

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: <https://www.catholicparish.app/sale>

Bishop of Sale, Most Reverend Gregory Bennet. DD

Dean of the Cathedral: Very Reverend Francis Otober, Mobile 0448 529 712

Assistant Priests: Fr Joy Muthappan IVDei, Mobile 0461 560 666

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 Tantaró-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



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A 25 - 26 JULY 2026

Dear Grandparents and elders of our parish,

Today has been set aside to celebrate you, to acknowledge how cherished you are, not just in your biological families, but here in your spiritual family. Today, on behalf of the PPC, I just want to say, thank you for being you and for being there always. Thank God, our dear Bishop Greg, reflecting on the theme proposed by the Holy Father, "I will never forget you" (Isa 49:15), has prepared a passionate video message for you this weekend. Equally, our readings today offer a beautiful lens through which to recognise and honour you. In the first reading (1 Kings 3:5-12), we meet a young King Solomon who is offered anything he desires. He does not ask for long life, riches, or power. Instead, he asks for an understanding heart to discern between good and evil. Solomon understood that without wisdom, all the wealth in the world is meaningless.

When I look at you, our dear grandparents and elders, sitting in our pews today, I see the living answer to Solomon's prayer. You are the keepers of institutional memory and seasoned wisdom in our parish. Through decades of navigating economic shifts, societal changes, triumphs, and grief, you have acquired what money cannot buy: perspective. You have learned, often the hard way, what truly matters in this life.

Jesus, in the Gospel (Matt 13:44-52), describes the Kingdom of Heaven as a treasure hidden in a field and a pearl of great price. In both parables, the discoverer sells everything they have to possess this treasure. For many of us, you (our grandparents) were the very first people who showed us where this treasure was hidden. You did not just tell your children about the faith; you showed them by example how to live it—the rosaries held in weathered hands, the quiet prayers offered at the kitchen table, and the faithfulness of attending Sunday Mass week after week, decade after decade. You made a lot of sacrifices, spent your time, treasure, and talent to build the families and the parish community we enjoy today. Thank you for teaching us that a relationship with Jesus is the ultimate pearl of great price, and you tried your best to pass that "inheritance" down to us, your children, both biological and spiritual.

You bridge the gap between the old and the new. You anchor us to our roots, our sacred traditions, and our history, while lovingly cheering on the younger generations who are navigating a vastly different modern world. You offer a steady presence in an anxious age, reminding us that God has been faithful in the past, and He will be faithful now.

Today, as a parish community, we express our deep gratitude to you. Thank you for your prayers, your sacrifices, and your enduring witness. We pray today that we, the younger generations, may have the wisdom of Solomon to recognise the treasure that you have preserved for us.

For the rest of us, may we cherish our grandparents and elders now that we still have them with us. May we learn from them and carry their legacy of faith forward into the future. May we hug them a little tighter, thank them a little louder, and pray that God fills their hearts with the same overflowing joy they have given to all of us.

Happy Grandparents Day!

Prayer:

Lord God, Almighty Father, You are the source of all life and the author of generations. We praise You today for the gift of our grandparents and elders, who stand as pillars of faith and love in our families and our parish community. Fill their hearts with the joy of Your Holy Spirit.

- Grant them health of mind, body, and spirit, so they may continue to be a source of strength for their loved ones.
- Grant them wisdom, that their words and advice may continue to guide the next generation in the ways of truth.
- Grant them peace, knowing that their lifetime of love, labor, and faith has left an eternal mark on this world.

Lord, bless them in their moments of quiet prayer. Reward them for their sacrifices, comfort them in any loneliness or illness, and let them feel the deep gratitude of the families they have nurtured.

May they see their children's children prosper, and may they one day share in the fullness of Your eternal kingdom, where every tear is wiped away and the true treasure of Your love is revealed forever.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

PARISH CALENDAR

Sun 26 July to 14 Aug: Fr Francis in Nigeria
Wed 29 July 5.30pm: Finance Committee meeting
Sat 1 & Sat 8 Aug 5.30pm: Rosedale—Liturgy of the word with Communion.
Sun 2 August 9.30am: First Sunday Cuppa, led by St Mary's Primary School
Sun 2 & Sun 9 August: Mass at 11.00am Stratford and Briagolong
Thurs 6 - Fri 14 August: Parish office is **only open on Wednesdays** as Clare is on leave.

