

# Seaford Parish Newsletter

Sunday 12th July 2026



**Holy Family  
St. Joachim's  
St. Anne's**

**Frankston North  
Carrum Downs  
Seaford**



**Parish Priest:** Rev Fr. Martin Jeramias  
**Deacon:** Pselio Lemalu      **Parish Secretary:** Sumitha Moses  
**Parish Office:** 84 Austin Road, Seaford, VIC 3198 (Closed on Monday & Thursday)  
**Office Hours:** **Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 10.00am - 3.30pm**  
**Telephone:** 03 9401 6398  
**Email:** [seaford@cam.org.au](mailto:seaford@cam.org.au) **Website:** [www.melbcatholic.org/seaford](http://www.melbcatholic.org/seaford)

## FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

### REFLECTION FOR THIS WEEK

Today's Gospel marks the beginning of the third long discourse given by Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew. Over the next few weeks, the Gospel readings will consist of the entire 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Matthew's Gospel, a lengthy teaching discourse.

Throughout this discourse, Jesus will offer several parables to illustrate for his listeners what he means by the kingdom of heaven. He begins with the parable of the sower, which appears rather straightforward—of course seeds grow best in good soil. Seeds that miss the soil, are sown on rocky ground, or are sown among other plants will not grow. The surprise in the parable is the enormous yield of the seed that is sown on good soil.

Jesus then explains his use of parables. Jesus seems to suggest that he uses parables to teach because the meanings of parables are not self-evident. The hearer must engage in some degree of reflection in order to comprehend the message of a parable. In this way, the medium—the parable—models the point of the parable of the sower. Those who are willing to engage

themselves in the effort to understand will be rewarded by the discovery of the message and will bear fruit.



To bring home the point, Jesus interprets the parable of the sower to his disciples. The different types of soil in which the seeds are sown are metaphors for the disposition with which each individual hears the teaching about the kingdom of heaven. Some will be easily swayed away from the kingdom of heaven. Some will receive it for a time but will lose it when faced with difficulties. Some will hear the word but will then permit other cares to choke it out. Yet some will receive it well, and the seed will produce abundant fruit.

### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Thinking About Becoming Catholic? Join the RCIA Journey

Are you—or someone you know—interested in becoming Catholic, or simply want to explore the Catholic faith more deeply?

Our parish will soon begin the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**, a journey of faith and discovery designed for:

- Adults who have never been baptised
- Christians from other denominations seeking full communion with the Catholic Church
- Baptised Catholics who have not yet received the sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation

RCIA is a welcoming, supportive process that allows individuals to ask questions, share experiences, and grow in faith as they discern God's call. Sessions will begin Soon. If you, or someone you know, is interested, we warmly invite you to contact the parish office. Come and see where God might be calling you!

**The program will be starting from last week of August.**



*Our parish respectfully acknowledges the Bunurong people, who are the custodians of the Boon Wurrung land on which we worship. We acknowledge and pay respect to the Elders; past, present and future.*

***We are very grateful to all the parishioners for your continued support and donations.***

### **THANKSGIVING OPTIONS**

*If you are able to send your thanksgiving offerings via direct debit to:*  
**St. Annes Church (CDF)**

**BSB Number: 083 347, Account No: 64340 4615.**

As reference please include your Thanksgiving Number if you have one and/or your full name.

Online direct contributions, either one-off or recurring, can be made through the QR code Or the below link

<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/donate?id=0012w00000LOj6iAAD>



Scan this code with your smart phone camera APP & please follow the prompts.

**Thanksgiving collection for the Weekend 5/07/2026 \$ 3578.75**

### **“Child Safety is Everyone’s Responsibility”**

Welcome to St Anne’s Parish, where we foster the well being and safety of all children and adults at risk. Since we take the safety of our young and vulnerable parishioners seriously, we have a zero tolerance policy when it comes to abuse. All our parishioners have the right to feel safe and welcome. If you have any concerns, Please contact the Parish Safeguarding Officer ([seaford@cam.org.au](mailto:seaford@cam.org.au)).

Please pray for the sick and suffering of our parish especially **Alexander, Felipe, Anne, Chelsea Borg, Ida Perry, Constance Anderson, Jean McGregor, Jacqueline Ware, Allyson Joel, Frank Bartosy, Siyumi, Eliza Wilmot, Yeng Omo, Myra Buyco, Patricia Upton, Alex, Jay Sulton, Frances Kinna, Philomina, George Paul, Tracy Dalmau, Susie, John Duff, Aida Mortimer, Shirley Hajak, Amber Elka Faska.** We pray for all those whose anniversaries & remembrances occur at this time especially **Bridget and Francis Silva’s, Rita Brown, Edith Small, Mary Small, Albert Simpson, Benigna Secuya** and for all those who have died recently deceased **Lawrence Samy, Maura Fitzpatrick.** Rest in Peace. Amen.



