat, Jennifer Fitzgerald, Brenda Burditt, Tim Morrison, Carmel Kuizenga, Jodie Ware, 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



Third Sunday of Lent, Year C
23 - 24 March 2025

REFLECTION

One major theme emerges from today's readings: incomprehensibility of God. We see it in the mysterious divine name, which distinguishes the God of Israel from all others and yet leaves us in the dark as to its meaning. We see it as God communicates with us through inanimate objects and the people in our lives. Finally, we see that God both pardons iniquities and decides to root out unfruitful branches, and we are confused by such inconsistency.

In the midst of this ambiguity we have one sure source of stability – Christ. It is Christ who reveals the nature and meaning of the divine name; it is Christ who intercedes for us before God. Christ, the one who set his face toward Jerusalem, there to suffer and die, is the great messenger through whom God is revealed. He is the one who reveals majesty through the simplicity of a bush; he is the one who judges with the patience of a gardener. However, the limits of the experience and mercy of God in our lives are defined by our own openness. Despite the blessings that we receive in the wildernesses of our lives, it could happen that God is not pleased with us. We must not take God's goodness for granted.

These readings close on a note of caution. Take care! We might be able to rest secure in the knowledge of the love and mercy of God, but these readings tell us that we should not dare to rest passively or complacently.

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PARISH CALENDAR

Fridays 28 March, 4 & 11 April: Stations of the Cross & Lenten reflection

Sat 29 March 5.30pm: First Communion

Tues 15 April 11.00am: Mass of the Oils

Sunday 20 April: Easter Sunday

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM has commenced for 2025. First Communion will take place at **5.30pm Mass on Saturday 29 March**. Confirmation will take place on **Sunday 8 June**, Pentecost Sunday. If you have a child making a Sacrament this year please contact the Parish office to register.

PROJECT COMPASSION Lam is 27 years old from a small village in rural Vietnam who faced significant challenges due to his short stature. Through the I-SHINE program Lam completed a six-month course developing his graphic design skills. He now runs a successful freelance graphic design business from home, serving clients worldwide and earning a steady income.

PROJECT COMPASSION DONATIONS 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. You can place your donations on the Collection plates at each Mass. Project Compassion finishes on Sunday **13 April 2025**.

LENTEN REFLECTIONS Lent began with Ash Wednesday. Our Lenten Devotions will continue on **Friday 28 March** with Stations of the Cross. They will be at **6.00pm in the Cathedral** each Friday in Lent — 28 March and 4 & 11 April. They will be followed each time by a brief Lenten Reflection and Blessing. All are very welcome.

2025 VIRTUAL LENT SERIES We are delighted to present a series of Lent talks by three Australian biblical scholar from Yarra Theological Union. **WHEN: Tuesdays: 25 March & 1, 8 April TIME: 7.00pm – 8.00pm AEDT***. **WHERE:** Via Zoom meeting **COST: Free** **REGISTRATION:** Zoom meeting details will be forwarded upon registration. To register go to <https://garratt1.wufoo.com/forms/virtual-lent-series-2025>

JUBILEE OF VOLUNTEERS The Jubilee of the World of Volunteering is an opportunity to thank, affirm and encourage the many lay people who contribute to the world through volunteering. The Diocese of Sale is pleased to announce the Jubilee of Volunteers, a special occasion to celebrate and recognise the invaluable contributions of volunteers across all our parishes. This event will take place on Saturday, **5:00pm, 29 March 2025**, at St Brendan's Parish, Lakes Entrance. This Jubilee celebration is an opportunity to give thanks for the dedication of volunteers and reflect on the importance of service in the Church. For Christians, volunteer work is not merely an expression of good will. It is based on a personal experience of Christ. He was the first to serve humanity, he freely gave his life for the good of all. We invite all volunteers across the Diocese of Sale to join us in gratitude and celebration.

JUBILEE of the sick & Healthcare Workers

As part of the Jubilee celebrations, St. John the Baptist parish, Koo Wee Rup invites you to join us for the Jubilee of the Sick and Healthcare Workers, a special Healing Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Greg, where we will offer prayers for the sick members of our parish communities and their families. Date: **Sunday, April 6, 2025** Venue: **St. John the Baptist Parish, Koo Wee Rup** Time: **11:00 AM**

31 CLUB REMINDER 24 - 30 March. Please pray for vocations.

COME AND SEE a call to the Priesthood. An opportunity to meet others who are discerning a vocation to Ministry, and hearing from Priests, stories of their life and call to ministry. A stirring in your heart for God? What this might mean for you? Could Jesus be inviting you to share in his ministry as a Priest?

When: **Sunday 30 March 3.00 - 4.00pm**

Where: St Michaels Parish, 33-35 Kay St Traralgon.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY All are invited to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Confession and Rosary and Chaplet Prayers from **2.00pm on Sunday 27 April** at St Ita's Church Drouin. There will be a special Divine Mercy Sunday Mass at 3pm celebrated by Bishop Greg Bennet & Fr Brendan Hogan. Please join us after Mass for a cuppa and a chat.

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*

RECONCILIATION AND HEALING.

