

ST. MARY'S PARISH

LANCEFIELD & ROMSEY

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year B

24th December, 2023

Lancefield Church
27 Chauncey Street
Lancefield



Romsey Church
85 Main Street
Romsey



EVERYONE WELCOME

Ministry Roster	24/12/23	24/12/23	25/12/23	31/12/23
Musician	Rosalie	-----	Agnes	Rosalie
Reader	Eileen	Parish children	Michael G	Rosemary D
Collector	Vol. required	McCarthy family	Vol. required	Ged
Cleaner	Vol. required	-----	Vol. required	Florence
Location	LF 4th of Advent	LF family 6pm	Romsey 9am	Lancefield

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:

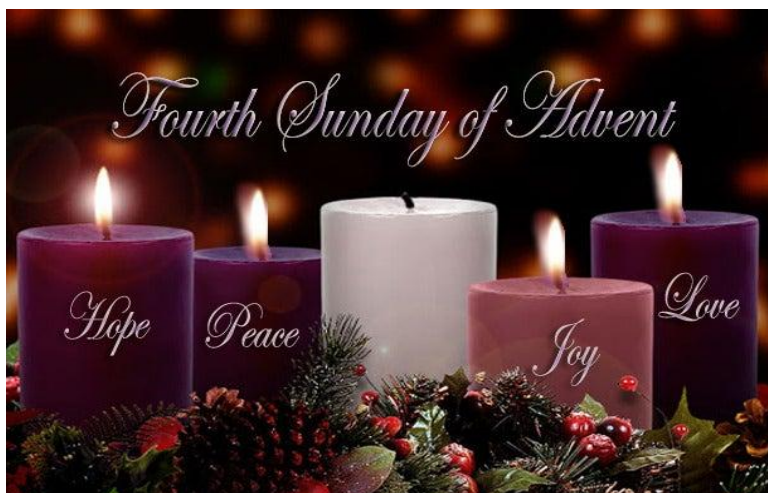
Merle Trembath, Christine Cheney, Isabelle Fleming, Kath Ireland, Val Carr,

Gwen DeCaroli, John Alford, Brendan Coburn, Isla Foy, Rhonda Cusack & Fran Cassidy.

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

WINNERS

1ST PRIZE - \$300 CASH – ANNE ALFORD

2ND PRIZE - \$50 CASH – ROBERT BARRY

3RD PRIZE – CHRISTMAS CAKE – SHANAHAN GRANDCHILDREN

Thank you to everyone who supported our parish raffle

either by purchasing a ticket or donating a prize.

An amazing total of \$1200 was raised.

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 B

24 December 2023

First Reading 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent'. Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 88:2-5, 27, 29. R. see v.2

(R.) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. (R.)
2. 'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever
and set up your throne through all ages.' (R.)
3. He will say to me: 'You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me.'
I will keep my love for him always;
or him my covenant shall endure. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 16:25-27

The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom: give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

*I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.
Alleluia!*

Gospel Lk 1:26-38

You will conceive and bear a son.

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

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Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

St Luke's account of the Annunciation draws on the Jewish tradition describing creation: 'There was darkness over the deep and God's Spirit hovered over the water. God said: "Let there be light", and there was light.' (Genesis 1:2-3) St Luke depicts Mary hearing in the depths of her soul: 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow.'

The Holy Spirit hovers over this young Jewish woman so that the most stupendously creative act in human history can take place. With her consent, God assumes human nature to be gradually enfleshed, embodied, in Mary's womb.

A naturally bewildered young woman was able to respond to God's will because she understood the imagery and the symbolism of the Genesis Story. We, in turn, need to read the Gospels in all their Jewishness so that we can understand when God's Holy Spirit hovers over our lives, asking us to fulfil some particular role in the Divine Plan.

We could pause for a moment to ask whether *now* is the time for a Marian response: 'Be it done unto me according to your word.'

mtate@bigpond.com

Use the words below to find out what the angel Gabriel and the Blessed Virgin Mary are saying to each other.

 favoured one!
 The _____ is with you.
 Don't be _____!
 God is _____
 with you. You shall
 have a _____ and his
 name will be _____.



I am the


 of the Lord!
 Let this

 as you
 have said.

Jesus afraid happen servant Lord Greetings pleased son

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

Tel: 9740 9500

Leaders in Service and Care

(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.



MEASURED JOINERY

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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TJ Scott & Son Funeral Directors

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75 years of care Lancefield & Romsey

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

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