### **ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND** **18TH & 19TH JULY**

#### **6:00pm Vigil Mass**

Readers: Jarvis. J / Deborah. C

Eucharistic Minister: Liam / Rosario

Altar Servers: Bertin / Alden / Rhys

#### **8:30am Mass**

Readers: Jeanne. A / Kathleen. C

Eucharistic Minister: Brian / Jeff

Altar Servers: Fina / Jeanne/ Johan

#### **10:00am Mass**

Readers: Janice. F / Eric. A

Eucharistic Minister: Benson / Jerome

Altar Servers: Gabrina / Victoria / Eric

*The seed sown in rich soil is  
someone who hears the word  
and understands*

Jesus, Matthew 13:23

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### **READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY-Year A** **15th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Is 55 : 10 - 11

Responsorial Psalm: The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

2nd Reading: Rom 8: 18 - 23

Gospel: Mt 13: 1 - 23

### **READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY-Year A** **16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Wis 12: 13, 16 - 19

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, you are good and forgiving.

2nd Reading: Rom 8: 26 - 27

Gospel: Mt 13: 24 - 43



## **SABBATICAL LEAVE (AUGUST - NOVEMBER)**

Dear Parishioners,

As I prepare to begin my sabbatical (at the end of the month), I would like to thank you for your prayers and support. This period of leave will provide an opportunity for prayer, renewal, rest, and ongoing formation. I ask that you keep me in your prayers during this time, and I assure you of my prayers for our parish community.

During my absence, **Fr Peter Matheson** will celebrate all weekend Masses and preside at funerals. Tuesday (6pm) Wednesday (9:15 am) and First Fridays at (7 pm), Masses will be celebrated by neighbouring priests. On Thursdays (6pm) and Fridays (9:15 am), Communion Services will be held.

If you require the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick in an emergency, please contact the parish office

during business hours. If you or a loved one is admitted to hospital, please ask the nursing staff to contact the Catholic chaplain so that pastoral care and the sacraments can be arranged.

If you anticipate needing any parish certificates (such as baptismal or other sacramental certificates), please contact the parish office as soon as possible so that these can be prepared before my leave.

If there is any question with anything related to parish, contact the office or talk to deacon Leo.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support. May God bless you all, and I look forward to returning refreshed and renewed to continue serving our parish community.

**Please visit our website for more information**  
**Rev Fr Martin Jeramias**

## **Holy Land Commissariat—Thank you note**

On behalf of the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land, which together with the Latin Patriarchate, cares for the Catholics of the Holy Land and its several neighbouring countries, I would like to thank you most sincerely for your kind and generous donation of \$828.15 to the Good Friday Holy Land Collection for 2026.

As we all know, the people of the Holy Land have been under tremendous pressure in recent years, and they are now enduring even more pain and uncertainty. For several centuries, the Franciscan Friars have ministered to the Christians of these lands, sharing in their joys and sufferings, their hopes and disappointments. This very much continues in these uncertain and dangerous times.

Please know that your contribution, added to those from around the world, will be used to make a direct difference in the lives of the Holy Land Christians and indirectly, will also assist others who share their plight. The Franciscans of the Holy Land pray every day for their benefactors and supporters and in no way take for granted the assistance they receive. So please be assured that you are included

## **SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB**

An Initiative of Catalyst for renewal

Today's Church - noun or verb? Reflection, questions and wonderings

Wednesday 22nd July  
6:00 - 9:00pm

Venue: Hampton RSL  
25 Holyrood Street,  
Hampton

Guest Speaker  
**Joe McCarthy**

Booking are essential,  
For more information  
please see the notice board.



# LEGION OF MARY

## *Our Lady of Lourdes*

*Bayside Curia*

### ANNUAL RETREAT

*Begins with*  
**Mass at 9:30am**

Followed by:  
**Prayers, Benediction**  
**Retreat talk**  
**& group discussion**

**Finishes 12:30pm**  
**With refreshments**

**AT ST ANNE'S CHURCH**  
**84 AUSTIN RD SEAFORD**  
**SATURDAY 18TH JULY**

**Contact Sue**  
**0408 547 791**



## **DECORATIVE CANDLES ON SALE**

I am Nimmi, and I come from family of candle makers, I'm honoured to carry on my grandfather's legacy by transforming discarded church candles into beautiful, eco-friendly creations. You can find these stunning candles at our piety stall, and the proceeds go directly to the church.

Each candle is made with love, prayers, and dedication, and I believe they spread positivity and answered

prayers wherever they're lit.

