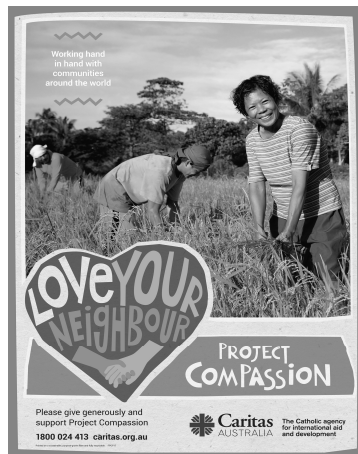


## PROJECT COMPASSION



Like many of her neighbours in her rural village in the Philippines, Dinia struggled to feed and educate her children, and the struggle worsened after her husband's untimely death. But, with the help of a program supported by Caritas Australia, she now has the skills to earn a better income for her children and help her neighbours in her vulnerable community. Please donate to Project Compassion 2017 and help people in rural areas of the Philippines develop their strengths and build better futures for their families and their neighbours. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

## FAIR TRADE EASTER CHOCOLATE

In 2015, Pope Francis said that "every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral – and not simply an economic – act."

Cocoa is a key ingredient of chocolate. Much of the chocolate sold in Australia is made using cocoa beans picked by children, many of whom have been enslaved, or forced to work in exploitative conditions. To buy slavery-free Easter chocolate look for any of these three certification symbols on the wrappers: FAIRTRADE, Rainforest Alliance and UTZ.



## 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

## MISSIONARY SISTERS of ST PETER CLAVER

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver will hold their annual Mission Concert on Sunday 26 March at the St Peter Claver Hall, 154 Hotham Road, Kew commencing 2.00pm. Admission is free, a collection will be taken during the concert. Proceeds will assist a community of 22 families affected by leprosy in the parish of Our Lady of Lourdes, Busanda, Tanzania, Africa.



## St Vincent de Paul Press

4th & 5th March 2017  
First Sunday of Lent 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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**Telephone:** 9412 8460

**Facsimile:** 9287 5536

**Web:** [cam.org.au/strathmore](http://cam.org.au/strathmore)

**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](mailto: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

**Our Church is Open:** Tuesday - Friday 7.00 am - 5.00 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.*

## A Lenten Theme

The words of Jesus to his disciples (Luke 9:22-25) sum up the events that we celebrate at the end of Lent. Jesus clearly outlines the path that is before him, yet through the pain and suffering is the joy of life. Lent is a time for us to consider these words. How prepared am I to put aside my own self interests and sacrifice myself for the life of others? This means we are all called to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

*"Jesus said to his disciples: 'The Son of Man is destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes and to be put to death, and to be raised up on the third day.'*

*Then to all he said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross every day and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, that man will save it. What gain, then, is it for a man to have won the whole world and to have lost or ruined his very self?'"*

**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:** Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

**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.

**Recent Deaths:** Fr Paul Maher PE, Stuart Bailey

**Anniversaries:** Patrick Daniel Hunt, Marie Teresa Oakley

**Thanksgiving:** \$2238.40 **Presbytery:** \$1431.85

**Rosters for next weekend 11th & 12th March:**

<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>8.30am</b>	<b>10.30am</b>
<b>Lectors:</b>		
S Crombie	K Hill	L Wilson
<b>Special Ministers:</b>		
K Ferguson, A Mammone	M Gauci, A Henshall	C Picinich, C Johnson

<b>Offertory:</b>		
Capparelli Family	C Vega	A Abboud

<b>Counters:</b>	<b>Transport:</b>
B Tormey, D Lane	P Fox, M Green, G Dovey

<b>Flowers:</b>	<b>Church Cleaning:</b>	<b>Linen:</b>
M Caran	Group B	N McCartney

**Next week's Readings:** Gen 12:1-4; 2 Tim 1:8-10; Mt 17:1-9

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS & SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

Each Friday evening during Lent we have the opportunity to ponder the Passion of Christ reflecting in prayer on the Stations of the Cross in our Church. The Stations of the Cross help us to consider the loving sacrifice of Jesus who offered himself to free our sins, the ultimate expression of love. The Stations will commence at 7.00 pm followed by the Sacrament of Penance (Confession/Reconciliation) at 7.30 pm.

### **FRIDAY SENIORS FILM**

This Friday after the 10.00am Mass the film 'Me Before You' will be screened in the Parish Centre. All welcome to attend the movie and morning tea.

### **MEETINGS THIS WEEK**

**Wednesday:** Data Projector Training in the Church at 7.00pm

**Thursday:** Finance Committee Meeting in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm

**Friday:** Film 'Me Before You' in the Parish Centre after 10.00am Mass  
Stations of the Cross & Sacrament of Penance in the Church at 7.00pm

### **PARISH RETREAT**

The Parish Retreat scheduled for 26 March did not attract sufficient interest and it has been cancelled. The Faith Education Committee is planning other events for 2017 and many may wish to attend these. Brian Hanley (on behalf of the Faith Education Committee).

*Children's Liturgy of the Word next weekend during the 10.30 am Mass*

### **First reading      Genesis 2:7-9,3:1-7**

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. Now the serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death."' 'Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

### **Second reading      Romans 5:12-19**

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

### **Gospel      Matthew 4:1-11**

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: *Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.* The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God' he said 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: *He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.* Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: *You must not put the Lord your God to the test.* Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these' he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: *You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.* Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.