

# 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), Andrew Liyanage, Andrew Pagatpat, Jennifer Fitzgerald, Brenda Burditt, 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



## *Third Sunday of Advent, Year C 14 - 15 December 2024*

### REFLECTION

We are at the midpoint of Advent. Today we celebrate Gaudete Sunday. The principal theme of the day is joy. According to Paul, joy is one of the fruits of the Spirit (cf. Gal 5:22). Such joy is a religious sentiment, not emotional happiness. Along with gratitude, it is the heart's response to God's goodness. Zion is told to shout for joy because it has been saved by God from its enemies and because God is in the midst of the people. The psalm response proclaims the same message; the reading from Philippians announces that the Lord is near. This is cause for joy.

Advent is a time for joy, not primarily because we are anticipating the anniversary of the birth of Christ, but because God is already in our midst (Immanuel). The readings for this Sunday assure us that God is with us, not as a judge but as a Saviour. We rejoice over the saving acts of God that make us confident of God's care and unafraid of whatever may cross our paths. We rejoice in the peace of God that surpasses all understanding. Advent joy is like the delight that fills a woman who has just given birth, even if it occurred in the throes of birth pangs. Advent joy springs from the realisation that the presence of God in our midst can so transform our lives that the promises of peace and security will be fulfilled. Advent joy is the way we live in the tension between already and not yet.

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### Some tit bits...

#### **Advent evening prayers**

Our second Advent evening prayer was last Wednesday 11th December. Though not as many as anticipated, the service went beautifully well. Thanks to you all for supplying the supper. Our next service is this Wednesday 18th December at 7.00pm in the Cathedral. Looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a plate to share. Blessings and peace.

#### **Youth Rosary initiative**

The young people of our parish have taken the initiative to come together to recite the rosary on Saturdays before the 5.30pm Saturday Mass. This project kickstarted last Saturday with a handful of our youth. The rosary session continues this Saturday at 5.00pm. Please give them your support. Come earlier to join in the rosary. Encourage your young ones to become part of this prayer initiative. May the good Lord continue to bless us as we journey forward in hope.

#### **Welcome Mass for our new principals**

Though this is a fairly early notice, it is good to prepare now since January is a very quiet month. On the 2nd of February, the first Sunday of the month, we as a parish community shall have a "welcome to the Parish" Mass for our new principals: Mr Brett Van Berkel (Catholic College Sale), and Mrs Jodie Ware (St Thomas Sale). This will take place at the 9.30am Sunday Mass. It will afford us all the opportunity to get to know our new principals and interact with them as well. The Parish Council will organise this morning tea. So for contributions to the morning tea please contact Rose Lee, Brenda Burditt, John Dykun, or Doug Waite. The schools are welcome to make contributions too. Looking forward to meeting Brett and Jodie.

May God bless us all and keep us in HIS loving care. Amen! Alleluia!!

## PARISH CALENDAR

**14 and 15 Dec:** Leaving Collection St Vincent de Paul

**Wed 18 Dec 6.00pm:** Parish Reconciliation & Solemn Advent Prayers

**CHRISTMAS MASSES:** Refer to opposite page for the Parish Christmas timetable

**Wed 1 Jan 11.00am:** Jubilee Mass Cathedral

**PARISH OFFICE** will be closed from **Friday 20 December 2024 through to Tuesday 21 January 2025**. This will allow the office staff to have a well earned holiday.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS** if you would like to make a donation for Christmas Flowers in the Cathedral please put it in an envelope marked 'Christmas Flowers' and place in the collection plate or drop it in to the Parish Office.

### **DELEGATES list for the Diocesan Assembly.**

As you all would have already known the Diocesan Assembly for which we have been praying is scheduled for **14 and 15 February 2025**. Thanks to Nick Hall and Jenny Fitzgerald who help us with the preparatory and consultative phase. After prayers, consultations, and calls, the following parishioners will now be our Cathedral Parish delegates at the Assembly. Thanks to them for saying yes as well.

**St Mary's Cathedral:** Libby Byrnes & Vince Beer

**St Rose of Lima Rosedale:** Veronica Barnes

**St Patrick's Stratford:** Nick Lee

**St Patrick's Briagolong:** Margaret Anderson.

We hold them and the other delegates in our prayers, and the success of the Assembly.

**PILGRIMS OF HOPE** In 2025 Pope Francis has proclaimed a Year of Jubilee. The theme is 'Pilgrims of Hope'. Join us as we celebrate the opening of this year-long journey of hope and faith at St Mary's Cathedral, Sale. The Mass, celebrated by Bishop Greg Bennet, will begin at **11:00am on Wednesday 1 January 2025** and all are welcome. Following the Mass, light refreshments will be available. There will be an opportunity for you to pray and reflect on the diocesan themes for the year as well as considering how you can be a pilgrim of hope in 2025. *(Please note this will replace our usual 9.30am Mass in the Cathedral)*

**VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED** if you can help with Christmas Masses in the Cathedral please add your name to the sign up sheets near the entry. We are still in need of welcomers, offertory procession and a reader at the 6pm Mass on Tuesday 24 December. We also need volunteers for the three weeks after Christmas. PLEASE HELP if you can.

