ST. MARY'S PARISH

LANCEFIELD & ROMSEY

Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year A

26th March, 2023

Lancefield Church 29 Chauncey Street Lancefield





Romsey Church 85 Main Street Romsey



NO CURRENT MASS RESTRICTIONS – ALL WELCOME

Ministry Roster 26/03/23 01/04/23 02/04/23 HOLY WEEK Musician Agnes As Fr. Martin Christine **EASTER Power Point** Vol. required will be at the Margaret VOLUNTEERS Reader Rosemary D Chrism Mass Leanne REQUIRED Collector Joe L there will be Vol required Please contact Cleaner Eva no Healing Loretta Tam if you are Location Lancefield Mass in April Romsey able to help

Could those listed on the roster 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 Grelis.

EASTER RAFFLE

Raffle to be drawn after 9am Mass in Romsey Sunday April 2nd

Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5

 1^{st} Prize - \$300 cash 2^{nd} Prize - \$100 cash 3^{rd} Prize - Easter gift pack 4^{th} Prize - Easter gift pack

Please return raffle tickets for next weeks' draw.

Special Collection through Lent - Caritas - Project Compassion

22 February – 8 April

Mite boxes and Collection envelopes are now available in both churches.

PRAYER

We give thanks for all the people who fill our lives with love. We pray for all those who do not feel loved, especially those yet to appreciate the depth of God's love. May our support for Project Compassion be a sign to others of the love of God for all people.

EASTER MASSES

Fr. Arnold will join us to celebrate Easter Masses this year.

Wed March 29th - 7pm - Lenten Reconciliation – Romsey

Wed April 5th – 7:30pm – Lenten Reconciliation – Woodend

Both Lenten Reconciliation Services will be with Fr. Martin

Thur April 6th – 7pm Holy Thursday – Romsey Frid April 7th – 3pm Passion of the Lord – Romsey Sat April 8th – 7pm Easter Vigil – Lancefield Sun April 9th – 9am Easter Sunday Mass – Lancefield

Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday Masses with Fr. Arnold

HELP REQUIRED AT ALL EASTER SERVICES, PLEASE EMAIL YOUR AVAILABILITY TO TAM FOR ROSTERS TO BE ARRANGED.

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

Fifth Sunday of Lent Year: Alternate Readings, Year A

26 March 2023

First Reading Ez 37:12-14

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 129. R. v.7

(R.) With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption

- Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice!
 O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading. (R.)
- If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?
 But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you. (R.)
- My soul is waiting for the Lord,
 I count on his word.
 My soul is longing for the Lord
 more than watchman for daybreak.
 (Let the watchman count on daybreak
 and Israel on the Lord.) (R.)
- Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:8-11

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies.

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Gospel Acclamation See Jn 11:25, 26

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.

Gospel Jn 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33-45 or longer form Jn 11:1-45

I am the resurrection and the life.

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live,

and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak

for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

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Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

This Gospel tells us that Our Lord was moved with compassion in an almost violent way, raging against the seeming finality of death. The raising of Lazarus was a demonstration of his power to rob death of its supposed supremacy.

But, Our Lord did not set Lazarus completely free! You may think that to be raised from the dead was not a bad start, but Lazarus was still shuffling: bound, constrained, constricted by the past. To those gathered around the tomb Jesus issued the command: 'Set him free, unbind him.' It was the collective effort of others which enabled Lazarus to walk as a liberated son of God.

You may find yourself commanded by the Lord to help unbind a person who has had a deadening experience which has drained them of life. We get the courage to respond because it is the command of the One who definitively conquered death.

We could pause for a moment to resolve to help liberate others already helped by the grace of Him whom we believe to be the Resurrection and the Life.

mtate@bigpond.com

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: The power of God was manifest in all that Jesus said and did. Through the Spirit of Jesus, we open our hearts in prayer.

