

ST. MARY'S PARISH

LANCEFIELD & ROMSEY

Second Sunday of Advent - Year B

10th December, 2023

Lancefield Church
27 Chauncey Street
Lancefield



Romsey Church
85 Main Street
Romsey



EVERYONE WELCOME

Ministry Roster	10/12/23	17/12/23	24/12/23	24/12/23
Musician	Agnes	Christine	Agnes	-----
Reader	Michael M	Anne B	Eileen	Parish children
Collector	Joe	Tim	Vol. required	McCarthy family
Cleaner	Eva	Monica	Vol. required	-----
Location	Lancefield	Romsey	LF 4th of Advent	LF outdoor 6pm

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:
Merle Trembath, Christine Cheney, Isabelle Fleming, Kath Ireland, Val Carr,
Gwen DeCarolis, John Alford, Brendan Coburn & Isla Foy.

St. Mary's Church Romsey will celebrate **100 years** in September 2024!
Centenary of Romsey Church.

Please forward celebration idea's by email to lancefield@cam.org.au



ST. MARY'S PARISH – 2023 CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

RAFFLE WILL BE DRAWN AT MASS ON 17/12/23

1ST PRIZE - \$300 CASH

2ND PRIZE - \$50 CASH

3RD PRIZE – CHRISTMAS CAKE

Please support our parish raffle.

Please return ticket stubs and raffle money either this week or prior to the start of Mass at Romsey on the 17th. Thank you for your support.

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC

To keep up to date with news happening in our Archdiocese, visit:
<https://melbournecatholic.org>

ADVENT RECONCILIATION

Wednesday 13th of December
7pm – Lancefield Church

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

Second Sunday of Advent, Year B

10 December 2023

First Reading Is 40:1-5, 9-11

Prepare the way for the Lord.

'Console my people, console them' says your God.
'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.'
A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.
Make a straight highway for our God across the desert.
Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley;
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'
Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion.
Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem.
Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.'
Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

(R.) *Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.*

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. (R.)
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. (R.)
3. The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

Second Reading 2 Pt 3:8-14

We wait for new heavens and a new earth.

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 3:4. 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:

all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 1:1-8

Make straight the paths of the Lord.

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;

he will prepare your way.

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,

make his paths straight,

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

John immersed, baptised, his followers in water, symbolising the washing away of the sins of the past. But he could not empower people by drenching them in the dynamic life of God. John anticipates 'Someone' (not named!) who *does* have the power to inundate, baptise, people with the Holy Spirit.

From the heading of St Mark's Gospel, we know that that 'Someone' is 'Jesus Christ, Son of God' who came to flood our lives with that Divine Power which can effect a completely new *future* for humanity.

That is why St Mark took the term 'gospel' (good news) which was used on inscriptions announcing an Emperor's birth or victory, and used it to describe his inspired rendering of the mission of Jesus Christ, which was to inaugurate the 'Kingdom of God', overcoming the pretensions of all Emperors of any kind throughout history.

We could pause for a moment to thank God for the Good News of our being baptised with water in the 'Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.'

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:** The coming of our Redeemer was foretold by the prophets. By preaching repentance from sins, John the Baptist heralded his appearance. In the spirit of penance, let us seek God's help through our prayers.
- R:** That the holy Church may reveal the glory of the Lord for all peoples to see.
We pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- R:** That Christian leaders may work for justice and peace.
We pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- R:** That all those in St. Mary's community who endure suffering, rejection or loneliness may find the fullness of peace in the coming of our Saviour.
We pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- R:** That others may see the patience of God in the way we treat them.
We pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- R:** We pray for the Year 6 students at St. Mary's School along with Lancefield Primary and Romsey Primary students who are celebrating their Graduations at this time. We wish them every happiness and success in their future endeavours and thank our wonderful school staff who have cared for them during their Primary school years.
We pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- R:** We pray for William who will be Baptised in our parish this weekend and for Alannah who will be Confirmed. One of you is beginning your faith journey and the other is now a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church. Know that we are here to help and support you and we pray you feel God's presence as you navigate through life.
We pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- R:** We pray for the sick members of our parish, especially Rhonda Cusack, Fran Cassidy and Susan Brady and for those who care for them. We pray for the recently deceased, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Lenny Connors and Patrick Connors
We pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

All HAIL MARY

- Fr:** Most loving Father,
look upon the needs of your people and grant our petitions,
as we prepare a way for your son, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen**

Collections last week Presbytery \$287 Thanksgiving \$711
1st collection: Presbytery & Priest 2nd collection: Thanksgiving (envelope)

Readings next week Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28

MRSC - Aged Care Volunteer Visitors Scheme - volunteer opportunities

Volunteers visit the older person in their home or residential aged care home, for approx. an hour a week or fortnight, at a time that suits both the volunteer and the person receiving aged care services. Council provides training and support to ensure all our volunteers can confidently participate in their role.

