

Passion (Palm) Sunday

Palm will be blessed during next weekend Masses. Palm will be available. You are also well to bring your own palm.

PROJECT COMPASSION



The People's Community Network is increasing the resilience and dignity of the thousands of landless Fijians living in informal settlements. Communities are advocating together successfully for better services, education and housing.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2017 and help vulnerable communities work towards lasting change in their neighbourhoods.

THINKING OF BUYING EASTER EGGS?

Use your money justly – please. What ethical Easter eggs will you enjoy this Easter? There is now a wide range of slavery-free chocolate and Easter eggs available, including a budget-priced range of UTZ certified products in ALDI and a wide selection at Haighs. There is a link at <https://acrath.org.au/slaveryfree-easter> which gives a guide to where slavery-free eggs are being sold. ACTION: If there is slavery-free chocolate in your supermarket buy it and commend the shop manager. Remember it must have one of these three symbols on the wrapper:



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 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

1st & 2nd April 2017
Fifth 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

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

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.

“I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE”

Again this Sundays of Lent from St John's Gospel we read a significant passage. This week the focus in on LIFE. The previous weeks have been WATER & LIGHT.

By raising Lazarus from the dead Jesus prefigures his own Resurrection and the life he gives to each one of us. We note the themes of water, light and life relate to the physical needs of thirst, blindness and death. These are all very relevant in our own lives. The raising of Lazarus reminds us, as Jesus says, 'unbind him, let him go free', of our own need to be set free from the things that 'bind' us. Hence we might ask from what things do we need to be released so that we may 'go free'? Are they bindings placed by ourselves or others?

The raising of Lazarus marks a significant turning point in John's gospel for we see the Jewish authorities plotting to arrest Jesus. Yet we know that Jesus makes it clear, through the raising of Lazarus, he gives his own life so that we might have life, not only now, but for all eternity.

Entrance Antiphon: Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

Responsorial Psalm: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon: Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: Mary-Anne Knowles, Samuel Heasley, Ruby Fogarty, Walter Birch

Thanksgiving: \$1998.00 **Presbytery:** \$1021.70

Rosters for next weekend 8th & 9th April:

6.00 pm	8.30am	10.30am
Lectors:		
J Harris	K Hill	M Sullivan
Commentator:		
L Capparelli	K McCartney	G Johnson
Special Ministers:		
T Dargan, L Caridi	M Gavaghan, M Gauci	C Johnson, N Zanko

Offertory:
Capparelli Family K Foletti Tenuta Family

Counters: **Transport:** D Meller, M Sullivan, P Waddington

Flowers: **Church Cleaning:** **Linen:**
A Mammone Group E A Sullivan

HOLY THURSDAY:

Lector	Commentator	Special Ministers	Offertory
Mary Sullivan	G Delaney	T Sequeira, A Mammone	M & C O'Loughlin

GOOD FRIDAY:

Lector	Commentator	Special Ministers
L Wilson	G Cronan	L Anderson, N Zanko, S Sequeira

Next week's Readings: (Entrance: Mt 21:1-11) Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14-27:66

STATIONS OF THE CROSS & SACRAMENT OF PENANCE ON FRIDAY

The Stations will commence at 7.00 pm followed by the Sacrament of Penance (Confession/Reconciliation) at 7.30 pm.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Wednesday: Card Group in the Parish Centre at 10.00am

Baptism Preparation Meeting in the Church at 7.00pm

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

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 Ezekiel 37:12-14

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

Second reading Romans 8:8-11

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Gospel John 11:1-45

Mary and Martha sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.' Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.' When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.' Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

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.

FRIDAY MORNING TEA AND FILM

This Friday the film 'Sons and Lovers' will be shown in the Parish Centre after 10.00am Mass. All welcome to attend the film and share morning tea.