R: We pray for Pope Francis and all church leaders as they reach out for the needy of the world. May their call be answered with heartfelt generosity.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

R: We pray that we, like Lazarus, Mary and Martha, will live in the knowledge that we truly are friends of Jesus.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

R: We pray for our faith community during this Lenten season.

May we open our hearts in reconciliation with all those we have offended.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

R: We pray for all countries that have been affected by natural disasters in recent time. May they feel our strength as they rebuild their lives and begin to recover.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

R: We pray for the sick members of our parish 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 James & Catherine McCarthy. May God welcome them into the eternal kingdom.

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

All HAIL MARY

Fr: God of righteousness, her our prayers, for we believe that with you is redemption through Jesus Christ, our Resurrection and our Life.

Amen

Collections last week Presbytery \$306 Thanksgiving \$310

1st collection: Presbytery & Priest 2nd collection: Thanksgiving (envelope)

Readings next week Matthew 21:1-11 Isaiah 50:4-7 Philippians 2:6-11 Matthew 26:14-27, 66

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Please join us at the Romsey Church each Friday leading into Lent at 3pm.

All welcome

CHRISM MASS - ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

Saturday April 1st, 2023 - 10am to 12noon

Archbishop Peter Comensoli has extended an invitation to all parishioners to attend this years' Chrism Mass.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Tam and car pooling may be arranged.

GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF WITNESS / STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Uniting, Anglican and Catholic Churches of Lancefield & Romsey will again be participating in the "Way of the Cross" this year on Good Friday.

The walk will start at 10:30am at the Romsey Uniting Church.

The endeavour is to make the stops accessible to those who may require to be driven around.



WEEKLY MASS TIMES

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

26/03/23 – Lancefield

02/04/23 - Romsev

09/04/23 – Lancefield

16/04/23 - Romsey

23/04/23 – Lancefield

30/04/23 – Lancefield

HEALING MASS

1st Saturday at 10:00am No Healing Mass in April

06/05/23 - 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

EASTER SERVICES – VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Ministry Roster 06/04/23 07/04/23 08/04/23 09/04/23

Holy Thursday Passion Vigil Easter Sunday

MusicianAgnesEileenRosalieAgnesReaderJudith

Reader Collector

Location Romsey Romsey Lancefield Lancefield

Please contact Tam at the office if you are available to help at any of the Easter services. Ministries needed listed above. Holy Thursday – please come forward for feet washing when asked by Fr. Arnold.

Thank you for your help.

POSITIONS VACANT

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

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

- Retail Shop Assistant St Patricks Cathedral Shop
- Discipleship Specialist Marriage and Family Accompaniment
- Executive Support Officer
- Senior Creatives Officer

Catholic Development Fund

- Finance, Risk & Administration Officer
- Data Analyst
- Senior Data Engineer

Other Positions

Digital Marketing and Fundraising Contractor - Carmel Impact

Maintenance Officer - Corpus Christi

Parish Positions

Cleaner

- Parish Secretary St Dominic's Parish, Melton
- Pastoral Worker –St Peter and Paul's Parish, Doncaster East
- Parish Administrative Coordinator St Patrick's and St Kevin's Parishes, Murrumbeena

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.

✓ Superannuation & SMSF Services

- ✓ Wealth Management & Investment Plans
- ✓ Business Planning, Taxation & Growth Strategies

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



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ROMSEY | 5429 5254 | 99 Main St RIDDELLS CREEK | 5428 7591 | 9 Station St

CHALLENGING SLAVERY AT EASTER

Each Easter, Millions of Australians will enjoy a chocolate egg, but few consider the dark reality of exploitation that lurks within its supply chains.

"Every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral – and not simply an economic – act."

Pope Francis Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans(ACRATH) this year is encouraging Australians to join the campaign for Slavery Free Easter eggs and Chocolate.

To find more information on this topic and how you can help please go to website

acrath.org.au/take-action/chocolate/