

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.

'ARCHBISHOPS CATHOLIC MAN BREAK-FAST SERIES'

Featuring five time Richmond Premiership player Francis Bourke. Hear Francis tell his story: "Faith, Family and Football". Venue is CQ Club 121 Queen St. Melbourne, 7am-9am Thursday 13th March 2014, \$45/head. Enquiries and bookings: Michael Bohan 0439172465, michael.bohan@menalive.org.au The Catholic Man Breakfast Series is an opportunity for men to gather and to be encouraged and inspired in their faith. It is a ministry of menALIVE Australia.

SISTERS OF CHARITY CELEBRATION OF 175 YEARS IN AUSTRALIA – MELBOURNE CELEBRATION

Saturday 22 March, 10am. On 31 December 1838 the first religious sisters, the Sisters of Charity, arrived in Australia from Ireland. To celebrate this important milestone there will be a number of special events during 2014. A Melbourne celebration will take place on Saturday 22 March in St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne RSVP: 9306 9555 if you would like to attend www.sistersofcharity.org.au

18TH MELBOURNE PASSION PLAY

Sunday 13 April, 1:30pm Join us for the annual Palm Sunday Passion Play, which recalls the final days of Jesus Christ's life and His passion and death. Ruffey Lake Park, Doncaster
More info: www.passionplay.info Contact: Dawn on 0411 957 164

FRIDAY MORNING TEA

There is morning tea every Friday morning in the Parish Centre after the 10.00 am Mass.

PARISH WEBSITE

Our Website is now up and running. Check it out at 'cam.org.au/strathmore'. Comments and feedback would be appreciated, especially if there are aspects that you would like included.

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

Explore the possibilities



St Vincent de Paul Parish 2014



St Vincent de Paul Press

1st & 2nd March 2014

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

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

Principal: Mr John Grant

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 - Saturday 10.00 am

Blessed Sacrament Chapel: Open Tuesday - Saturday 7.00 am - 5.00 pm for private prayer

Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation: Saturday 9.00 - 9.30 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.*

What are you priorities?

Some might say or think that God has abandoned me!

God says:

'Does a woman forget her baby at the breast, or fail to cherish the son of her womb? Even if these forget, I will never forget my own'

We all know that it would almost be impossible for a mother to forget her child when in the womb or being suckled. So how could God forget us, his creation? Hence we are all challenged to consider how we treat others.

Jesus in our Gospel today reminds us to keep a proper perspective, making sure that we have an appropriate order and balance in our lives. In other words, what are our priorities, for we all know that it is so easy to be overrun by things and distractions that are not really THAT important.

Maybe you might consider during the coming days of Lent what you see as important in your life. You may consider the Gospel today as a preparation for putting in place a new vision a new approach to how we view our daily life. Set your heart on the people and things in your life that are important and refocus on the way you care for those who are in your life.

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; he saved me because he delighted in me.

Responsorial Psalm: Rest in God alone, my soul.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me, sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.

Recent Deaths: Eliza Alava

Anniversaries: Jane & Bernard Comerford

Thanksgiving: \$2988.60 **Presbytery:** \$1139.60

Rosters for next weekend

6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
<u>Lectors:</u> L Capparelli	K McCartney	D Nicol
<u>Special Ministers:</u> J Burke, M Mollica	M Gauci, M Thomas	C Picinich, G Johnson
<u>Offertory:</u> Hewitt Family	C Vega	J Rodgers
<u>Counters:</u> P Hill, J Burke	<u>Transport:</u> J Fraser, D Nicol, E Sheppard, P Waddington	
<u>Flowers:</u> T Dargan & J Whelan	<u>Church Cleaning:</u> F Group	<u>Linen:</u> J Izatt
<u>Next week's Readings:</u>	Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11	

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES

Masses will be celebrated on Wednesday at 10.00am (the School community will celebrate with us) and at 7.00pm. Ashes will be distributed at each of the Masses as we commence the season of Lent in preparation for Easter.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Tuesday: Baptism Preparation Meeting in the Church at 7.00pm

Wednesday: Craft Group in the Parish Centre at 9.45am

MINISTER ROSTERS

Some Minister's Rosters are still to be collected from the east transept. The latest Minister's Rosters are available on the Parish Website:- cam.org.au/strathmore

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On the Fridays of Lent you are invited to share a reflection on The Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm in the Church. The children from our School will also share a reflection of the Stations of the Cross on the Fridays of Lent throughout the day. You are most welcome to and join the year level as the children reflect and prepare to celebrate Easter.

POPE FRANCIS' LETTER TO FAMILIES

A copy of a letter written by Pope Francis to families is available for you in the porches of the Church this weekend. Pope Francis is inviting us to pray for the next Synod of Bishops, which will be celebrated in the Vatican in October on the pastoral challenges of families. The letter is also available on our parish website: cam.org.au/strathmore

THE LENTEN SEASON HAS A TWOFOLD CHARACTER

* it recalls baptism or prepares for it; * it stresses a penitential spirit.

By these means especially, Lent readies the faithful for celebrating the paschal mystery after a period of closer attention to the Word of God, and more ardent prayer.

During Lent, penance should not be only internal and individual but also external and social.

In any event, let the paschal fast be kept sacred. It should be observed everywhere on Good Friday and, where possible prolonged throughout Holy Saturday, so that the joys of the Sunday of the resurrection may be visited on uplifted and responsive spirits.

Ash Wednesday and **Good Friday** are days of Fasting and Abstinence from meat.

On all other Fridays, except solemnities, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:

Prayer - for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the Rosary; or in other ways.

Self-Denial - for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country or elsewhere; or in other ways. Project Compassion is a major means of expressing our self-denial in Australia.

Helping Others - for example, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or over-burdened; or in other ways.

- All who have completed their eighteenth year and have not yet begun their sixtieth year are bound to fast. All who have completed their fourteenth year are bound to abstain (Canon 1252).

- The Season of Lent is a time of penance. During this season the faithful are exhorted to devote themselves in a special manner to prayer, to engage in works of piety and charity, and to deny themselves.

- Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled between Ash Wednesday, 13 February and Trinity Sunday, 26 May 2013 unless for a good reason it is fulfilled at another time during the year.

- The wonderful gift of the Lord's merciful love is offered in a special way in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Lent is a most appropriate time to receive this Sacrament.

All the faithful who have reached the age of discretion are bound faithfully to confess their grave sins at least once a year. (See Parish Web for details: cam.org.au/strathmore)

PROJECT COMPASSION LAUNCH

The season of Lent is not too far away. It is during the Lenten days that we are challenged to reflect upon our relationship with God and each other. Project Compassion is one way that we are able to consider the needs of others especially those who struggle through life.

Project compassion boxes and envelopes will be available next weekend.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES—5TH MARCH

Masses on Ash Wednesday will be celebrated at 10.00 am and 7.00 pm. Ashes will be distributed at each of the Masses as we commence the season of Lent in preparation for Easter.

Vision

To be a community celebrating Christ in Life

Mission

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