

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



Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year A 14 - 15 March 2026

A GENTLE REMINDER AND INVITATION

We have done very well since the commencement of the holy season of Lent. The Stations of the Cross have been well attended and properly led by the various groups. Kudos to the young ones/families of our parish for taking the leadership of the session last Friday.

Now, next Friday, 20th March and Saturday 21st March, we have our Lenten Reflection sessions. The days will include Mass, adoration, praise and worship, reflections. Our guest speakers are Fr Paul Zahar and Bro Pat Kelly.

Fr Paul Zahar is a priest of the Sale Diocese. He served as an assistant priest in Berwick and Pakenham parishes, became Administrator of the Berwick Parish; currently the Parish Priest of the Morwell Catholic Parish. He is a brilliant speaker on the mysteries of our faith. Paul will be speaking on "Joy in the midst of suffering." Come and listen to Paul's story and testimony. Fr Mark Hughes will lead the music. **Friday night, begins at 6.30pm till 8.00pm.** A plate for supper will be appreciated.

Bro Pat Kelly is a parishioner from Inverloch. He has been involved with the School of Evangelisation in Australia, in Victoria, and in the Sale Diocese from its beginning. I have encountered Bro Kelly numerous times in the past, and I would like for us benefit from his passion for God and spiritual wisdom. Bro Kelly will direct our attention to the beauty and relevance of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer. **Saturday from 10.00am to 3.30pm.** Includes, Mass, two talks, morning tea/lunch, praise and worship, adoration. A beautiful young couple from Bairnsdale, Valdo and Shirez, will lead the worship. Come and be blessed. A plate for morning tea and/or shared lunch will be appreciated.

God bless you all as I look forward to seeing you there.

Fr Francis

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL SALE
INVITES YOU TO A

2-DAY LENTEN EVENT

THEME: SEASONED WITH GRACE



DAY 1: FRIDAY 20 MARCH 2026
TIME: 6:30PM-8PM
TOPIC: JOY IN THE MIDST OF SUFFERING
GUEST SPEAKER: FR. PAUL ZHAR
MUSIC BY: FR. MARK HUGHES



DAY 2: SATURDAY 21 MARCH 2026
TIME: 10AM-3PM
TOPIC: THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
GUEST SPEAKER: BRO. PAT KELLY
MUSIC BY: THE VALDO FAMILY



Location: St Mary's Cathedral Sale

Enquiries:
Fr. Francis Otober: 0448 529 712
Parish Office: 5144 4100

PARISH CALENDAR

Fri 6/3, 13/3, 20/3 & 27/3 6.00pm: Stations of the Cross

Sun 15 Mar 12pm: Parish Lunch at Legends

Fri 20 Mar 6.30pm: Lenten retreat, Cathedral

Sat 21 Mar 10am: Lenten retreat, Cathedral

21 & 22 March: First Communion Masses

25 March 6.30pm: Lenten reconciliation

Tue 31 Mar 11am: Mass of the Oils, Cathedral

PARISH NEWS

2026 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: This year, each week, different groups will lead the Stations as follows: **Cathedral youth 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.

Weekly Stations of the Cross Leaders

Date	Group	Time
13/03/26	Cathedral Youth	6:00pm
27/03/26	Indian Community	6:00pm

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>

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.

CONGRATULATIONS to Reg Carmody who is Ninety this Sunday. We hope you have a wonderful day celebrating with family and friends.

PARISH LUNCH is this **Sunday 15 March at 12pm** at Sporting Legends. 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.

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.

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.

LENLEN 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

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*

OTHER NEWS

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Live Your Best Life in Love...A Marriage Encounter weekend is a gift for every married couple. Every married couple deserves this very special weekend. Time-out for the two of you to focus on your most precious relationship. You will come away feeling more deeply connected and with tools to help keep your renewed intimacy alive. No group sharing is required. The weekend is based on Catholic values and couples of all faiths are very welcome. We are currently offering 2 weekends in 2026. Please check our website for more details and to book your special weekend:

April 24 - 26th St Paul's Retreat Centre, Wantirna South.