Fr. Michael Willemsen and Rony George invite you to join a conversation on healing the wounds of the soul—the wounds of sin and division. This online session will explore Reconciliation and Healing, touching on topics such as unforgiveness, repentance, and the transformative power of sacramental reconciliation. Date: **Tuesday, 25 March** Time: **7:00PM** Platform: **Online**. All are welcome to participate in this meaningful discussion. For more details or to register:

tinyurl.com/ya6mzxwh

or email pastoral@sale.catholic.org.au

STAY UPDATED ON DIOCESAN EVENTS!

There are many exciting events happening across our Diocese! Stay informed and up to date by visiting the Diocesan Events Page. It's a great resource to find details on upcoming celebrations, gatherings, and important dates. Visit: <https://www.cdsale.org.au/events> Check in regularly so you don't miss out!



CHRISM MASS

Join Bishop Greg Bennet and the Clergy of our Diocese at St Mary's Cathedral, Sale on Tuesday, 15th April 2025 at 11.00 am.



YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS CELEBRATION

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:	\$674.00
Presbytery:	\$1,036.20
Credit Cards	\$20.00
Direct Debits & Credits:	\$2,175.00
Cathedral EFTpos:	\$260.00

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**Mass Timetable this week
Third Sunday of Lent, Year C
23 - 24 March 2025**

Day/Date	Time	Place
Saturday 22 March	9.30am	Cathedral
	11.00am	Loch Sport
	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Rosedale
Sunday 23 March	9.30am	Cathedral
	9.30am	Briagolong
	5.30pm	Cathedral
WEEKDAY MASSES		
Monday 24 March	NO	MASS
Tuesday 25 March	9.30am	Cathedral
Wednesday 26 March	NO	MASS
Thursday 27 March	9.30am	Cathedral
Friday 28 March		
Exposition and Benediction	10.00am	Cathedral
Mass	11.00am	Cathedral
Stations of the Cross	6.00pm	Cathedral
WEEKEND MASSES		
Saturday 29 March		
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Rosedale
First Communion	5.30pm	Cathedral
Sunday 30 March	9.30am	Stratford
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral

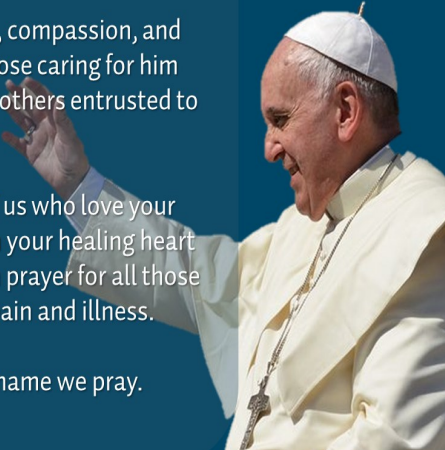
A prayer for Pope Francis

Lord, we ask that you watch over Pope Francis and grant him the courage, strength, and healing he needs.

Grant wisdom, compassion, and empathy to those caring for him and as well as others entrusted to their care.

Grant those of us who love your Church faith in your healing heart and unite us in prayer for all those experiencing pain and illness.

In Jesus' holy name we pray.
AMEN.



Cathedral Date & Time	Sat 22 March 5.30pm	Sun 23 March 9.30am	Sunday 23 March 5.30pm
Welcomer	John Dykun	Vince Beer	Veronica Stewart
Commentator	Brenda Burditt	Nick Hall	Andreena Jolly
Reader	Joel Brayshaw	Mildred Semodio	Brenda Bowden
Eucharist	Carmel Wade	Margaret Shirreffs	Jennifer Fitzgerald
Counters	Theo & Sandra Smolenaars		

Cathedral Date & Time	Sat 29 March 5.30pm	Sun 30 March 9.30am	Sunday 30 March 5.30pm
Welcomer	First Communion	Margaret Shirreffs	Mary Chiller
Commentator	First Communion	Christine Lyon	Andreena Jolly
Reader	First Communion	Di Austin	Lyn Althaus
Eucharist	Jennifer Fitzgerald	Anna Allen	Doug Waite
Counters	Sue Harvey & Clare O'Brien		


MASS INTENTIONS:

Sun 23 March 5.30pm: Jacobus Toonen (A)

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We offer prayers for those who have died and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Jacobus Toonen, Alice Cooper, deceased Clergy of the Diocese.** We pray for those who are sick Helen Cantwell, Michelle, Lou, Diana Green, Maureen McLeod, Daniel, Dalia Ellison, Veronica Foxe, Teresa Bennett, Aileen Nicholls, Fr Andrew Wise, Teolinda Barrera, Jayantha, Emma O'Hare, Jim Clottin, Moira Petrie, Hurbert Somasiri, Dushyanthi, Michael McGrath, Troy Barney, Bill Harkin. **We pray in thanks for all who care for the sick.**

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.
May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity
and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.
May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our
Redeemer throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen



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:

**My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.**

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am' he answered. 'Come no nearer' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God. And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.' Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

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 he 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 does deeds of justice,
gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses and his deeds to Israel's sons. **(R.)**

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him. **(R.)**

SECOND READING:

A reading from the first letter of St Paul's to the Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert. These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer. All this happened to them as a warning and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 13:1-9

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'

He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."

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



COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**The sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for her young:
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.**



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

READINGS NEXT WEEK:
Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year C
1st Reading: **Joshua 5:9-12**
2nd Reading: **2 Corinthians 5:17-21**
Gospel: **Luke 15:1-3, 11-32**

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.