

# 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), 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



## *Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year C 21 - 22 December 2024*



**MERRY CHRISTMAS IN ADVANCE:** Four weeks ago, we started the advent journey together on the first Sunday of Advent. Time flies... It's now the fourth Sunday of Advent, with Christmas Day barely three days away. I'd like to use this moment and medium to express my profound gratitude to you all for your active participation in the various activities: the working bee, the liturgies, especially the evening prayers, and for supplying the supper each time. While the time wasn't suitable for everyone, I believe you all joined in spirit, and we prayed for everyone each time as a community. Equally, I'd like to appreciate you all who have volunteered your time for liturgical ministry during this Christmas period. God bless you all. Now, on behalf of Bishop Greg, Fr Aneesh, and the Cathedral Pastoral Council, I wish you all a joy-filled Christmas celebration with family and friends. May the day and season bring you lots of peace, joy and love. Merry Christmas in advance.

**FR ANEESH IN-CHARGE:** All things being equal, starting on Boxing Day, I'll be taking my annual holiday. In my absence, for all pastoral needs, please contact Fr Aneesh. Also, please refer to the inside of the bulletin for the period of time when the office will be closed, as the staff deserve a well-rested break so as to begin on a good footing in 2025.

**JUBILEE YEAR/NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS:** As some of you must have known, the Holy Father, Pope Francis, has called for a special Jubilee Year in 2025 with the theme as Pilgrims of Hope. A Jubilee Year in the Catholic Church is a Holy Year, a "special year of forgiveness and reconciliation, in which people are invited to come back into right relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation." The Jubilee Year begins on Christmas Eve (24 December 2025) and concludes on 6 January 2026.

For us as a Diocese, series of celebrations to mark this year have been proposed. Here in the Cathedral, the Diocesan opening ceremony and Mass will be celebrated on New Year's Day, **1 January 2025**, presided over by Bishop Greg. **Mass will commence at 11.00am.** While participating pilgrims from around the Diocese have been invited, it is expected that we in the Cathedral Parish will come out en masse. The proposed activities for the rest of the year in the different parishes will be posted on the notice board for you to follow and equally participate in. For now, please mark the date **January 1st** in your diary and keep it free. In the words of Bishop Greg, "May this year of Jubilee be a blessed one for us all as we journey together as pilgrims of hope and peace."

For those who aren't spending Christmas in Sale, see you in 2025. Go gently, enjoy your time with family and friends, take the time to relax and refresh. May you be surrounded by love and peace and joy.

**God bless you all. Fr Francis**

### PARISH CALENDAR

**CHRISTMAS MASSES:** Refer to opposite page for the Parish Christmas timetable  
**20 Dec 3pm to 9.15am 21 January:** Parish Office Closed  
**Wed 1 Jan 2025 11am:** Jubilee Mass Cathedral

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL LEAVING

**COLLECTION** Thank you to all those who gave so generously. **We raised a total of \$2,752.85.**

### PLANNED GIVING RENEWAL PROGRAM.

Many thanks for the great response to the call to support the work of the parish. Of course, it is not too late to join the program. Direct Debit authority forms are available in the Cathedral assembly area, on the Parish Website or at the rear of the other churches or in the Parish Office.

**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.

**PARISH OFFICE** will be closed from 3.15pm on **Friday 20 December 2024 through to 9.15am on Tuesday 21 January 2025.** This will allow the office staff to have a well earned holiday.

**MILESTONE CELEBRATIONS** if you are, or know of another parishioner, celebrating a milestone birthday, anniversary or any other joyous moment to share with your parish please let one of the Priests or the Parish office know.

**GARDEN MAINTENANCE TEAM** meets on **Wednesday from 9.30-11.00am.** When you do come, please come with your garden gloves, spades, garden shears etc and help to lighten the load. We'll have a cup of tea/coffee when done. If you are able to assist please call John Dykun on 0413 947 352.

**LEGION OF MARY** meet in the Chapter House from 10.30am each Wednesday. New members are very welcome.

**THE BULLETIN** from this weekend will be our usual two page one over this quieter time for our Parish. There will be no Christmas bulletin. The Christmas readings can be found at <https://www.stmaryscathedralsale.com.au/>

### 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)

**WELCOME MASS** 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.

**31 CLUB REMINDER** 23 - 29 December. Please pray for vocations.

### 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*

### 2025 FEAST OF THE STO NINO

The 15th Fiesta Gathering of the Filipino Community of the Sale and Districts in honour of Sto Nino (Holy Infant Jesus) will take place on **Sunday 26 January** at St Mary's Cathedral.

**9.30am Mass**

**10.30am Morning Tea**

Anyone with a Sto Nino statue can bring it along. Wearing of traditional Filipino costumes is encouraged. Everyone is invited to share a Filipino feast organised by the Bayanihan Circle and friends in the assembly area of the Cathedral after Mass.

Celebrant: **Bishop Gregory Bennet**  
Choir: **The Bayanihan Circle (Filipino Choir)**

### MASS INTENTIONS:

**Sun 22 Dec 9.30am:** Marian Hornak (RD)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** We offer prayers for those who have died **Marian Hornak, Maureen Thompson** and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **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.**

**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:

<b>Planned Giving:</b>	\$765.00
<b>Presbytery:</b>	\$1,330.60
<b>Credit Cards</b>	\$65.00
<b>Direct Debits &amp; Credits:</b>	\$2,160.00
<b>Cathedral EFTpos:</b>	\$170.00

**With thanks from a grateful parish.**



For all your **accounting, financial planning & taxation** needs, whether personal or business, simply call:

(03) 5144 4422

[www.dmgfinancial.com.au](http://www.dmgfinancial.com.au)

Pre-planning your funeral really takes the pressure off loved ones at a difficult time.