PARISH NEWS

FINANCE COMMITTEE the next Finance Committee meeting will take place at **5.30pm on Wednesday 29 July** in the Chapter House.

FIRST SUNDAY CUPPA: Next weekend, **Sunday 2 August**, St Mary's Primary School 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. Please bring a plate to share.

FR FRANCIS' LEAVE from **Sunday 26 July** Fr Francis will be heading to Nigeria for his stepmothers funeral. He will return on **Friday 14 August**.

MASS CHANGES DURING FR FRANCIS' LEAVE During the period from 29 July to 14 August there will be changes to Masses. Rosedale at 5.30pm on Saturdays will be Liturgy of the Word with Communion only (**Sat 1 & 8 August**). **Sunday 2 August Mass** at Stratford will be at 11.00am. **Sunday 9 August Mass** at Briagolong will be at 11am. On **Tues 4 & Wed 5 August** there will be no Mass in the Cathedral.

PARISH OFFICE: Clare will be taking a well deserved break from **Thursday 6 August to Friday 14 August**. She will return to work on Tuesday 18 August. **During this period the office will be open on Wednesday's only.**

SUBSCRIBE TO THE PARISH BULLETIN on our website (<https://www.catholicparish.app/sale>) you can now subscribe to our parish bulletin. If you do subscribe please let the office know and I can remove you from our email list (unless you wish to remain on our mailing list).

PARISH MULTICULTURAL AND FEAST DAY will be held on **Sunday 13 September 2026** commencing with 10am Mass. A grand multicultural meal and other activities will follow immediately after Mass. **This will be the only Parish Mass on this day so we would encourage all Parishioners to attend this special event. Our committee are looking for volunteers to assist** with this special day for our Parish. If you can help with the planning or assist on the day please call Clare at the Parish office 5144 4100 or email sale@cdsale.org.au. You can also speak to one of our Priests or to David Erdmann who is on the organising committee for the event. Please refer to the poster on page 3 of the bulletin.

DIOCESAN NEWS

CENSUS 2026: On **Tuesday, 11 August**, Australia will hold its national Census. We encourage everyone in our faith community to actively fill out the optional religion question and stand up for their beliefs. Why it matters: The data collected from the Census is invaluable for pastoral planning. It helps our parishes, schools, dioceses, and social service organisations understand the changing demographics of our regions. This information ensures we can accurately plan for ministry, mission work, and essential community services like healthcare, schooling, and welfare support. No matter how often you are able to attend Mass, your faith is a vital part of who you are. Please make sure you are counted. For more information and to read the full media release from the National Centre for Pastoral Research, please visit: cdsale.org.au/news

MOTHERS WHO PRAY FOR THEIR CHILDREN - Formation Gathering The Mothers Who Pray for Their Children movement warmly invites you to their upcoming Formation Gathering. The theme for this year's gathering is "Eucharist: God's Gift, Encounter with Christ", inspired by our formation book Eucharist: Gift of God, Place of Encounter. The day will include prayer, formation talks, fellowship, and Holy Mass celebrated by Bishop Greg Bennet. Event Details: **Date: Sunday, 16 August 2026**
Time: 8:30 am – 3:45 pm
Venue: St Michael's, Traralgon
Registration: Available via TryBooking

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.

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

6th WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

This year's theme chosen by Pope Leo XIV is "I will never forget you" (Is 49:15), reminding us that God's love is the ultimate answer to isolation and neglect. Celebrated annually on the **fourth Sunday in July—26 July** (near the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne), this day calls us to value the elderly as vital keepers of our history and witnesses to our faith. We are especially encouraged to reach out to those who live alone or are in care homes.



World Day
for Grandparents
and the Elderly
2026

"I will never forget you."

