

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 Priests: Fr Aneesh George IVDei, Mobile 0436 426 092, Fr Joy Muthappan IVDei, 5144 4100

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, Fr Joy, Rose Lee, Tim Morrison, Doug Waite, Andrew Pagatpat, David Erdmann, Jonathan Peckley, Romulo Sanchez, Teresa Tantarò, Michele Wakeham, Joel Brayshaw, Jodie Ware, Filomena Padula, Jenny Fitzgerald.

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 A 28 February - 1 March 2026

THANK YOU:

Friends, what a lovely and beautiful celebration of the Rite of Election we had here in our Cathedral last Sunday afternoon. There were people from all age levels of life, from the little ones to the youth and the mature ones and to the more mature ones. Also there were participants from all walks of life: retirees, students, workers, professionals. Most interesting is the fact that the catechumens and candidates also featured in these age groups and spread. It was equally exciting to behold the assistance of our Cathedral parishioners at the ceremonies: providing food for the day, setting up the venue, assisting with food distribution, and cleaning up at the end. I am sure all of you in attendance would have been delighted to behold the many happy and joyful faces, and also proud of your unquantifiable contribution and support of the event. On behalf of Bishop Greg, I say "thank you" to you all.

CATHEDRAL PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

The new Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council had her maiden meeting last Wednesday and it was great to see the many wonderful and inspiring parishioners whom you nominated (and they accepted) to be on the Council. It is an exciting moment for us in the Cathedral with this new team who are pneumatically zealous and prepared to work with all of us as we journey forward to the future, with joyful hope. As I said to them in my brief address, they have taken up the task of helping to take the Cathedral pastoral life to the next level. Keep them in your prayers. In the coming weeks, after our next meeting, we will let you know those elected to the different offices of the Council. They are indeed a team.

CATHEDRAL FINANCE:

This weekend, you will receive a document containing some update on the parish finances. It hasn't been easy, but we will get there. Please, do not throw it away. Take it home. Have a good read of it; the good Lord might turn things around through you. Please, take it home with you and read it again and again... We will take this up again after a combined meeting of the PFC and PPC.

EUCCHARIST28 ADORATION LAUNCH:

This is a gentle reminder of our adoration this Sunday, March 1st, in the Cathedral. Time is 4.15pm to 5.15pm, followed by Mass for those who may not have attended Mass earlier. Looking forward to seeing you there. See details inside the bulletin.

IT'S THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT.

Today, we reflect on the invitation of Jesus to his disciples and their journey to the mountain of the Transfiguration. A lot happened on the mountain top which Matthew notes for us in our Gospel reading: Jesus is transfigured before the disciples, his face shines, his glory is revealed, the Father speaks and says: "This is my beloved Son... listen to him." Jesus allowed his disciples to witness this episode in order to strengthen their faith before the upcoming trial moments. This is an invitation to faith and trust in the midst of the upheavals of life. Lent is our journey up the mountain top with the Lord. In a noisy world of social media, worries, business pressures, life's challenges and struggles, God admonishes the disciples and us today: "Listen to Him." May our Lenten observances this year bring us closer to God, and at the end, like the disciples, may we come down from the mountain transformed and more zealous for the faith, amidst the challenges that life brings.

Fr Francis

PARISH CALENDAR

Sun 1 Mar 10.30am: First Sunday Cuppa &
Sun 1 Mar 4.15: Adoration, Cathedral
Thurs 5 Mar 5.00pm: Serra Club Mass
Fri 6 Mar 11am: Mass only in the Cathedral
Fri 6 Mar 7pm: Stratford, world day of prayer
Fri 6/3, 13/3, 20/3 & 27/3 6.00pm: Stations of the Cross (refer to page 3)
Fri 20 Mar 6.30pm: Lenten retreat

PARISH NEWS

NO BENEDICTION OR EXPOSITION in the Cathedral on **Friday 6 March**. There will only be **11.00am Mass**.

2026 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM First Communion (for year 4 or above who have made their First Reconciliation) in first term. First Communion Masses will take place on the **weekend of 21 & 22 March**. If you have any questions about our sacramental program please email: sale.sacraments@cdsale.org.au

LENTEN RETREAT This is a save the date call. On **Friday, 20 March, 6.30pm to 8.00pm**, we will be having our Lenten Reflection evening in preparation for the Holy Week. More details in the coming weeks.

