

THE EASTER EVENT

This year the Easter Event (organised by the Strathmore Inter Church Council) will take place at the Strathmore Uniting Church from Monday 16th March to Thursday 19th March. Children from local schools arrive at the venue by bus and over the course of 60 minutes the story of Easter is explained to them. Our parish contribution is a 15 minute drama of the Passion of Christ, which is repeated five times per day. We need volunteers to play the parts of Jesus' followers in a narrated performance. All costumes are supplied. Please consider this event as a great opportunity for our parish to be involved in the community while spreading the real story of Easter. We also need volunteers for other aspects of the event, including baking and serving of drinks. If you wish to contribute to this community event, please place your name on the corresponding sheet(s) in the East porch of the Church. Further information is available from Alma Henshall 9379 1047.

THEOLOGY AT THE PUB: 'A LIFE OF WINE AND WITNESS'

6.30pm, Monday 2 March 2015 Pumphouse Hotel, 128 Nicholson Street Fitzroy 18-35 year-olds are invited to hear Tim Kirk, 2013 Winemaker of the Year and Coordinator of the International Council of the Disciples of Jesus, give witness about his journey towards becoming one of Australia's most acclaimed winemakers. Priests, deacons and religious of all ages welcome Contact: Neil on 0409 171 459 or Collin 0438 643 070

ST VINCENT DE PAUL PLAYFROUP

Please join us on Thursdays between 9.00am and 11.00am in the Parish Centre for play, fun and conversation. For further details contact Fiona McIl-downey 0411 061 978 or just come along.

FRIDAY MORNING TEA

Come and share, every Friday morning in the Parish Centre after the 10.00 am Mass.

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME:

If you are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion please contact the Parish Office on 9379 1488 to be placed on our roster. Also, if you would like to attend Mass on Sunday but cannot do so due to lack of transport we can arrange it for you.

St. Vincent de Paul Parish Prayer

Loving God, through St Vincent de Paul, we seek your guidance and constant protection, for our parish community.

Gathered together as your people, we come as we are, to live out the Gospel message, in a faithfilled, welcoming and caring community.

Grant us your help in our weakness, that we may proclaim to all, your abundant goodness.

We praise and thank you for your gifts given freely, to share with one another.

May we never lose faith in you and always strive to live, in a spirit of strength and gentleness.

On our journey, may we be an example of your love, to those we meet.

Loving God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
may you always watch over us in all we do.

Amen

INDOOR BOWLS EVERY FRIDAY:

Please join us for Indoor Bowls at the Parish Centre every Friday afternoon from 1.30 pm. All welcome, equipment provided.

CRAFT GROUP

Interested in craft and great conversation? Everyone welcome on the first Wednesday of every month from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm, come along and learn a new skill in the Parish Centre. Further details available from Christine Gregory on 9379 5497.



St Vincent de Paul Press

21st & 22nd February 2015

First Sunday of Lent

The Weekly Bulletin of the Parish of St Vincent de Paul, Strathmore

Parish Priest: Fr Peter J Ray

Fr Peter **Email:** Priest.Strathmore@cam.org.au

Parish Administration: Mrs. Patricia McNicholl **Parish Office Email:** Strathmore@cam.org.au

Presbytery: 2 The Crossway, Strathmore, Victoria 3041 **Web:** cam.org.au/strathmore

Telephone: 9379 1488 **Facsimile:** 9379 1574

St Vincent de Paul Primary School: Woodland Street, Strathmore, 3041

Acting Principal: Mr Shane Byrne

Telephone: 9379 5723 **Facsimile:** 9379 2389 **Email:** principal@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au

Sunday Mass: **Saturday Vigil:** 6.00 pm **Sunday Morning:** 8.30 am & 10.30 am

Weekday Masses: Tuesday - Friday 10.00 am

Blessed Sacrament Chapel: Open Monday - Friday 9.00 am - 3.00 pm for private prayer

Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation: Saturday 9.00 am or by request

Sacrament of Baptism: Baptism will be celebrated only by appointment and after a preparation evening, arranged through the Parish Office.

First Sunday of the Month: During our weekend Masses

Second Sunday of the Month: 12.00 noon

Third Sunday of the Month: 12.00 noon

Sacrament of Marriage: By appointment with at least six months notice.

*A community celebrating Christ in life by striving to maintain
a strong sense of belonging and generosity of heart.*

Lent

Lent is a wonderful time to reflect and consider how we live our lives. A challenging time to consider my relationship with those around me and my relationship with my God.