Isaiah 49:15

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR July 2026:

For respect for human life
Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

CATHOLIC CARE VICTORIA APPEAL is held in August. We will be having a leaving collection on **Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 August**. Appeal envelopes will be available in all Parish churches from this weekend. You can donate using the envelopes or by calling 03 9967 2515 or online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:

Planned Giving:	\$765.00
Presbytery:	\$1,253.40
Credit Cards	\$20.00
Direct Debits & Credits:	\$2,700.00
Cathedral EFTpos:	\$320.00

With thanks from a grateful parish.



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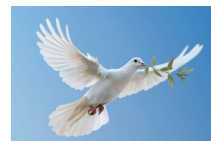
1390 Maffra Road Sale
03 5143 2477
GIPPSLAND
FUNERAL SERVICES

Mass Timetable this week
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A
25 - 26 July 2026

Day/Date	Time	Place
Saturday 25 July	9.30am	Cathedral
	11.00am	Loch Sport
	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Rosedale
Sunday 26 July	9.30am	Briagolong
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
WEEKDAY MASSES		
Monday 27 July	NO	MASS
Tuesday 28 July	9.30am	Cathedral
Wednesday 29 July	9.30am	Cathedral
Thursday 30 July	9.30am	Cathedral
Friday 31 July	10.00am	Cathedral
Benediction & Exposition followed by Mass	11.00am	Cathedral
WEEKEND MASSES		
Saturday 1 August	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Rosedale
<i>Liturgy of the Word with Communion</i>		
Sunday 2 August	11.00am	Stratford
First Sunday Cuppa	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	Saturday 25 July 5.30pm	Sunday 26 July 9.30am	Sunday 5 July 5.30pm
Welcomer	John Dykun	Marie & Nick Centra	Mary Chiller
Commentator	Liz Tabuteau	Mildred Semodio	Please offer
Reader	Sandra Smolenaars	Vince Beer	Faye Flint
Eucharists	Emma M, Claire L	Brenda B, Dr Salle	Len & Lyn Althaus
Eucharist	Jonathan Peckley	Abi Udiano	Please offer
Counters	Sue Harvey & John Dykun		

Cathedral Date & Time	Saturday 1 August 5.30pm	Sunday 2 August 9.30am	Sunday 2 August 5.30pm
Welcomer	Theo Smolenaars	Catherine Mackinnon	Veronica Stewart
Commentator	Brenda Burditt	Xavier Useni-Vowell	Andreena Jolly
Reader	Sandra Smolenaars	Maya Useni-Vowell	Faye Flint
Eucharists	Jonathan P, Theo S	Margaret S, Abi U	Doug & Leny Waite
Eucharist	Carmel Wade	Dr Salle	Len Althaus
Counters	Theo & Sandra Smolenaars		

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday 26 July 9.30am: Juan & Segundina Del Rio, Francisco Snr, Patrocenia & Francisco Aquino Jnr, Mila Villamar (A's); **Thurs 30 July:** Ida Labayos (A)

PLEASE PRAY FOR: We offer prayers for those who died **Ann Neville, Mary Hargreaves** and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Juan & Segundina Del Rio, Francisco Snr, Patrocenia & Francisco Aquino Jnr, Mila Villamar, Ida Labayos, deceased Clergy of the Diocese.** We pray for those who are sick **Priyankara, Chandanie, Jayantha, Mallika, Georgia Jones, Brendan Lee, Helen O'Kane, Wendy Adamo, George, Rochelle, Meraya, Suzanne O'Doherty, Hayden, Shama, Manel, Michelle, Lou, Daniel, 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.**



Multicultural Day

13th September 2026

St Mary's Cathedral | 10:00 AM

Join us this September 13, 2026 for Multicultural Day —
A vibrant celebration of culture, heritage, and unity.

United in Faith



FUN FOOD PERFORMANCES



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:

**God is in his holy place;
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.**

FIRST READING:

A reading from the first book of the Kings 3:5, 7-12

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, I love your commands.

My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold. **(R.)**

Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. **(R.)**

That is why I love your commands more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways. **(R.)**

Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. **(R.)**

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 8:28-30

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 13:44-52

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. 'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.**



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

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

1st Reading: **Isaiah 55:1-3**
2nd Reading: **Romans 8:35, 37-39**
Gospel: **Matthew 14:13-21**

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: Briagolong - 9.30am (2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month)
Please check the bulletin each week for weekday Mass times.