This meaningful hobby also helps me reduce my screen time and contribute to a more sustainable future.



## MASS TIMES FOR THE WEEK

|                               |                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Tuesday &amp; Thursday</b> | <b>6:00 pm Mass</b>                                                                                         |
| <b>Wednesday</b>              | <b>9:15 am Mass</b>                                                                                         |
| <b>Silent adoration</b>       | <b>5:30 - 6:30 pm</b>                                                                                       |
| <b>Friday</b>                 | <b>9:15 am Mass</b>                                                                                         |
| <b>Rosary</b>                 | <b>6:30 pm</b>                                                                                              |
| <b>Saturday</b>               | <b>5:00 pm Rosary followed<br/>by Divine Mercy Chaplet<br/>5:30 pm Reconciliation<br/>6:00pm Vigil Mass</b> |
| <b>Sunday</b>                 | <b>8:30am &amp; 10:00am Mass</b>                                                                            |
| <b>3rd Sunday</b>             | <b>10:30am Filipino Mass<br/>(at Holy Family Hall)</b>                                                      |

## FRANKSTON WINTER SHELTER

The first 5 weeks are completed and winter has definitely shown up for them. We are averaging 10 guests per night, who greatly appreciate the warmth of the hall, the comfort of being safe and the donations of snacks St. Annes has been able to provide for them. We would like to change the call out for donations to UHT milk, up & go drinks, socks & jocks. This is something we are lacking at the moment.

It is also not too late to volunteer. If you can help cover only one shift, it all helps and is greatly needed, especially as winter takes hold and the volunteers start to succumb to colds & flu. All the information can be found at [www.pencc.org/wintershelter](http://www.pencc.org/wintershelter). *Winter Shelter Coordinator.*



| <b>SEAFORD PARISH PROFILE</b> | <b>YEAR</b> |             |             |             |             |             |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>AUSTRALIAN CENSUS DA-</b>  | <b>1996</b> | <b>2001</b> | <b>2006</b> | <b>2011</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2021</b> |
| Total population              | 35,452      | 36654       | 41689       | 47679       | 51037       | 54332       |
| Catholic population           | 8,729       | 9052        | 9737        | 11280       | 10631       | 9851        |
| % Catholic population         | 25          | 25          | 23          | 24          | 21          | 18          |
| Median age of Catholics       | 31          | 33          | 36          | 37          | 40          | 44          |
| Catholic families             | 3385        | 3503        | 3835        | 4418        | 4257        | 4183        |
| Catholics living alone        | 549         | 827         | 972         | 1137        | 1106        | 1130        |
| Catholics born overseas       | 2224        | 2243        | 2501        | 2917        | 2795        | 2884        |
| Not proficient in English     | 148         | 157         | 183         | 163         | 183         | 165         |
| Needing assistance            | 0           | 0           | 420         | 612         | 721         | 815         |
| Moved since last census       | 2814        | 3142        | 3655        | 4117        | 3506        | 3849        |

## **2026 Parish Census**

Total number of Registered Families - 1062

Thanksgiving Contributing Families - 187

Baptism for 6 months - 42

Funerals for 6 months - 8

Average Head Count - 520  
for the year

## CATHOLICS ENCOURAGED TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES IN THE CENSUS

Australia's national Census will take place on **11 August 2026**, and the Archdiocese of Melbourne is encouraging all Catholics to participate and identify their religious affiliation.

Archbishop Peter A. Comensoli has urged Catholics to **tick the "Catholic" box**, noting that Census data is essential for understanding the size and needs of the Catholic community. The information helps the Church plan pastoral ministry, schools, health care, welfare services, and other ministries, while also informing government decisions on funding and the allocation of resources.

Although the religion question is optional, it has traditionally received a high response rate. In the 2021 Census, more than **five million Australians (20% of the population)** identified as Catholic.

Members of **Eastern Rite Catholic Churches** (such as Syro-Malabar, Chaldean, Ukrainian, Melkite and Maronite Catholics) are encouraged to select **"Other"** and write the name of their specific Catholic tradition (e.g. *Ukrainian Catholic*) so their communities are counted accurately.

By completing the Census and identifying as Catholic, individuals help provide an accurate picture of the Catholic presence in Australia, enabling both the Church and government to better plan and respond to the needs of the community.

## MEETINGS THIS WEEK

|         |                                     |          |                                      |
|---------|-------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| Monday  | 6:00 - 8:00 pm Marian Cenacle Group | Friday   | 6:30 - 7:30 pm MenAlive              |
| Tuesday | 6:00 - 8:00 pm SHAC Meeting         | Saturday | 3:45 - 5:00 pm Senior Legion of Mary |
| Friday  | 5:30 - 6:30 pm Youth Group          |          |                                      |