

ST. MARY'S PARISH

LANCEFIELD & ROMSEY

The Nativity of the Lord - Year A

25 December, 2022

First Reading Is 9:1-7

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light;
on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone.
You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase;
they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time.

For there is a child born for us, a son given to us,
and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him:
Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace.

Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power,
which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity.
From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 95:1-3. 11-13. R. Luke 2:11

(R.) Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
O sing to the Lord, bless his name. *(R.)*
2. Proclaim his help day by day,
tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples. *(R.)*
3. Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,
let the land and all it bears rejoice.
4. All the trees of the wood shout for joy
at the presence of the Lord for he comes,
he comes to rule the earth.
With justice he will rule the world. *(R.)*



Parish Priest

Fr Martin Fleming
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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

Second Reading - Titus 2:11-14

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Good news and great joy to all the world:
today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel - Luke 2:1-14

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

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: Today we celebrate the light of God come into the world.

We pray that this light will bring peace, healing and justice to our world.

R: Lord, we welcome to our church today our many visitors, particularly those who are visiting their families for Christmas and those we have not seen for some time. We assure them that they are always welcome here in your Church and pray that you will bless them in their lives in the year ahead.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

R: We pray for those who through travel, illness or other personal reasons are separated from family or homeland this Christmas, that God's comforting and strengthening love will sustain them.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

R: We think of those who are suffering this Christmas through homelessness, violence, illness, loneliness, poverty, war or natural disaster. We pray that through the help, concern and generosity of others, they may be helped out of their difficulties and experience less troubled times in the New Year.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

R: At this time of joy and celebration we think of those in our community who have lost loved ones in the last year.

May they find comfort in the goodness of the Father who sent his only Beloved Son onto this earth to show his love for us and to earn us redemption.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

R: As we celebrate the birth of Christ our Saviour we pray to the Lord that, under the guidance of Pope Francis, we can see a rebirth in our church and that the Holy Spirit will lead our bishops, clergy and laity in the way of love, truth, generosity and justice and the care of the poor.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

R: Let us pray for the whole world and especially for our own country, that this Christmas we may see more clearly that peace comes through love, forgiveness and reconciliation.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

R: We pray for those in our parish who are ill, especially Jesse Hogan, Cheryl Horan, Margaret Redmond, Rita Shannon, Merle Trembath, Christine Cheney, Isabelle Fleming, Kath Ireland, Noel Doolan, Vittoria Cafari, Val Carr, Gwen DeCarolis, John Alford & Michael Grellis. We pray for those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May their family and friends be comforted in the knowledge that they now share in the banquet of heaven promised to them.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

All

ST MARY'S PARISH PRAYER

Loving Mother Mary, we pray that we may be a people who say
"Yes" to life...

A people of faith, hope and love.

Strengthen our commitment to Christ your Son. May we respect the dignity of each person and bring His
love to all we meet.

May our Parish be a welcoming, supportive community,
where all can feel at home.

Help us to follow your wonderful example of faithful love and service
by generously weaving our own gifts into the tapestry of our Parish life.

AMEN.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Fr: Loving Father,
receive these prayers that come to you today, as we celebrate the birth of your Son.
Bless and strengthen us, through Christ, our Lord.

Amen



Lancefield Church
29 Chauncey Street
Lancefield



Romsey Church
85 Main Street
Romsey



NO CURRENT MASS RESTRICTIONS – ALL WELCOME

Ministry Roster	24/12/22	25/12/22	01/01/2023	07/01/23
Musician	-----	Agnes	Christine	-----
Power Point	-----	-----	Margaret	-----
Reader	Parish children	Michael M	Michael G	Anne B
Collector	Tim & Ged	<i>Vol. required</i>	Rob B	-----
Cleaner	Chris & Anne	-----	Loretta C	-----
Location	Lancefield	Lancefield	Romsey	Romsey

Could those listed on the roster for January 1st or 7th please advise if you are unavailable.

**THANK YOU TO FR. ARNOLD FOR CELEBRATING MASS WITH US
THIS CHRISTMAS**

UPCOMING CHRISTMAS MASSES

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

Collections last week Presbytery \$228 Thanksgiving \$268
 1st collection: Presbytery & Priest 2nd collection: Thanksgiving (envelope)

Readings next week Numbers 6:22-27 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:16-21

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

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 Dagleish
Michael Mooney
Monica Tomlinson

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

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

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
04/02/23 – Romsey

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.