FIRST SUNDAY CUPPA: This weekend, Sunday 1 March, **St Thomas' school & the Polish Community** will be our hosts for the 1st Sunday Cuppa in St Mary's Cathedral assembly Area. Everyone is invited to stay after Mass to enjoy a cuppa.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: This year, each week, different groups will lead the Stations as follows: **Filipino community (06/03/26)**, Cathedral youth, children, and families (13/03/26), and the Indian community (27/03/26). See the schedule inside the bulletin. May God give us the grace to begin our Lenten journey this year in HIS presence, Amen.

SERRA CLUB: The Serra Club will gather in the Cathedral on **Thursday 5 March** at 4.40pm for Rosary and 5.00pm Mass followed by their meeting in Chapter House. All welcome. Apologies to Claire Everard.

31 CLUB REMINDER: 2 - 8 March. At Saturday morning Mass we pray for vocations

PROJECT COMPASSION for our Parish. You can make a donation to our Parish page by logging in to our link:

<https://www.projectcompassion.org.au/fundraisers/salecathedralparish>

EUCARIST28 ADORATION ON 1 MARCH:

As advised previously, Australia will be hosting the International Eucharistic Congress in 2028, with the theme: "This is my Body given for you." In preparation for the august event, the organising committee has advised and encourages parishes across Australia to participate in an hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Here in Sale, after careful consideration and consultation, we propose to keep the one hour adoration on Sunday, **1st March from 4.15pm to 5.15pm**, then followed by the Sunday evening Mass at 5.30pm. Please keep this date in your diaries. Spread the word and let us keep the Eucharist28 Congress in our prayers.

EASTER FLOWERS if you would like to make a donation for Easter Flowers please either drop the money into the office or place in an envelope on our collection plates at each Mass.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SALE will be held at the Uniting Church at **2.30pm on Friday 6 March**. All Welcome. **STRATFORD** will be held on **Friday 6 March** at St Andrew's Uniting Church, Jones Street, Stratford at **7pm**. All welcome.

DIOCESAN NEWS

VOCATIONS INVITATION: COME AND SEE

Are you discerning a call to ministry? The Catholic Diocese of Sale invites you to an afternoon of storytelling and fellowship. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet others on a similar journey and hear firsthand accounts from priests about their lives and their unique calls to ministry.

Event Details:

Date: Sunday, 15th March 2026

Time: 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Location: St Agatha's Parish Hall

Address: 129-131 Sladen Street, Cranbourne, As the scripture reminds us, "the harvest is plentiful". Come and see where your path may lead.

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*

HOLY HOURS FOR VOCATIONS – Diocese of Sale

The Diocese of Sale invites all parishioners to join in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament to ask the Lord for an increase in vocations.

Feb 28: St Laurence O'Toole, Leongatha (4:30 – 5:30 PM)

Mar 14: St Joseph's, Wonthaggi (5:15-6:15pm)

Mar 28: St Agatha's, Cranbourne (4:30–5:30 pm)

Apr 26: Our Lady Help of Christians, Narre Warren (4:45 – 5:45 PM)

Please join us as we unite in prayer for the future of our Church.

LENTEN CHARISMATIC RETREAT "Return to Me with All Your Heart" – Joel 2:12. Experience renewal and deeper prayer this Lent at St Agatha's Parish, Cranbourne.

Date: Thursday, 26th March

Time: 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Leader: Fr Francis Otobo (Dean of St Mary's Cathedral)

Program: Rosary, Praise & Worship, Holy Mass, Lenten Reflection, and Adoration.

All are welcome to this powerful encounter with the Lord.

OFFICIAL OPENING: St Eugene's Retreat Centre. Fr Andrew Chen OMI and the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate cordially invite you to the Official Opening and Blessing. **Date: Sat 21 March 2026 Time: 10:00 am**

Location: 45 John Field Drive, Newborough. RSVP: bit.ly/StEugenesRSVP

BAPTISMS: By arrangement through the Parish Office phone 5144 4100. No baptisms during Lent.

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:	\$840.00
Presbytery:	\$1,172.05
Credit Cards	\$40.00
Direct Debits & Credits:	\$1,075.00
Cathedral EFTpos:	\$460.00

With thanks from a grateful parish.