## 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*

**PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS:** During the four weeks of Advent I would like to invite you all to come together in the Cathedral for solemn Advent evening prayers. This will include praying the Psalms, reflections on the texts, adoration and songs of worship. Following the spiritual exercise of prayer we will share supper together.

**Advent evening prayers.** Our next service is this **Wednesday 18 December at 7.00pm** in the Cathedral. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a plate to share. Our Parish Advent Reconciliation will commence from **6.00pm on 18 December**. Blessings and peace....

### **ST VINCENT DE PAUL LEAVING**

**COLLECTION** There will be a leaving collection at all masses on **14 and 15 December**. Please give generously to those who are less fortunate.

### **PLANNED GIVING RENEWAL PROGRAM.**

**Parish Finances Report.** Further to the good news concerning the great response to the Planned Giving Renewal Program, we can now report that the parish insurances bill has come in significantly less than expected. As we had previously reported, last financial year's insurances costs totalled \$95,331 for a ten month period and it was anticipated that this financial year's costs would total over \$100,000. Recently the Diocese of Sale engaged Catholic Risk Insurances Services Ltd (CRIS) to assist in reviewing it's insurances. Following a lengthy process that included consultation with the Ballarat and Sandhurst Dioceses, CRIS considered that a new broker be engaged. Consequently, our parish's share of insurance premiums for this financial year has fallen to \$47,179, which is great news and which will greatly reduce the predicted loss of \$79,000 for 2024-25.

**31 CLUB REMINDER** 16 - 22 December. Please pray for vocations.

**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.

### **SYNOD ON SYNODALITY: Final Document of the XVI Assembly**

On 26 October 2024, members of the Second Assembly of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops voted on and approved the final document. Unlike previous Synods, the Pope chose not to publish a separate apostolic exhortation but instead approved the publication of the Final Document as the direct implementation of the assembly's conclusions. The Final Document: Toward a Synodal Church in Mission is divided into five parts: The Heart of Synodality: Called by the Holy Spirit to Conversion. On the Boat, Together: The Conversion of Relationships Cast the Net: The Conversion of Processes An Abundant Catch: The Conversion of Bonds "So I Send You": Forming a People for Missionary Discipleship. The Final Document can be found on the website of the General Secretariat of the Synod at <https://www.synod.va/en/news/final-document-of-the-xvi-assembly.html>

**"HE LOVED US":** Pope Francis' New Encyclical On The On The Human And Divine Love Of The Heart Of Jesus Christ Pope Francis' fourth encyclical, Dilexit Nos ("He Loved us"). To read the encyclical go to <https://tinyurl.com/24ju4vwh>

### **COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:**

<b>Planned Giving:</b>	\$900.80
<b>Presbytery:</b>	\$1,061.40
<b>Credit Cards</b>	\$45.00
<b>Direct Debits &amp; Credits:</b>	\$2,841.00
<b>Cathedral EFTpos:</b>	\$428.00

With thanks from a grateful parish.



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**Mass Timetable this week  
Third Sunday of Advent, Year C  
14 - 15 December 2024**

Day/Date	Time	Place
<b>Saturday 14 December</b>	9.30am	Cathedral
	11.00am	Loch Sport
	5.30pm	Cathedral
<b>Sunday 15 December</b>	5.30pm	Rosedale
	9.30am	Cathedral
	9.30am	Stratford
	5.30pm	Cathedral
<b>WEEKDAY MASSES</b>		
<b>Monday 16 December</b>	<i>NO</i>	<i>MASS</i>
<b>Tuesday 17 December</b>	9.30am	Cathedral
<b>Wednesday 18 December</b> <i>Advent Reconciliation</i> <i>Solemn Advent Prayer</i>	9.30am	Cathedral
	6.00pm	Cathedral
	7.00pm	Cathedral
<b>Thursday 19 December</b>	9.30am	Cathedral
<b>Friday 20 December</b> <i>Benediction &amp; Exposition</i> <i>Mass</i>	10.00am	Cathedral
	11.00am	Cathedral
<b>WEEKEND MASSES</b>		
<b>Saturday 21 December</b>	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Rosedale
<b>Sunday 22 December</b>	9.30am	Briagolong
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral

**Diocesan Consultation & Assembly Prayer  
2024-2025**

Holy Spirit of Wind and Fire, come!  
Startle us anew with your power and energy.  
Blow fresh life through our tired dreams.  
Fan into a flame the gifts you have given us.  
Light up the windows of our joy and purpose.  
Spark bright fires of optimism deep within us.  
Reveal more clearly a vision of what is possible.  
May we listen attentively to your quiet whisper at our very core.  
May we discern your call expressed in the voices and stories of others.  
May we build a Church that radiates and nourishes our unity of faith.  
May we be at one with all of humanity and the rest of God's creation.  
May we develop the courage to be people of mission, alert to opportunities, always on the move, bringing Good News to our needy world, Wind and Fire for one another.  
Amen.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help.  
Pray for Us.



