

ST. MARY'S PARISH

LANCEFIELD & ROMSEY

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year A

18 December, 2022

Lancefield Church
29 Chauncey Street
Lancefield



Romsey Church
85 Main Street
Romsey



NO CURRENT MASS RESTRICTIONS – ALL WELCOME

Ministry Roster	18/12/22	24/12/22	25/12/22	01/01/2023
Musician	Christine	-----	Agnes	Christine
Power Point	Margaret	-----	-----	Margaret
Reader	Michael G	Parish children	Michael M	TBC
Collector	Allan	Tim & Ged	<i>Vol. required</i>	TBC
Cleaner	Monica	Tam	Tam	TBC
Location	Romsey	Lancefield	Lancefield	Romsey

Could those listed on the roster for 25/12/22 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

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year A

18 December 2022

First Reading Is 7:10-14

The virgin will conceive.

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David:

are you not satisfied with trying the
patience of men

without trying the patience of my God, too?

The Lord himself, therefore,

will give you a sign.

It is this: the maiden is with child

and will soon give birth to a son

whom she will call Immanuel,

a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 23:1-6. R. see vv 7. 10

**(R.) Let the Lord enter;
he is king of glory.**

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. (R.)
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the
Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure
heart,
who desires not worthless things. (R.)
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 1:1-7

Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead.

Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 1:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;

his name will be Emmanuel:

God is with us.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 1:18-24

Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to
a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Joseph could not ignore Mary's pregnancy, but he had an exceptional large-heartedness, so that he preserved a future for Mary even though she had apparently wronged him.

If he had gone to sleep in a frame of mind to avenge his honour, he would not have been ready to have the deepest levels of his consciousness stirred in the way God wanted. In the deep sleep of a just and good man, Joseph was enlightened as to the divine dimension of Mary's pregnancy. The old cycle of human history, literally generation after generation, was being broken. Something utterly new had happened.

You and I are just as likely to receive an intuition as to God's plan for us in the depths of sleep: who we really are, who we are destined to be, where we fit in to God's plan for transforming the whole of creation. When we get these instructive moments in our sleep, what can we do when we wake up? We can do what Joseph did: get up and do what is needed to fulfil the message.

We could pause for a moment to thank Joseph for showing what dreams can be made of. Tonight might be the night!

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:** God is with us. Therefore, like Mary ever-virgin, let us pray with faith and confidence, opening wide our hearts to all humans in need.
- R:** That the church may ever provide pastoral care for people on different pilgrimages of faith.
- We pray to the Lord.** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- R:** That Christmas may bring a lasting peace among nations, especially those involved in conflict.
- We pray to the Lord.** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- R:** That amidst the feasting and exchange of gifts, we will not forget the poor.
- 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.
- We pray to the Lord.** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- All HAIL MARY**
- Fr:** Come, Lord God,
in the power of your love.
Through our prayers for others,
remove any obstacle preventing us from going to meet Jesus our Lord,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
- Amen**

Collections last week Presbytery \$184 Thanksgiving \$940
1st collection: Presbytery & Priest 2nd collection: Thanksgiving (envelope)

Readings next week Isaiah 9:1-7 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14

REFURBISHMENT OF SACRISTY AT ROMSEY & LANCEFIELD CHURCHES

Over the last two years an extensive repairs and maintenance program has been undertaken to the Romsey and Lancefield Churches. We are most grateful to those who left legacies to the parish; some for specific purposes and some at the parish discretion and to those who donated their time to managing and leading the projects through this time.

Fr. Martin is most grateful for the works carried out and has indicated that the sacristies at both churches are in need of some basic refurbishment. The works would involve some cabinetry works and the installation of a sink, bench and small hot water service to enhance the functionality of that area of the church.

The foundation of the projects has been to ensure the long term structural stability of the churches in our region. So, whilst individually we may not use the churches on a regular basis, it is most important that they be well maintained so that we can enjoy their privilege for special life events starting with baptism's through to weddings and funerals for loved ones.

If there is anybody from the parish, school or local community who would be interested in quoting the job please contact Tim McCarthy who can show you the basic plan and discuss any details.

Mob: 0403 036 654 or via email: tim@sagegroup.com.au

St. Mary's School Raffle Winners

	1 st Prize	Jo Bey		
2 nd Prize	Claire Simpson	3 rd Prize	The Marsden Boys	
4 th Prize	Anna Newnham	5 th Prize	Odin Tully	

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

The Parish of Ivanhoe has a couple of vacancies for its Parish Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 11th – 28th April 2023.

If you are interested please visit their Parish Website
www.melbatholic.org/ivanhoe and click on the News Page
or phone Fr. Bill Edebohls, Ivanhoe Parish Priest on 0427 879 733.

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

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

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
05/02/23 – Romsey

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

Parish Bookkeeper – St Andrew's Parish, Werribee
Pastoral Worker – St Andrew's Parish, Werribee
Pastoral Worker – St Clement of Rome Parish, Bulleen

Cleaner – St John the Baptist Parish, Ferntree Gully
Parish Secretary – St Christopher's Parish, Syndal
Youth Pastoral Worker - St Christopher's Parish, Syndal

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.

Join our Heart of Life Team:

Is Social Media Your Thing? Applications are invited for an individual to look after our social media content and assist in sharing news about Heart of Life and its programs. We seek a person who enjoys social media and can help to engage with our community to spark what may begin or continue the 'opening' process of being on earth the heart of God. The role is part-time – approx. one day per week - and is a volunteer role, at least initially. Please apply by 31/12/22 with a view to commencing in Feb 2023.

General Admin Assistant. Applications are invited to support the growing team at Heart of Life where we are dedicated to supporting those who wish to deepen their spiritual journey. The position is part-time - one day per week (Mondays) during school terms - involving general office duties and providing some support with Zoom. It is a volunteer role with petrol/transport expenses paid. Please apply by 6/1/23 with a view to commencing in Feb 2023.

Position descriptions for the above and more information available from:
info@heartoflife.melbourne or Ph: 9890 1101.
Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, Malvern

COLUMBAN CALENDARS & CHRISTMAS CARDS

Now available in both
churches

Calendars - \$8

Cards - \$3.50
(packet of 8)

ONLINE SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Thank you to everyone completing
the Safeguarding training.

The next step in the process is to
sign the Volunteer Code of
Conduct which many of you did at
Mass last week.

To those who missed out, the
Declarations will be at Mass on
Sunday in Romsey.

THANK YOU

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR DARRAWEIT GUIM PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thank you to all those who contributed books and games for the children of
Darraweit Guim Primary School.

Donations can still be made to the back of the churches or to the Presbytery during
December and delivery will be made to the school in the New Year.

TJ Scott & Son Funeral Directors

Kyneton 54226455 Gisborne 54284155 *75 years of care*
Lancefield & Romsey

Now also at 23 Sydney Street, Kilmore 57821112

Our family helping yours, when you need it most – John, Kelly, Jack & Daniel Scott



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Director – Tim McCarthy
0403 036 654 or tim@sagegroup.com.au



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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 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