

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 Priests: 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 Joy, Tim Morrison - Chair, Romulo Sanchez - Deputy Chair, Rose Lee - Secretary, Teresa Tantaro - Deputy Secretary, Doug Waite, Andrew Pagatpat, David Erdmann, Jonathan Peckley, 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



Fifth Sunday of Easter, YEAR A 2 - 3 May 2026

Dear Lyn and Len,

First of all, congratulations. We, the community of St Mary's Cathedral, Sale, celebrate and rejoice with you and your beautiful family this day on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of your wedding. I am in my 5th year in this parish and can testify to your active, supportive and kind presence in our Cathedral Parish Community. Len, you retired from the PPC a few years ago, but you are never tired of contributing to the success of pastoral initiatives. You both are still very active members of the Sera Club of Sale and still help out as Sacristans three times a week, still involved as ministers of Holy Communion, still active Lectors and Commentators during Mass. This is not to talk about your numerous volunteering activities like helping out with sanctuary flowers from time to time, especially during festivities, and spraying weed killers around the grounds to keep the environment clean and tidy. Thank you for all these and many more.

This weekend, we celebrate you as a couple. Sticking together for one day is a challenge in many regards. Living together, and saying 'I do' for 60 years is not a joke. In the celebration today, you have shown us that it is doable. Len, when I asked you about what you cherish the most in Lyn in these last 60 years, and what kept you going in these 6 decades, your responses flowed very simply from the heart but deeply rooted. I loved it when you first commented: if given the chance to go back 60 years earlier, would I change anything, NO. Your 'no' response was very emphatic. It is a pointer that you appreciate everything that has been. You went on to say, we trust each other, we love each other. If Lyn asked me to do thing, it must be done. Sometimes, it may not be immediately, or exactly as she would have wanted it but it must be done; and vice versa. You said, 'Life is full of challenges. We may have some words during the day or arguments or even disagreements, but we never went to bed without a kiss and hugs. For the last 60 years, we always ended the day with kisses and hugs, and "I love you."'

Lyn, thank you for who you are: gentle, soft spoken, faith-filled, and community minded. Your words pierced me to the heart when you said: 'I feel very blessed in so many ways, like being born in Australia, being a part of the St Mary's Cathedral Parish, enjoying reasonably good health and so on. But I feel most blessed having Len as my first love and my husband. He is very caring, very loving, treats me like a lady, and makes me feel very special all the time. What's there not to love. We love being together, and are grateful for our 4 children and 7 grandchildren.' Your words bring to mind the admonition of Proverbs 31:30, "Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but the woman who fears the Lord is to be praised." Today, the church, family and friends celebrate you.

My dear friends, you are an inspiration for us all, and especially for the younger generation. You have shown us that life is not all about the "I, me, and myself" ideology that poses real threat to the unity of family and marriage life. It is more about "us" and what "we" choose for the health and wellbeing of "our" family and union. As you can see, 60 years gone, and still counting. Good on you, Lyn and Len. This weekend, we celebrate your union. We celebrate your journey together. We celebrate your commitment and dedication to each other despite the vicissitudes of life. We also give thanks to God for your lovely children and gorgeous grandchildren who are God's gifts to humanity through you. We pray today that the good Lord will continue to bless you with peace, good health, and happiness all the days of your lives.

Happy wedding anniversary friends; happy birthday Lyn.

Fr Francis

PARISH CALENDAR

Sun 3 May 10.30am: First Sunday Cuppa, Filipino Community, Cathedral
Thurs 7 May 5.00pm: Serra Club Mass
Sun 10 May: Mother's Day

PARISH NEWS

FIRST SUNDAY CUPPA: This Sunday, **3 May**, the Filipino Community 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.

SERRA CLUB: The Serra Club will gather in the Cathedral on **Thursday 7 May** 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: 27 April - 3 May. At Saturday morning Mass we pray for vocations.

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY APPEAL Thank you for your generous donations. The appeal raised **\$737.00**.

RITE OF WELCOME AND BAPTISM: This weekend at St Patricks Stratford, we welcome for Baptism **Isla & Emilia Smith** daughters of Joshua & Jessica. Congratulations to the family from us all.

WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU The Catholic Church in Australia is gearing up for a nationwide measure of Mass attendance. In May, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's National Centre for Pastoral Research will conduct the 6th National Count of Attendance. This year marks 25 years of collecting valuable insights into long-term trends within the Catholic Church. According to the 2021 National Count, about 8.2 per cent of Australia's Catholic population attended Mass on a typical weekend in May. For more information: Visit the National Centre for Pastoral Research website.

During the time of the count our Parish will be counting people at each Mass. On the fourth weekend in May we will need to find out the age demographics for our Parish so stay tuned for more information on how we will collect this information at each Mass that weekend.

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.

CONFIRMATION We have 24 children who have committed to be confirmed by Bishop Greg on Pentecost Sunday (**9.30am Cathedral Mass on Sunday 24 May**). Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.

WELCOME to Archbishop Pat O'Regan: It is an honour to have our former bishop, now Archbishop, Pat O'Regan to our Cathedral this Saturday 2nd May. Archbishop Pat is here to celebrate with Len and Lyn on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. On behalf of Bishop Greg, the Pastoral community of the Cathedral, and the Parish Pastoral Council, I welcome Archbishop Pat to St Mary's Cathedral, Sale. May you enjoy the beauty and hospitality of this wonderful community, the heartbeat of the Sale Diocese. Blessings on your stay, Your Grace.

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.



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*

DIOCESAN NEWS

PRAY AND WORSHIP will be held on **Saturday 16 May at 9.30am to 3pm** at St Laurence O'Toole Church Leongatha. Refer to the flyer on the opposite page.

MYSTAGOGIA MASS We invite you to join in supporting those newly initiated into the Catholic Church. As they reflect on their RCIA journey, we pray for the grace to deepen their Christian faith and become more fully integrated into parish life. When: **Sunday, 17 May at 2:00pm**
Where: **St Joseph's, Warragul**

TRINITY FAMILIES APPEAL 2026

Trinity Families has been a beacon of hope in our region, providing over \$2 million in funding to charities that support families facing hardship. Programs funded include bushfire relief, family counselling, suicide prevention, emergency accommodation, and parenting support. Bishop Greg urges everyone to support this year's Trinity Families Appeal, emphasizing that this is our own charitable trust—locally based and dedicated to addressing the unique needs of families in Greater Gippsland. We are called to give generously so that families in need can access vital welfare services. Donation envelopes are available in the church for those requiring receipts for taxation purposes. Let us help spread hope in our community. Please give generously.



COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:

Planned Giving:	\$750.00
Presbytery:	\$1,343.40
Credit Cards	\$20.00
Direct Debits & Credits:	\$1,045.00
Cathedral EFTpos:	\$350.00

With thanks from a grateful parish.



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**Mass Timetable this week
Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year A
2 - 3 May 2026**

Day/Date	Time	Place
Saturday 2 May	9.30am 5.30pm	Cathedral Rosedale
Sunday 3 May <i>Ist Sunday Cuppa - Filipino Comm.</i>	5.30pm 9.30am 9.30am 5.30pm	Cathedral Stratford Cathedral Cathedral
WEEKDAY MASSES		
Monday 4 May	NO	MASS
Tuesday 5 May	9.30am	Cathedral
Wednesday 6 May	9.30am	Cathedral
Thursday 7 May <i>Serra Club Mass</i>	5.00pm	Cathedral
Friday 8 May <i>Benediction and Exposition Mass</i>	10.00am 11.00am	Cathedral Cathedral
WEEKEND MASSES		
Saturday 9 May	9.30am 11.00am 5.30pm	Cathedral Loch Sport Rosedale
Sunday 10 May <i>Mother's Day</i>	5.30pm 9.30am 9.30am 5.30pm	Cathedral Briagolong Cathedral Cathedral

Cathedral Date & Time	Saturday 2 May 5.30pm	Sunday 3 May 9.30am	Sunday 3 May 5.30pm
Welcomer	Theo Smolenaars	Vince Beer	Veronica Stewart
Commentator	Sandra Smolenaars	Mildred Semodio	Please offer
Reader	Brenda Burditt	Maya Useni-Vowell	Claire Everard
Eucharists	Jenny G, Tim M	Brenda B, Dr Salle	Len & Lyn Althaus
Eucharist	Rosemary Webster	Abi Udiano	Doug Waite
Counters	Len & Lyn Althaus (Happy 60th Wedding Ann.)		