We've been helping Gippslanders with care and respect for over 125 years.

1390 Maffra Road Sale  
03 5143 2477

**GIPPSLAND**  
FUNERAL SERVICES

To find out more please call 1300 386 375 or visit [gippslandfuneralservices.com.au](http://gippslandfuneralservices.com.au)

**Mass Timetable this week  
Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year C  
21 - 22 December 2024**

Day/Date	Time	Place
<b>Saturday 21 December</b>	9.30am 5.30pm	Cathedral Cathedral
<b>Sunday 22 December</b>	5.30pm 9.30am 9.30am 5.30pm	Rosedale Briagolong Cathedral Cathedral
<b>WEEKDAY MASSES</b>		
<b>Monday 23 December</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>MASS</b>
<b>Tuesday 24 December</b>	<b>Refer to</b>	<b>Christmas Timetable</b>
<b>Wednesday 25 December</b>	<b>Refer to</b>	<b>Christmas Timetable</b>
<b>Thursday 26 December</b>	9.30am	Cathedral
<b>Friday 27 December</b>		
<b>Benediction &amp; Exposition Mass</b>	10.00am 11.00am	Cathedral Cathedral
<b>WEEKEND MASSES</b>		
<b>Saturday 28 December</b>	9.30am 5.30pm 5.30pm	Cathedral Cathedral Rosedale
<b>Sunday 29 December</b>	9.30am 9.30am 5.30pm	Cathedral Stratford Cathedral
<i>Please note there are no Loch Sport Masses for the rest of December.</i>		

**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**  
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



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		


Cathedral Date & Time	Tues 24 December 6.00pm Family Mass Christmas Vigil	Tues 24 December 9.00pm Christmas Vigil	Wed 25 December 9.30am Christmas Day
<b>Welcomer</b>	Theo Smolenaars	Please offer	Claire Everard
<b>Commentator</b>	Sandra Smolenaars	Liz Tabuteau	Please offer
<b>Reader</b>	Faye Flint	Brenda Burditt	Susan Mattson
<b>Reader</b>	Di Austin	Ann Neville	Vince Beer
<b>Eucharist Min</b>	Theo Smolenaars	Carmel Wade	Lyn Althaus
<b>Eucharist Min</b>	Not required	Not required	Len Althaus

Cathedral Date & Time	Sat 28 December 5.30pm	Sunday 29 Dec 9.30am	Sunday 29 Dec 5.30pm
<b>Welcomer</b>	Ann Neville	Please offer	Claire Everard
<b>Commentator</b>	Brenda Burditt	Please offer	Please offer
<b>Reader</b>	Liz Tabuteau	Christine Lyon	Lyn Althaus
<b>Eucharist</b>	Please offer	Margaret Shirreffs	Len Althaus
<b>Counters</b>	Len and Lyn Althaus		

**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.



**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*

**Barry & Annette Lett  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

We offer care, compassion and service with dignity, for the people of Gippsland  
Caring and personal 24-hour service .  
Chapel facilities available.

**67 Macarthur Street, Sale  
Phone: 5143 1232**

www.lettsfunerals.com.au  
Member **Australian Funeral Directors Association**



### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

**Drop down dew from above, you heavens,  
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;  
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.**

### FIRST READING:

A reading from the prophet Micah 5:1-4

The Lord says this: You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

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

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**Lord, make us turn to you;  
let us see your face and we shall be saved.**

O Shepherd of Israel, hear us,  
shine forth from your cherubim throne.  
O Lord, rouse up your might,  
O Lord, come to our help. **(R.)**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,  
look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it,  
the vine your right hand has planted. **(R.)**

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,  
the man you have given your strength.  
And we shall never forsake you again:  
give us life that we may call upon your name. **(R.)**

### SECOND READING:

A reading from St Paul's letter to the Hebrews 10:5-10

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, 'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

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

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

I am the servant of the Lord:  
may his will for me be done. **Alleluia!**

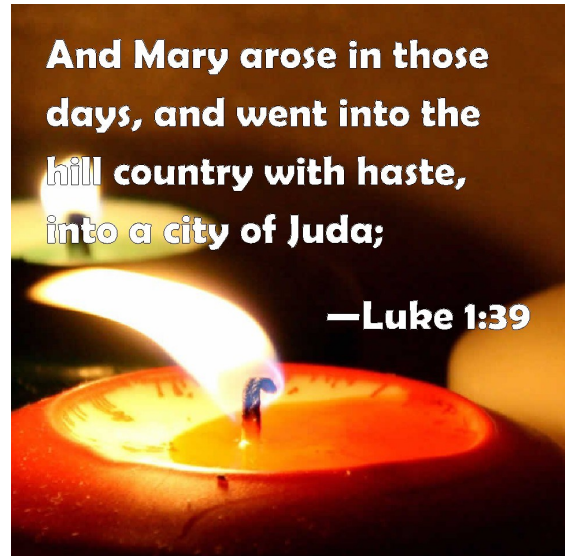
### GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 1:39-44

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



### COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son;**



The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass © 1981 & the prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 1973 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from *The Psalms, A New Translation*, copyright © 1963 by The Grail, England and used with permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

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

### READINGS NEXT WEEK:

**The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

First Reading: **1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28**  
2nd Reading: **1 John 3:1-2, 21-24**  
Gospel: **Luke 2:41-52**

### 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.*