

ST. MARY'S PARISH

LANCEFIELD & ROMSEY

Third Sunday of Advent - Year A

11 December, 2022

Lancefield Church
29 Chauncey Street
Lancefield



Romsey Church
85 Main Street
Romsey



NO CURRENT MASS RESTRICTIONS – ALL WELCOME

	11/12/22	18/12/22	24/12/22	25/12/22
Ministry Roster				
Musician	Agnes	Christine	-----	Agnes
Power Point	<i>Vol. required</i>	Margaret	-----	-----
Reader	Rosemary D	Michael G	Parish children	Michael M
Collector	Barry C	Allan	Tim & Ged	<i>Vol. required</i>
Cleaner	Leanne	Monica	Tam	Tam
Location	Lancefield	Romsey	Lancefield	Lancefield

Could those listed on the roster for 18/12/22 please advise if you are unavailable.

CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:

Please pray also for the following who are in continuing need of our prayers:

Jesse Hogan, Cheryl Horan, Marg Redmond, Rita Shannon, Merle Trembath,
Christine Cheney, Isabelle Fleming, Kath Ireland, Noel Doolan, Vittoria Cafari, Val Carr,
Gwen DeCarolis, John Alford & Michael Grellis.



OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

Fr. Arnold will be celebrating the Mass in the Lancefield Church grounds at
6pm on Saturday 24th December, 2022.

The setting will be simple and family friendly. People are asked to bring their own chairs or picnic rug and be suitably attired and equipped to suit the weather - hats, sunscreen, water, coats etc. Should the weather be wet or very cold, of course, the Mass will need to be moved to the traditional indoor Family Mass in the Church.

Children will be welcome and encouraged to dress in character as part of the Nativity Scene; we hope to see lots of angels, shepherds and even Mary and Joseph among the crowd.

This is the first time our parish has tried an outdoor Family Christmas Eve Mass and we hope that many of our young families will take the opportunity to join in and allow their very excited children to kick the celebrations off with the real meaning of Christmas.

UPCOMING CHRISTMAS MASSES

Saturday 24 December – 6pm – outdoor family Mass – Lancefield – Fr. Arnold

Saturday 24 December – 6pm – indoor family Mass – Woodend – **Fr. Martin**

Saturday 24 December – 10pm Mass (including carols) – Woodend – Fr. Martin

Sunday 25 December – 9am Christmas Day Mass – Lancefield (4th Sunday) – **Fr. Arnold**

Sunday 25 December – 9am Christmas Day Mass – Woodend - Fr. Martin

Parish Priest

Fr Martin Fleming
47 Urquhart Street
PO Box 397
Woodend Vic 3442
Ph: 5427 2690

Parish Secretary

Tammie Dalgleish
C/- Presbytery
27 Chauncey Street
Lancefield Vic 3435
Ph: 5429 2130

Parish Email

lancefield@cam.org.au

Parish Website

<http://pol.org.au/lancefield/Home.aspx>

Secretary Hours

Wednesday & Friday
8:00am – 5:00pm

St Mary's Primary School

Principal - Julie McDougall
T: 5429 1359

office@smlancefield.catholic.edu.au

School Website

www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au

CHILD PROTECTION
is **everyone's** responsibility

Safety of Children and All Vulnerable People

We hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community. The St. Mary's Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy is on display on the church noticeboards or via the parish office.

Diocesan Policies available at
<https://www.melbournecatholic.org>

All children leaving the church during Mass must be accompanied by a parent.

Child Safety Committee

Fr. Martin Fleming
Tammie Dalgleish
Michael Mooney
Monica Tomlinson

The Living Word

Third Sunday of Advent, Year A

11 December 2022

First Reading Is 35:1-6, 10

God himself will come and save us.