Our ACVVS team is receiving active referrals for older persons residing in local aged care centres, and we would like to match a volunteer who has some experience and similar interest.

For more information or to APPLY to Volunteer with the Aged Care Volunteer Visitors Scheme you can find on our website mrsc.vic.gov.au/ACVVS or email VolunteerVisiting@mrsc.vic.gov.au or phone (03) 5422 0333.

UPCOMING CHRISTMAS MASSES

Wednesday 13th December – 7pm – Advent Reconciliation - Lancefield

Wednesday 20th December – 7:30pm – Advent Reconciliation – Woodend

Sunday 24th December – 9am – Fourth Sunday of Advent - Lancefield

Sunday 24 December – 6pm – outdoor family Mass – Lancefield

Sunday 24 December – 6pm – indoor family Mass – Woodend

Sunday 24 December – 10pm Mass (including carols) – Woodend

Monday 25 December – 9am Christmas Day Mass – Romsey

Monday 25 December – 9am Christmas Day Mass – Woodend

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

St. Mary's Parish

Sunday's at 9:00am

10/12/23 – Lancefield

17/12/23 – Romsey

24/12/23 – Lancefield

31/12/23 – Lancefield

07/01/24 – Romsey

10/01/24 - Lancefield

HEALING MASS

1st Saturday at 10:00am

No Healing Mass January 2024

03/02/23 – Romsey

02/03/23 – 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!

Power Point operator at Mass
Reader of the Word
Church Cleaning & Gardening

OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

Following such positive feedback from last year, Fr. Arnold will again be celebrating the Christmas Eve Family Mass in the Lancefield Church grounds at

6pm on Sunday 24th December, 2023.

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 into the Church.

Children are 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. Children will be heavily involved in the Mass.

While it will be a relaxed atmosphere, to ensure safety, the entrance to the west end of the church will be blocked off, children will not be permitted to climb on their favourite climbing tree and no cars will be permitted in the Church grounds.

POSITIONS VACANT

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

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

- Chief Advisor
- Creatives Officer, Parental Leave Contract

Parish Positions

- Finance Administrator - St Simon's Parish, Rowville
- Pastoral Worker - St Judes and St Simons Parish, Scoresby and Rowville
- Parish Secretary- St Christopher's Parish, Syndal
- Pastoral Worker – St Andrew's Parish, Clayton South

Other Positions

- Marketing & Engagement Manager, Newman College

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

Please forward this information to family or friends you may have living in the areas mentioned.

2024 Volunteer rosters

In line with 'The Way of the Gospel', Archbishop Comensoli is requiring all parishes to have people involved in all aspects of parish life. Many people have gifts and talents that combined together can allow a parish to run better.

Moving forward there will be opportunity to be involved in new ministries to allow our parish to grow and thrive.

If you would like to join the volunteer team at the parish, please contact Tam to arrange. Ministries include: Reader of the Word, Church Cleaning, Music, Gardening, PowerPoint operator for Sunday Mass, Welcome Team, Special Minister.

A reminder that all volunteers require a valid Working with Children Check.



**TOBIN BROTHERS
FUNERALS**

Cnr Brook & Barkly
Streets
Sunbury

*Leaders in
Service and Care*

Tel: 9740 9500

(INCORPORATING
O'CONNOR FUNERALS)

ROSTERS

If you know of any travel plans for January to June 2024, please let Tam know so she can roster you accordingly.



ROMSEY
VIC 3434

find us on facebook
and
instagram

Joel Caspersz
Cabinet Maker

0425 854 370

joel@measuredjoinery.com.au
admin@measuredjoinery.com.au

PRIEST & PRESBYTERY BY DIRECT DEBIT

Anyone not already contributing to the Priest & Presbytery expenses who would like to contribute may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Mary's Presbytery Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 64151 8467

Please use your surname as the reference.

- ✓ 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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THANKSGIVING BY DIRECT DEBIT

Anyone not already on the Thanksgiving Program who would like to contribute to the Church may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Mary's Church Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 64150 3257

Please use your surname and TG number as the reference.

**Do you have foot
problems?**



Andrew Baddeley | Podiatrist

ROMSEY | 5429 5254 | 99 Main St

RIDDELLS CREEK | 5428 7591 | 9 Station St