

ST COLUMBA'S COLLEGE

Year 7 2017 Scholarships St Columba's College is offering a limited number of scholarships for prospective Year 7 2017 students. Details and online application are available on the College website at www.columba.vic.edu.au Scholarship application closing date Friday 19 February 2016. Application for enrolment at St Columba's for Year 7 2017 close Friday 26 February. School Tours Bookings for School Tours can be made via the website or email registrar@columba.vic.edu.au Special tours are being conducted by the Principal on 20 February at 9am & 10:30am.

MARY MACKILLOP CENTRE OPEN DAY

Saturday 20 February, 10am-4pm Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, 362 Albert Street, East Melbourne In 2016 we celebrate the 150th year of the founding of the congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart by Mary MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods in 1866. This is our first weekend open day of 2016, our sesquicentenary year. Visit the Mary MacKillop Museum, pray in the chapel where Mary prayed, visit the gift shop and enjoy light refreshments. A local guided walking tour will also take place at 11am. Everyone welcome. Details: 9926 9300

MASS IN SUPPORT OF PEOPLE SEEKING ASYLUM

Tuesday 16 February, 11am St Patrick's Cathedral, Cathedral Place, East Melbourne All are welcome at this special Mass in support of refugees and people seeking asylum. It will be celebrated by Bishop Vincent Long, ofm conv, himself a refugee to this country and now the Australian Catholic bishops' spokesman on refugees.

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM – AIRS 21 FEBRUARY 2016

This week on The Journey we have a great program starting with a Gospel reflection for the 2nd Week of Lent from Fr Ken Cafe; we hear from Sr Hilda Scott OSB, Peter Gilmore challenges us with the old saying, "Don't let the sun go down on your anger." Bruce Downes The Catholic Guy challenges not to follow the "wrong map" – Jesus is the Way, the truth and the life. We also get some great marriage advice from The Pirolas Smart Loving and Sam Clear in Walking the Walk. Go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

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

FRIDAY MORNING TEA

Come and share, every Friday morning in the Parish Centre after the 10.00 am Mass starting again for the year on Friday 5th February.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL PRESS

13th & 14th February 2016

First Sunday of Lent Year C

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

Parish Priest: Fr Peter J Ray

Fr Peter **Email:** 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: 9412 8460

Facsimile: 9287 5536

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.*

The Mercy of God

The prayer as we gather this weekend asks God to grow our understanding of the riches hidden in Christ and secondly to live out what we have discovered. So I suppose we must ask "well what are those hidden riches?"

The Old Testament reading from the book of Deuteronomy give a brief synopsis of the events in Egypt and the deliverance of the Israelites back to the 'land where milk and honey flow' at the hand of a merciful God who heard the cries of his people. As a result of this, they said, "I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, the Lord, have given me", as an expression of gratitude for all that they have received.

During these days of LENT there is a challenge before us to consider the gifts we have all received-the loving mercy of a God who provides and embraces us, even when we forget, even when we turn away, even when we think we have no time.

The gift of the Eucharist is Christ offering himself to us as the 'first-fruits' of a new life - a hidden treasure. In gratitude and offering something of ourselves we are challenged to think beyond what I want and consider where do I want to be.

How merciful are 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: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.
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.

<u>Recent Deaths:</u>	Gordon Milne	
<u>Anniversaries:</u>	Susina Guarino	
<u>Thanksgiving:</u>	<u>Presbytery:</u>	
<u>Rosters for next weekend 20th & 21st February</u>		
6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
<u>Lectors</u>		
S Crombie	K Hill	M Sullivan
<u>Special Ministers:</u>		
M Mollica, J Mammone	R McGowan, P McKay	C Johnson, L Anderson
<u>Offertory:</u>		
T & J Scott	L & S Sands	Scavo Family
<u>Counters:</u>	<u>Transport:</u>	
P Hill, B Tormey		
<u>Flowers:</u>	<u>Church Cleaning:</u>	<u>Linen:</u>
I Marino & A Mazza		C Comerford
<u>Next week's Readings:</u>	Gen 15:5-12, 17-18; Phil 3:17-4:1; Lk 9:28-36	

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Tuesday: 75th Anniversary Committee Meeting in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm
Wednesday: Reconciliation Parent Meeting in the Hall at 7.00pm
Thursday: Parish Leadership Team Meeting in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm

TUESDAY MASS

This Tuesday, the 16th February Fr Peter will celebrate Mass at 7.30am. There will be no 10.00am Mass on this day.

MINISTER & PARISH INVOLVEMENT COMMITMENT

This weekend we are asked to consider offering support through various ministries within our community for the next twelve months.
The forms have been emailed and are also available at the back of the Hall. Please consider how you may support one another. You may return the form via the Parish or School Offices or by email by Wednesday 17th February.

FRIDAY REFLECTIONS

On the Fridays during Lent join us for reflections on the Passions of Christ in the Parish Centre at 7.00pm.

WEEKEND AND WEEKDAY MASSES

During the renovations in the Church our weekend Masses are being celebrated in the Hall and our weekday Masses in the Parish Centre.

**1941 TO 2016 ST VINCENT DE PAUL
PARISH STRATHMORE**

This year begins the 75th Anniversary of the foundation of our Parish.
The first activity will be held on Sunday 21st February 2016.
To begin ‘our journey’ Come and Share High Tea at ‘North Park Mansion’ with the Columban Fathers 69 Woodland Street, Essendon, across the road from our Church, between 2.00 to 4.00 pm
A variety of sandwiches & petit four together with Tea, Coffee & Hot Chocolate will be available. Gold coin donation would be appreciated to help cover the costs.
A part of our history there will be Tours of North Park Mansion.
Tickets will be available this weekend.
If you are a School family place a donation in an envelope with your name and the number attending. Tickets will be provided for you by the end of the week.
We need to know the numbers attending to cater for the event.

CHURCH RENOVATIONS

Weekly Church Update

The rear internal Narthex wall has been removed and opens up the rear of the Church. When the glazed wall is inserted the area will offer a clear view into the Church. After much discussion and reflection the floor of the body of the Church will be sanded and polished. The centre isle will have a parquet insert. The painting of the ceiling is well underway. In preparation for the Crucifix being suspended from the ceiling, wire and connecting points have been installed. Pictures of the works this week are also on the notice board in the Hall.

I have been asked if photos of the face of Christ would be available, which I’m able to provide if anyone is interested. I will make available some samples and would appreciate your feedback. Please let Fr Peter know your thoughts.

ST VINCENTS SENIORS SOCIAL GROUP

Expressions of interest are invited from parishioners to attend a day excursion to Blue Water Lotus Garden, Yarra Junction on Monday 7th March. A group of at least 15 is required to put this event together also 4/5 cars are required for transport. Cost \$25.00 which covers the talk, group garden entry and transport. Please phone your interest by 14th February to Alma Henshall 9379 1047, Therese Dargan, 9379 5661, Eileen Sheppard 9379 7898 or Keith Foletti 9379 4920.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY

During 10.30am Mass on the second Sunday of each month, primary school aged children are invited to join us in the Parish Centre for Children’s Liturgy of the Word. During each session the Gospel of the day is explored in a way that assists children to understand and make meaning of the message, through stories, pictures and discussion. The children will leave after the Gathering Prayer and return at the Offertory.

Vision

To be a community celebrating Christ in Life

Mission

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