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult,
let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,
let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil,
let it rejoice and sing for joy.
The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it,
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;
they shall see the glory of the Lord,
the splendour of our God.
Strengthen all weary hands,
steady all trembling knees
and say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.
'Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.'
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy,
for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.
They will come to Zion shouting for joy,
everlasting joy on their faces;
joy and gladness will go with them
and sorrow and lament be ended.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145:6-10. R. see Is 35:4

(R.) Lord, come and save us.

or

(R.) Alleluia!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. (R.)
3. It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading Jas 5:7-10

You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the

spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;

he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 11:2-11

Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

John was languishing in prison, held captive by the local agent of the Roman Empire. Perhaps he was looking for evidence that Jesus was the One who would throw off Roman despotism. In answer to his questing, Jesus replied that John should rather look at what was happening on the ground in His healing ministry and orientation to the poor. *Those* are the signs that the reign of God has begun.

I admire John the Baptist because he was prepared to seek and accept the answer to the question which was crucial to him, even though the answer might upset his preconceptions. He was a true seeker after Truth.

All our activities as a parish in building community, forming faith, serving the poor, participating in the liturgy, should be undertaken so that a seeker after Truth might see and hear the evidence of the presence and mission of the risen Lord Jesus Christ amongst us.

We could pause for a moment to simply pray in the spirit of Advent: 'Come, Lord Jesus' to satisfy the restlessness of the questing heart.

mtate@bigpond.com

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MYSTERY OF FAITH

Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Fr: Isaiah tells us that our God comes to save us and to put mourning and sorrow to flight. Confident in his sacred Word, we entrust our petitions to our loving God.

R: We pray for the leaders of our church. By their words and deeds, may they be for us beacons of joy and gladness as we await the coming of the Lord.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

R: We pray for the children of our parish schools and their teachers at the close of this academic year. May they be filled with the joy of Christmas and have a safe and refreshing holiday break.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

R: We pray for our faith community. May we all take time out from the frantic pace of this Christmas season to quietly meditate on the significance of Advent.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

R: We pray for our sick family and friends, and for those who have asked for our prayers. We pray for those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Peter Linehan Snr., Lenny Connors, Patrick Connors, Chloe Morse & Margaret Mulvihill.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

All HAIL MARY

Fr: We rejoice in you always, Lord God.

We believe you love the just and protect those who are repressed and needy.

Hear these prayers from your people, who await your saving word,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Collections last week Presbytery \$174 Thanksgiving \$570
1st collection: Presbytery & Priest 2nd collection: Thanksgiving (envelope)

Readings next week Isaiah 7:10-14 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-24

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY ASSISTING REFUGEE STUDENTS

MERCY CONNECT MELBOURNE is currently recruiting volunteers to support Refugee Students and Asylum Seekers in Primary and Secondary schools across the Melbourne Archdiocese.

The volunteer commitment is approximately half a day per week for 4 school terms.

Experience working in an educational setting is preferred but not limited to.

Please contact Sr. Mary Lewis RSM for an application form and further information.

A Training Day for new volunteers with emphasis on Child Safeguarding will take place prior to commencement in 2023.

Email: somml@bigpond.com (preferred for contact) - Tel: 9326 1895



Thank You! Your support of this year's Appeal for World Mission Sunday enables Church workers in 1047 mission dioceses to offer Good News to their local communities. Thank you for contributing to the amount of **\$178** which was raised by **St Mary's** community for Catholic Mission. Our partnership with local churches in over 160 countries is dependent upon the prayerful and financial support of many. Through your contribution, communities in Ethiopia look forward with hope, with easier access to health, educational and spiritual resources. **THANK YOU.**

St. Mary's School "CHRISTMAS RAFFLE" Winners

1st Prize Jo Bey

2nd Prize Claire Simpson

3rd Prize The Marsden Boy's

4th Prize Anna Newnam

5th Prize Odin Tully

Thank you to everyone who supported this raffle.

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

St. Mary's Parish Sunday's at 9:00am

11/12/22 – Lancefield

18/12/22 – Romsey

25/12/22 – Lancefield

01/01/23 – Romsey

08/01/23 – Lancefield

15/01/23 – Romsey

22/01/23 – Lancefield

29/01/23 – Lancefield

HEALING MASS

1st Saturday at 10:00am

07/01/23 – Romsey (tbc)

04/02/23 – Romsey

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

St. Ambrose Parish - Woodend

Saturday 6:00pm

Sunday 11:00am

Wednesday, Thursday

& Friday 9:30am

Baptism

As arranged with the Parish Secretary usually the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month

Marriages

Arranged by appointment with Fr. Martin at least 6 months in advance.