November 6 - 8th St Paul's Retreat Centre, Wantirna South Starts Friday evening at 7pm and finishes Sunday afternoon around 4:30pm

Information/Bookings: Please phone Mercy & James 0409 183 676 or Website: wwme.org.au
Email: Vicbookings@wwme.org.au



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:	\$975.00
Presbytery:	\$1,152.10
Credit Cards	\$40.00
Direct Debits & Credits:	\$2,216.00
Cathedral EFTpos:	\$370.00

With thanks from a grateful parish.



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**Mass Timetable this week
Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year A
14 - 15 March 2026**

Day/Date	Time	Place
Saturday 14 March	9.30am	Cathedral
	11.00am	Loch Sport
	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Rosedale
Sunday 15 March	9.30am	Stratford
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
WEEKDAY MASSES		
Monday 16 March	NO	MASS
Tuesday 17 March	9.30am	Cathedral
Wednesday 18 March		
Funeral Mass Wilbert Smits	11.00am	Cathedral
Thursday 19 March	9.30am	Cathedral
Friday 20 March		
Benediction & Exposition Mass	10.00am	Cathedral
	11.00am	Cathedral
WEEKEND MASSES		
Saturday 21 March	9.30am	Cathedral
Youth Mass	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Rosedale
Sunday 22 March	9.30am	Briagolong
	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 14 March 5.30pm	Sun 15 March 9.30am	Sun 15 March 5.30pm
Welcomer	John Dykun	Margaret Shirreffs	Veronica Stewart
Commentator	Brenda Burditt	Vince Beer	Andreena Jolly
Reader	Joel Brayshaw	Di Austin	Faye Flint
Eucharists	Emma M, Claire Lyon	Sue Harvey, Marg S	Doug Waite, Veronica S
Eucharist	Rosemary Webster	Dr Salle	Leny Waite
Counters	Lyn & Len Althaus		

2-DAY LENTEN EVENT – "SEASONED WITH GRACE"

St Mary's Cathedral Sale warmly invites all parishioners and visitors to join us for a special two-day Lenten event.

Cathedral Date & Time	Sat 21 March 5.30pm	Sun 22 March 9.30am	Sun 22 March 5.30pm
Welcomer	YOUTH MASS	Catherine McKinnon	Mary Chiller
Commentator	YOUTH MASS	Nick Hall	Please offer
Reader	YOUTH MASS	Mildred Semodio	Faye Flint
Eucharists	Brenda B, Jenny G	Doug & Lenie Waite	Len & Lyn Althaus
Eucharist	Jonathan Peckley	Dr Salle	Brenda Bowden
Counters	Theo and Sandra Smolenaars		

Day 1: Friday, 20 March 2026

- **Time:** 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
- **Topic:** *Joy in the Midst of Suffering*
- **Guest Speaker:** Fr. Paul Zahar
- **Music by:** Fr. Mark Hughes

Day 2: Saturday, 21 March 2026

- **Time:** 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
- **Topic:** *The Gifts of the Holy Spirit*
- **Guest Speaker:** Bro. Pat Kelly
- **Music by:** The Valdo Family

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sun 15 Mar 9.30am: Mary Patricia Spykens

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We offer prayers for those who died **Wilbert Smits, Peter Walsh, Pat Wilson** and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **deceased Clergy of the Diocese.** We pray for those who are sick **Meraya, 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:

**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 first book of Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **(R.)**

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 5:8-14

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glorify to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Glorify to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. Having said this, he spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a Sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the Sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

Jesus said: 'It is for judgment that I have come into the world, so that those without sight may see and those with sight turn blind.'

Hearing this, some Pharisees who were present said to him, 'We are not blind surely?' Jesus replied:

'Blind? If you were, you would not be guilty, but since you say, "We see", your guilt remains.

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



COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed,
I saw and I believed in God.**



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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:

Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year A

1st Reading: **Ezekiel 37:12-14**

2nd Reading: **Romans 8:8-11**

Gospel: **John 11:1-45**

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.