

SANCTUARY: AN EXHIBITION OF SACRED ART

Saturday 11 February to Thursday 2 March, 10am –5pm (except Sundays) Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, 362 Albert Street, East Melbourne Sponsored by the Barnabas Fund, this three-week exhibition and sale of sacred art by Melbourne artist Dr Ursula Betka will raise funds to bring at least three Syrian-Christian refugee families to Australia. All proceeds will go to 'Operation Safe Havens'. Details: 9926 9300

SOCIAL JUSTICE IN THE CITY: FR FRANK MOLONEY ON ECOLOGY

Wednesday 22 February, 12pm–1pm St Francis Pastoral Centre, Corner Lonsdale & Elizabeth Streets, Melbourne For the next Social Justice in the City event, Fr Frank Moloney SDB will reflect on Pope Francis' encyclical on the environment, *Laudato Si'*. All welcome. Complimentary refreshments follow. Details: Joan on 9895 5875

CARDS AFTERNOON

Join us on the last Monday of every month for Cards in the Parish Centre commencing at 12.15 pm. All welcome, please bring a plate to share.

CRAFT GROUP

Everyone welcome on the first Wednesday of every month from 10.30 am to 3.00 pm, come along and learn a new skill in the Parish Centre. **Please note new start time.** Further details available from Christine Gregory on 9379 5497.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL PLAYGROUP

Thursdays between 9.00am and 11.00am in the Parish Centre for play, fun and conversation. For further details contact Fiona McIlldowney 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.

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.

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

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME:

If you know of anyone who is unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion at home please contact the Parish Office on 9412 8460 Also, if you know of anyone would like to attend Mass on Sunday but cannot do so due to lack of transport we can arrange it for them. Please let us know as we would love to assist.



St Vincent de Paul Press

4th & 5th February 2017

5th Sunday in Ordinary time Year A

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

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

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

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 - Saturday 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.*

YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH

Each one of us has special gifts. Sometimes we may feel that we have little to offer or we fail to recognise the gifts we have. The scripture readings this week clearly remind us, in the words of Jesus, 'You are the salt of the earth.' You are the light of the world.'

I suppose for each one of us it is recognising that we are salt and light and having the courage and insight to know that we are able to use the gifts we have to the best of our ability.

As we embark upon a new year we are asked to reflect upon the ways we engage each other. How welcoming are we? Am I aware of those around me? Am I prepared to get involved? As the Lord says, in the words of Isaiah, 'Share your bread with the hungry'. Perhaps each one of us is hungry and in need, therefore how prepared are you to give something of yourself to those around you. I'm sure we can and do so, yet how aware are you of the need to give and be salt and light?

Entrance Antiphon: O Come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

Responsorial Psalm: A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry fills with good things.

Recent Deaths: Michael Boland

Anniversaries: Patrick Egan

Thanksgiving: \$2776.90 **Presbytery:** \$1213.55

Rosters for next weekend 11th & 12th February:

6.00 pm	8.30am	10.30am
Lectors:		
Sean Crombie	F Boyle	L Wilson
Special Ministers:		
F Ferguson, J Mammone	L Sands, M Gauci	L Anderson, C Picinich
Offertory:		
Marino Family	N McCartney	Children’s Liturgy of Word
Counters:	Transport:	
D Lane, B Tormey	P Fox, G Johnson, M Sullivan	
Flowers:	Church Cleaning:	Linen:
D Jones	Group D	A Abboud
Next week's Readings:	Sirach 15:15-20; 1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37	

FEASTS THIS WEEK

Monday: St Paul Miki

Friday: St Scholastica

Tuesday Masses

The next two Tuesdays, the 7th & 14th February Fr Peter will celebrate Mass at 7.30am. There will be no 10.00am Mass on these days.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Thursday: Parish Leadership Team Meeting in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm

How might you share your gifts?

This weekend we are invited to reflect upon ways we might share our gifts with our community. During our weekend Masses Dorothy Boyle will invite us to consider being ‘salt and light’ for each other. Forms were emailed during the week and these will also be available in the porches of the Church for you to take and return. This is one way in which we are able to support and build our community. The Liturgy Team also thought you may like to have a copy of the Scriptures included in the newsletter. Your comments would be welcome.

ST VINCENT de PAUL SENIORS’ SOCIAL GROUP

Parishioners are invited to a lunch at ‘Legends’ Moonee Valley Racecourse Tabaret on Wednesday 22nd February at noon. Seniors 2 and 3 course meals available. Bookings to Keith Foletti on 9379 4920 by 17th February. Transport may be provided.

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, clothe the man you see to be naked and turn not from your own kin. Then will your light shine like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over. Your integrity will go before you and the glory of the Lord behind you. Cry, and the Lord will answer; call, and he will say, ‘I am here.’ If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word, if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows become like noon.

Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great ‘fear and trembling’ and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled under-foot by men. ‘You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.’

CHILDREN’S LITURGY - NEXT SUNDAY

During 10.30am Mass on the second Sunday of each month, primary school aged children are invited to join us for Children’s Liturgy of the Word.

PIETY STALL IS READY FOR YOU

Your final chance to buy Columban Calendars which are available at a reduced price of \$8.00. The sale of the Calendars supports the Columban Mission. Also a selection of gifts are available at the Piety Stall in the Narthex of the Church.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO TEACH ENGLISH TO SYRIAN REFUGEES

Can you spare an hour each week to visit a newly arrived refugee or migrant in the home and help them learn English and settle in Australia? AMEP is currently seeking volunteers. Free training and support provided. Home tutors are required to help those who cannot attend classes due to issues such as social isolation, caring responsibilities or illness. Tutors spend one hour each week with their student, helping them learn basic English which will allow them to become part of the community and help their integration into Australian life. For those interested, Northern AMEP holds an information session and training program every term. Details: Stella on 9269 1085 or namephometutor@melbournepolytechnic.edu.au or <https://www.volunteer.com.au/opportunity/details/82392>