

MASS FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS

The Life, Marriage & Family Office warmly invite all expectant mothers and their families to the Mass for Expectant Mothers. The Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Denis Hart at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 14 May (Mother's Day) at 11.00am. Registrations can be made online at: www.cam.org.au/lifemarriagefamily or alternatively by contacting: 9287 5587 or lmf@cam.org.au. Please note that registration closes on Friday 5 May. Expectant mothers who register will receive a small token of recognition.

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.

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.

PROJECT COMPASSION



In Vietnam, young Nguyet was isolated as a result of her severe disabilities, until a Caritas-Australia supported program offered her education, creative outlets and community interaction.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2017 and give children living with disabilities in Vietnam the opportunity for education and inclusion in their community.

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

CATHOLIC CHURCH INSURANCE EASTER HAMPER RAFFLE

CCI has offered us an Easter Hamper to Raffle. The proceeds will be used to support our pastoral outreach this year.

Tickets for the Hamper are only \$1.00.

The hamper is valued over \$150.00. A list of contents is available with the hamper at the Piety Stall in the Narthex of the Church or the Parish Administration Office.



St Vincent de Paul Press

25th & 26th March 2017
Fourth 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](mailto: Priest.Strathmore@cam.org.au)

Parish Administration: Mrs. Patricia McNicholl

Parish Office **Email:** [Strathmore@cam.org.au](mailto: 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

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.*

LORD THAT I MIGHT SEE

The readings of this Sunday invite us to rejoice as we consider the gifts that God desires to give, so that nothing may stand in the way of our relationship with him. As I come respectfully into God's presence, I try to bring to mind whatever obstacles may have blocked me from my relationship with Christ this week. I also thank God for any moments of deep faith and consolation as I prepare myself for receiving his Word.

In the Gospel here Jesus gives the blind man his sight; but only after abuse and rejection does the man fully realise who Jesus is. The blind man could be me as I try to develop a greater faith and trust in Jesus, my Light, in the events and sometimes struggles of my daily life. I try to enter into this dramatic story: which character do I focus on? What do I hear? Do I become one of them?

Does my darkness need to be 'washed' away: fear, prejudice, anger? Can I let Jesus touch me? I speak to him from my heart.

Take some time to reflect upon the Scripture reading for this weekend.

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon: The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

Recent Deaths: Sam Crea, Maria Tabone

Anniversaries: George Awad, Bill Crombie, Laurie Mallia, Elizabeth Samna

Thanksgiving: \$2107.20 **Presbytery:** \$1123.25

Rosters for next weekend 1st & 2nd April:

6.00 pm	8.30am	10.30am
Lectors:		
J Harris	F Boyle	D Nicol
Special Ministers:		
A Mammone, K Ferguson	R McGowan, L Sands	T Sequeira, S Sequeira
Offertory:		
F Rivellese	L Sands	M Scarpino
Counters:	Transport:	
G Cook, P Hill	P Fox, G Johnson, G Dovey	
Flowers:	Church Cleaning:	Linen:
T Dargan, J Whelan	Group F	T Giardina
Next week's Readings:	Ezek 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45	

STATIONS OF THE CROSS & SACRAMENT OF PENANCE
The Stations will commence at 7.00 pm followed by the Sacrament of Penance (Confession/ Reconciliation) at 7.30 pm.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK
Monday: Card Group in the Parish Centre at 12.15pm
Wednesday: Parish Education Board Meeting in the School at 7.30pm
Thursday: GodStart Team Meeting in the Parish Centre at 7.00pm

RECENT BAPTISMS
Congratulations to **Raphael Guneratne & Harry Shannon** who were Baptised last weekend. May we remember them and their families in our prayers.

EASTER CEREMONIES

HOLY THURSDAY: 7.00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by adoration till 10.00 pm

GOOD FRIDAY: 10.00 am Stations of the Cross
3.00 pm Passion of the Lord - Liturgy of the Word,
Adoration of the Holy Cross, Holy Communion

HOLY SATURDAY: 6.00 pm Easter Vigil of the Resurrection of the Lord - Lighting of the Pascal Candle, Liturgy of the Word, Baptism Liturgy, Liturgy of the Eucharist

EASTER SUNDAY: 8.30 am & 10.30 am Masses

First reading Samuel 16:1,6-7,10-13
The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethle-hem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him: God does not see as man sees: man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

Second reading Ephesians 5:8-14
You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but expos-ing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminat-ed turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel John 9:1,6-9,13-17,34-38
As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man, and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored. His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'
They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man. 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.
Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you be-lieve in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I be-lieve', and worshipped him.

Our Vision
To be a community celebrating Christ in Life
Our Mission
That we strive to maintain a strong sense of belonging and generosity of heart