Cathedral Date & Time	Saturday 9 May 5.30pm	Sunday 10 May 9.30am	Sunday 10 May 5.30pm
Welcomer	John Dykun	Nick & Marie Centra	Mary Chiller
Commentator	Liz Tabuteau	Susan Mattson	Please offer
Reader	Sandra Smolenaars	Vince Beer	Faye Flint
Eucharists	Emma M, Claire Lyon	Doug & Leny Waite	Len & Lyn Althaus
Eucharist	Jonathan Peckley	Margaret Shirreffs	Veronica Stewart
Counters	Theo & Sandra Smolenaars		

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat 2 May 5.30pm: Pasquale & Maria Scarfo, Ceaterina Tancredi, Francesco & Pasqualina Chila (A's); **Sun 3 May 9.30am:** Raquel Waite (A). Padre Gaetano Greco (A)

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We offer prayers for those who died **Luisa Jackson** and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Pasquale & Maria Scarfo, Ceaterina Tancredi, Francesco & Pasqualina Chila, Raquel Waite Padre Gaetano Greco, deceased Clergy of the Diocese.** We pray for those who are sick Wendy Adamo, George, Rochelle, 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.**

Zahra's testimony, mission, and plea for help

As mentioned last week and the week before, one of our young ones, Zahra, is seeking our assistance to enable her go on mission. Zahra shares her story in brief as follows; she will be here this weekend 2/3 May (leading the singing at the Saturday evening Mass), and to speak at the Sunday evening Mass. She will be back to speak at the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses on the weekend of 30/31 May. Here she goes...

Hey, my name is Zahra Hanratty, and I am 19 years old, from our diocese—Sale! Precisely from St Michael's Parish, Traralgon. When I was 16 I encountered God in a really powerful way and God placed a special prompting and calling in my heart to give back through mission.

Last year I served as a NET (National Evangelisation Team) missionary in New Zealand and it honestly changed my life. I spent my year running high school retreats, youth groups, serving in church, music ministry, and just showing up for the young people. I saw a revival in the Church and witnessed so many young people who were (and still are) hungry for God and searching for more.

During this maiden mission experience in New Zealand, I saw so many lives, young people, transformed; and because of this, I knew that God was calling me to something deeper. I am taking on another mission year, this time in Canada, in August this year (2026-2027). I am so excited to have experienced the transforming love of Jesus; even more excited to see myself become a radical witness of this love in Jesus Christ, and to be a part of so many young peoples' journey.

To be able to serve on this new mission I have to raise a total of \$11,000 CAD. On my own I know I cannot do this mission. I am calling on you to please accompany me on this journey, through your thoughts, prayers and donations (Zahra).

Zahra has been here in the Cathedral Parish a couple of times in the past to help with music and to assist with youth programs. Whatever support you give will go a long way toward making this mission a successful reality.

God bless and keep us all in God's care. Amen!
Alleluia!!

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:

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

FIRST READING:

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

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.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.

Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **(R.)**

For 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.)**

SECOND READING:

A reading from the first letter of St Peter 2:4-9

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me. **Alleluia!**

GOSPEL:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 14:1-12

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

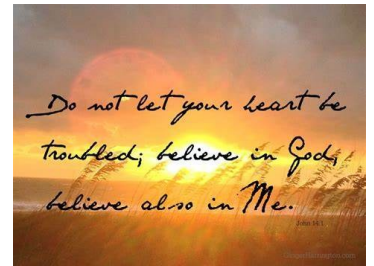
Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?'

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?'

The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

'I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

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



COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.



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

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year A

1st Reading: **Acts 8:5-8, 14-17**

2nd Reading: **1 Peter 3:15-18**

Gospel: **John 14:15-21**

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: Briargolong - 9.30am (2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month)

Please check the bulletin each week for weekday Mass times.