Choices are always before us. Life today offers us heaps of choices to consider. A consumer orientated society constantly puts before us a need to have this, a need to have that. Look at the advertisements bombarding our lives all the time. We have to ask our self, 'Do I really need this, NOW?' The temptation is always before us. It is how I responds that makes the difference.

Today the Gospel offers us an example. Paul, in his letter to the Romans invites us to reflect upon our own choices, some good others not, and what our God has done for us, in the person of Jesus. Matthew sets an example by speaking about Jesus who resisted the pressure to satisfy himself. How do you!

Entrance Antiphon: When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

Responsorial Psalm: Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Communion Antiphon: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Anniversaries: Arthur, Lorna & Ian Randall, Alfred Tormey, John & Alice Kennedy
Bryan Nelthorpe, Keith Wall

Thanksgiving: **Presbytery:**

Rosters for next weekend 28th February & 1st March

6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
Lectors: M Henshall	K Hill	G Johnson
Special Ministers: M Mollica, T Dargan	M Gauci, R McGowan	A Monaghan, R Legudi
Offertory: R & A Hutcheon	C Attard	C & K Lo Giudice
Counters: F Burke, K Porter	Transport: M Green, D Meller, E Sheppard	
Flowers: D & F Boyle	Church Cleaning: A Group	Linen: C Fox
Next week's Readings:	Gen 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31-34; Mk 9:2-10	

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

On the Fridays of Lent you are invited to share a reflection on The Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm in the Church

RECENT BAPTISMS

Congratulations to **Luke Hale** who was Baptised last weekend. May we remember him and his family in our prayers.

FAMILY MASSES

During the year we are invited to remember the children in our school. The Sacramental years are special for the children preparing to receive, Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation. May we all pray for them. This weekend we welcome the Year 3 families to our Masses. Please pray for the children preparing to receive the Sacrament of Penance for the first time.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Wednesday: Liturgy Team Meeting in the Presbytery at 7.30pm

'AN ENCOUNTER WITH POPE FRANCIS'

On Wednesday 18th MARCH at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre our Parish Faith Development Team invites you and friends to 'An Encounter with Pope Francis'. Our guest speaker will introduce us to the man, his message and his mission. More details will follow. Please note this date in your calendar at home.

THE SEASON OF LENT

The Season of Lent, has a twofold character:

- * it recalls our Baptism and the promises undertaken.
- * it stresses a penitential spirit.

Lent is a time of penance, when we are exhorted to devote ourselves in a special manner to prayer, to engage in works of piety and charity, and to deny ourselves.

By these means especially, Lent readies us for celebrating the Paschal Mystery (Easter) after a period of closer attention to the Word of God, and prayerful reflection.

Good Friday is a day of Fasting and Abstinence from meat.

All who have completed their 18th year and have not begun their 60th year are bound to fast. All who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain.

On all other Fridays, we are called to perform one of the following:

Prayer: For example:- Mass attendance, family prayer, making the Stations of the Cross.

Self-denial: For example:- not eating meat, not eating sweets, giving up entertainment, limiting food and drink, supporting Project Compassion.

Helping Others: For example:- special attention to those in need, sick, poor, elderly.

Project Compassion Boxes and Envelope Packs are available, for our use during Lent, in the porches of the Church. Another way of making a sacrifice during Lent.

PARISH SENIORS SOCIAL GROUP – LUNCH AT FLEMINGTON RACECOURSE

The Parish Seniors Social Group would like to invite senior members of the parish to join us for Lunch at Headquarters Tavern, Flemington Racecourse on Wednesday 11 March at 12:00 pm. A two course meal will be available at a cost of \$15 and transport will be provided. If you are interested, please contact Keith Foletti (9379 4920), Eileen Sheppard (9379 7898) or Alma Henshall (9379 1047). Booking close 28 February 2015.

FR PETER'S IMAGES AROUND THE SOUTH TIROL

Fr Peter will show images, in the Parish Centre from his visit to the South Tirol, North Italy taken during his recent visit:

On **Friday 27th February** after the 10.00 am morning Mass.

On **Thursday 5th March**, at 7.30 pm with wine and cheese.

All are most welcome to attend either session, please bring a small plate to share.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND WEDNESDAY MASSES

Each Wednesday during the School Term a year level will join us for Mass at 10.00 am. You are most welcome to join with us. During the weeks of Lent on Friday's the children in each year level will come to share a reflection on the Stations of the Cross in the Church.

Perhaps you might like to consider coming to Mass during the weeks of Lent and also the Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings at 7.00 pm.

Vision

To be a community celebrating Christ in Life

Mission

*That we strive to maintain a strong sense of belonging
and generosity of heart*