Cathedral Date & Time	Sat 14 December 5.30pm	Sun 15 December 9.30am	Sunday 15 December 5.30pm
<b>Welcomer</b>	John Dykun	Vince Beer	Please offer
<b>Commentator</b>	Veronica Stewart	Nick Hall	Andreaa Jolly
<b>Reader</b>	Joel Brayshaw	Mildred Semodio	Faye Flint
<b>Eucharist</b>	Carmel Wade	Margaret Shirreffs	Jennifer Fitzgerald
<b>Counters</b>	Theo and Sandra Smolenaars		

Cathedral Date & Time	Sat 21 December	Sunday 22 Dec	Sunday 22 Dec
<b>Welcomer</b>	Theo Smolenaars	Margaret Shirreffs	Mary Chiller
<b>Commentator</b>	Brenda Burditt	Christine Lyon	Jennifer Fitzgerald
<b>Reader</b>	Liz Tabuteau	Di Austin	Lyn Althaus
<b>Eucharist</b>	Jenny Gunn	Anna Allen	Len Althaus
<b>Counters</b>	Sue Harvey and Mary Cooper		

**MASS INTENTIONS:**

**Sat 14 Dec 9.30am:** William & Eileen Lyons (A's); **Sun 15 Dec 9.30am:** Renato & Stephen Segafredo (A's); **Tues 17 Dec 9.30am:** Richard Klimas (A)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** We offer prayers for those who have died and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **William Lyons, Eileen Lyons, Renato Segafredo, Stephen Segafredo, Richard Klimas, deceased Clergy of the Diocese.** We pray for those who are sick **Daniel, Dalia Ellison, Veronica Foxe, Teresa Bennett, Aileen Nicholls, Fr Andrew Wise, Teolinda Barrera, Jayantha, Emma O'Hare, Jim Clottin, Moira Petrie, Hubert Somasiri, Dushyanthi, Michael McGrath, Troy Barney, Bill Harkin.**  
**We pray in thanks for all who care for the sick.**

**2024 Christmas Mass Timetable  
ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL PARISH, SALE**

**Saturday: 21 December VIGIL MASS**

5.30pm St Mary's Cathedral Sale  
5.30pm St Rose of Lima Rosedale

**Sunday: 22 December SUNDAY MASS**

9.30am St Mary's Cathedral Sale  
9.30am St Patrick's Briagolong  
5.30pm St Mary's Cathedral Sale

**Tuesday: 24 December CHRISTMAS EVE**

11.00am Christmas Vigil Mass – Loch Sport  
6.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass Family Mass – Cathedral

7.00pm St Rose of Lima - Rosedale

**CHRISTMAS NIGHT MASS**

9.00pm St Mary's Cathedral - Sale

**Wednesday: 25 December CHRISTMAS DAY**

9.30am St Mary's Cathedral - Sale  
9.30am St Patrick's - Stratford  
11.00am Seaspray Community Hall – Seaspray



**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 in the Lord always;  
again I say, rejoice.  
Indeed, the Lord is near.**

### **FIRST READING:**

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah 3:14-18  
Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,  
Israel, shout aloud!  
Rejoice, exult with all your heart,  
daughter of Jerusalem!  
The Lord has repealed your sentence;  
he has driven your enemies away.  
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;  
you have no more evil to fear.  
When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem:  
Zion, have no fear,  
do not let your hands fall limp.  
The Lord your God is in your midst,  
a victorious warrior.  
He will exult with joy over you,  
he will renew you by his love;  
he will dance with shouts of joy for you  
as on a day of festival.

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

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

**Cry out with joy and gladness:  
for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.**

Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear.  
For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour.  
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. **(R.)**

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!  
Declare the greatness of his name. **(R.)**

Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds,  
make them known to all the earth!  
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. **(R.)**

### **SECOND READING:**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 4:4-7  
I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat,  
what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident  
to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry;  
but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it  
with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is  
so much greater than we can understand, will guard your  
hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

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

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.  
**Alleluia!**

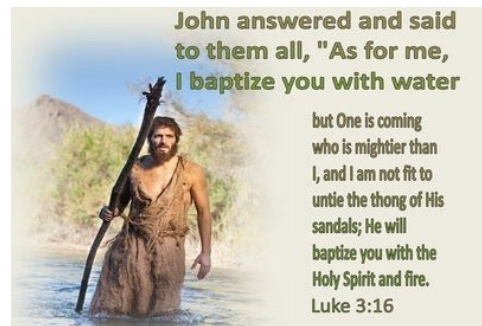
### **GOSPEL:**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 3:10-18

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

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



### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON:**

**Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.  
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.**



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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 Advent, Year C**

First Reading: **Micah 5:1-4**  
2nd Reading: **Hebrews 10:5-10**  
Gospel: **Luke 1:39-44**

### **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.**