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**Mass Timetable this week
Second Sunday of Lent, Year A
28 February - 1 March 2026**

Day/Date	Time	Place
Saturday 28 February	9.30am	Cathedral
	11.00am	Loch Sport
	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Rosedale
Sunday 1 March	9.30am	Stratford
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
WEEKDAY MASSES		
Monday 2 March	NO	MASS
Tuesday 3 March	9.30am	Cathedral
Wednesday 4 March	9.30am	Cathedral
Thursday 5 March	9.30am	Cathedral
Serra Club Mass	5.00pm	Cathedral
Friday 6 March	11.00am	Cathedral
WEEKEND MASSES		
Saturday 7 March	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Rosedale
	9.30am	Briagolong
Sunday 8 March	9.30am	Cathedral
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral

Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
And where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master,
Grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled, as to console;
To be understood, as to understand;
To be loved, as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive,
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
And it is in dying that we are born to Eternal
Life.
Amen.

Cathedral Date & Time	Sat 28 February 5.30pm	Sun 1 March 9.30am	Sun 1 March 5.30pm
Welcomer	John Dykun	Margaret Shirreffs	Veronica Stewart
Commentator	Liz Tabuteau	Nick Hall	Andreena Jolly
Reader	Sandra Smolenaars	Christine Lyon	Claire Everard
Eucharists	Jonathan P, Theo S	Abi U, Margaret S	Len & Lyn Althaus
Eucharist	Brenda Burditt	Dr Salle	Brenda Bowden
Counters	Theo & Sandra Smolenaars		

Weekly Stations of the Cross Leaders

Date	Group	Time	Venue
20/02/26	RCIA	6:00pm	Cathedral
27/02/26	Serra Club	6:00pm	Cathedral
06/03/26	Filipino Community	6:00pm	Cathedral
13/03/26	Cathedral Youth	6:00pm	Cathedral
27/03/26	Indian Community	6:00pm	Cathedral

Cathedral Date & Time	Sat 7 March 5.30pm	Sun 8 March 9.30am	Sun 8 March 5.30pm
Welcomer	Theo Smolenaars	Margaret Shirreffs	Mary Chiller
Commentator	Sandra Smolenaars	Mildred Semodio	Jennifer Fitzgerald
Reader	Liz Tabuteau	Susan Mattson	Brenda Bowden
Eucharists	Jenny G, Frank Fidge	Margaret S, Doug W	Len & Lyn Althaus
Eucharist	Carmel Wade	Leny Waite	Please offer
Counters	Sue Harvey & John Dykun		

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sun 1 Mar 9.30am: Mary Patricia Spykers (remembrance)

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We offer prayers for those who died **Nanette Phelan** and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Neville McLeod, Michael Walsh, Tom Read, Mary Spykers, deceased Clergy of the Diocese.** We pray for those who are sick Peter Walsh, Suzanne O'Doherty, Hayden, Shama, Manel, Michelle, Lou, Daniel, Veronica Foxe, Teresa Bennett, Emma O'Hare, Jim Clottin, Moira Petrie, Dushyanthi, Michael McGrath, Troy Barney, Bill Harkin. **We pray in thanks for all who are sick and those who care for them.**



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 12:1-4

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:

I will curse those who slight you.

All the tribes of the earth

shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**

The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted.

The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. **(R.)**

The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. **(R.)**

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.

The Lord is our help and our shield.

May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. **(R.)**

SECOND READING:

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy 1:8-10

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

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:

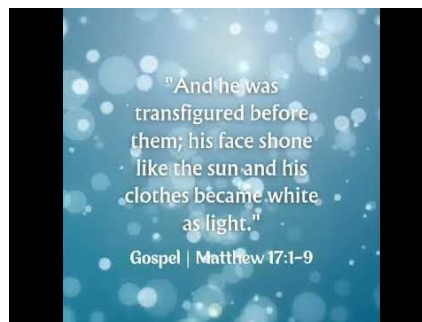
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

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

Every Friday from 10.00am—11.30am

**RECONCILIATION: Cathedral -
Friday & Saturday following Mass**

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

Third Sunday of Lent, Year A

1st Reading: **Exodus 17:3-7**

2nd Reading: **Romans 5:1-2, 5-8**

Gospel: **John 4:5-42**

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.