Funerals

Contact Fr. Martin directly.

Reconciliation

By appointment only
Please contact Fr. Martin
5427 2690

Thanksgiving

Any parishioner wishing to join the Thanksgiving program is invited to contact Tammie at the parish office to arrange some Thanksgiving envelopes. Thanksgiving contributions by Direct Debit or Credit Card welcome.

Welcome

St. Mary's Parish community warmly welcomes visitors and new parishioners. We invite new parishioners to introduce yourself to Fr. Martin, fill in a census card located in the church foyer and place in either collection or contact Tammie directly at the parish office.

Volunteering Ministries

A current Working with Children Check is required to volunteer within the parish.

Help is always welcome!

Reader of the Word

Church Cleaning

Gardening

POSITIONS VACANT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified & experienced people for the positions of:

Parish Positions

Pastoral Worker – St Luke's, Lalor

Pastoral Worker – St Andrew's Parish, Werribee

Pastoral Worker – St Clement of Rome Parish, Bulleen

Cleaner – St John the Baptist Parish, Ferntree Gully

Parish Bookkeeper – St Andrew's Parish, Werribee

Cook - Bayside Catholic Mission

Further details of the above positions can be found on the Archdiocese website at: <https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>.

Parishioners are encouraged to forward this information to family or friends they may have living in the areas mentioned.

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR DARRAWEIT GUIM PRIMARY SCHOOL

Darraweit Guim Primary School took a beating.....



If you would like to help this amazing school community get back on its feet so the kids can continue to thrive please consider contributing to this collection.

*Equipment for the sandpit – sturdy quality plastic please
Spades, buckets, cars, dumptruck*

*Picture books – suitable for ages 5-11
New or good condition pre-loved*

Collection baskets will be located at the back of each church throughout December.
All donations very appreciated - Thank you for your kindness.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS & CHRISTMAS CARDS

Now available in both churches

Calendars - \$8

Cards - \$3.50

(packet of 8)

ONLINE SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Volunteers who have not completed the Safeguarding training have not been included on the roster for January – April 2023.

Please contact Tam if you would like some help with this training or if you would like to complete the training as a part of a group.

Email: lancefield@cam.org.au or phone: 5429 2130

TJ Scott & Son Funeral Directors

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**Do you have foot
problems?**



Andrew Baddeley | Podiatrist

ROMSEY | 5429 5254 | 99 Main St

RIDDELLS CREEK | 5428 7591 | 9 Station St

CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2022

Advent Reconciliation

Wednesday 14th December – 7:00 p.m. Lancefield Church

Wednesday 21st December – 7:30 p.m. Woodend Church

Christmas Outdoor Family Mass

Saturday 24th December – 6:00p.m. Lancefield Church Grounds

Where: Lancefield Church grounds between church & presbytery.

Bring: Chair or picnic rug, sun protection, drink.

Wear: Appropriate clothing to suit the weather.

Costume: Everyone is encouraged to dress as a character from the Nativity scene. Angels, shepherds, sheep ☺, Mary or Joseph.



Christmas Indoor Family Mass

Saturday 24th December – 6:00p.m. Woodend Church

Christmas Vigil Mass

Saturday 24th December – 9:00p.m. Woodend Church - Carols

Saturday 24th December – 10:00p.m. Woodend Church - Mass

Christmas Day Mass

Sunday 25th December – 9:00 a.m. Lancefield Church (4th Sunday)

Christmas Day Mass

Sunday 25th December – 9:00am Woodend Church

A HUGE SHOUT OUT TO RBATA

for the amazing work they do all year round promoting our towns and small business' but especially at Christmas time! It is very much a team effort but special mention must go to *Jenny Stillman* for her tireless work and her efforts co-ordinating the "light up the town" project. Another year of making our church look amazing!

