



St Francis of Assisi Parish

290 Childs Road, Mill Park 3082 phone: 9407 6700

web: www.cam.org.au/millpark email: millpark@cam.org.au

PARISH BULLETIN FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 24TH DECEMBER 2023

PARISH PRIEST	Fr Anthony Girolami	ASSISTANT PRIEST	Fr Zaher Almhanna
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE	Sr Anh Tran - 9407 6720	PARISH/SCHOOL LIAISON	Ruth Lees - 9407 6703
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR	Bernice Quinn - 9407 6700	YOUTH MINISTER	Carmel Walsh - 9407 6704
SCHOOL PRINCIPAL	Mark Basile - 9407 3100	PARISH BOOKKEEPER	Paul - 9407 6722

WEEKEND MASS TIMES	Saturday vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am, 10:30 am & 5:00 pm
WEEKDAY MASS TIMES	Monday – Saturday 9:15 am Wednesday 7:00 pm - Our Lady of Perpetual Help
RECONCILIATION	Wednesday evening after Mass and Novena Saturday 9:45 am
ADORATION	Saturday 9:45 am – 10:45 am concluding with Benediction

VIGIL MASS:	1st Friday of the month 7:30 pm to Midnight Mass.	Next Mass:	5th January
FILIPINO MASS:	2nd Sunday of the month at 12 noon.	Next Mass:	11th February
MALTESE MASS:	3rd Saturday of the month at 4 pm. Confession 3:30. Rosary 3:40.	Next Mass:	17th February
INDONESIAN FAMILY GROUP MASS:	3rd Saturday of the month at 7pm. (None Dec or Jan)	Next Mass:	17th February
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:	Wednesday 6:30 am - 7:00 pm in the chapel.		
NOVENA TO ST JOSEPH:	1st Wednesday of the month after 9:15 am Mass.		
ANOINTING OF THE SICK:	2nd Wednesday of the month after 9:15am Mass.		
ST ANTHONY'S PRAYER GROUP MASS:	Resuming 6th February 2024, 7:00pm.		
NOVENA TO ST ANTHONY (MALAYALAM):	Resuming 6th February 2024, 6:30pm.		
LEGION OF MARY:	Every Thursday at 10:15 am in the church fellowship area. Contact Jackie - 0422 443 324.		
WORD OF LIFE PRAYER GROUP:	Every Friday at 7:00 pm in the chapel. Contact Nancy - 0434 559 352.		
PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP:	Contact Regina - 0432 267 557 or Alfons and Helen Glatzel - 9404 2050.		
DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET:	Every Friday at 3:00 pm in the chapel and after Tuesday morning 9:15am Mass.		
AGAPE RENEWAL PRAYER MEETING:	Resuming Sunday 4th February. Contact Gigimon - 0402 652 646.		
LIFE TEEN:	Every Sunday during school terms after 5pm Mass. Contact Carmel at millpark.youthministry@cam.org.au for further details.		
JESUS YOUTH PRAYER GROUP:	Every Thursday at 7 pm in the chapel. Contact Lovely - 0411 208 706.		
CATECHIST R.E. CLASSES:	For all enquiries contact May Park at sfranciscatechist@gmail.com.		

PARISH NEWS

- PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS** - Contributions can be dropped off between 9am and 5pm each day at the parish office.
- THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES** - Please remember to write the amount on the front of your thanksgiving envelopes.
- PARISH FEAST DAY EXPO** - The Parish Expo slideshow featuring the Parish Groups and also the Parish Information Booklet can be viewed on the Parish Website www.cam.org.au/millpark
- PARISH CENSUS 2023** - If you did not fill in a Parish Census Card over the last few weeks at Mass please collect one from the church foyer to fill in and return. Thank you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

- RECENTLY DECEASED:** Royston Meyers, Br Christian Moe FSC.
- IN MEMORIAM:** Reynaldo Pilapil, Rose Sherwood, Audrey Woods, Brian Fernandez, Remy Castello.
- THOSE WHO ARE ILL:** Lez Meyers, David Wallace, Sharon Barber, Maeve Reardon, Greg Forrester, Anupiya Menikdiwela, Henrica Hanny, Peter Basile, Antonina Gangi, Seamus Quinn.

(From time to time we will modify the sick list. If you prefer a person to remain on the list please contact the parish office.)

The newsletter will be available each week on our website www.cam.org.au/millpark

Dear Parishioners,

It is with a great sense of relief and joy I am able to return to the parish. Thank you to all for your prayers and expression of support. I feel overwhelmed by your generous welcome. May I thank all who 'kept the shop open' especially Fr Zaher, Sr Anh, and all the many people who keep the parish bubbling along. As many of the parish groups have a well earned break during January, I would like to thank all of those involved in the various ministries in the parish for their commitment, faithfulness and generosity. And as the newsletters in the new year will be a bit light on for announcements, we will run our usual supplements featuring the lives of Saints.

WELCOME TO REVEREND JEAN-SEBASTIAN GERI

After being ordained a deacon for the Archdiocese of Melbourne on Saturday 25th November. From this weekend onwards, the Reverend Jean-Sebastian Geri will be assisting at our parish each weekend until his priestly ordination later next year. Please make him welcome and keep him and all the other seminarians in your prayers.

God bless, Fr Anthony.

CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

Mass Timetable

4th Sunday of Advent

5:00 pm	Saturday 23rd Dec
9:00 am	Sunday 24th Dec
10:30 am	Sunday 24th Dec
Christmas Eve Sunday 24th Dec	
5:00 pm	Family Vigil Mass
6:30 pm	Nativity Play
7:00 pm	Vigil Mass
9:00 pm	Tagalog Mass
11:30 pm	Christmas Carols
Christmas Day Monday 25th Dec	
12:00 am	Midnight Mass
9:00 am	Christmas Mass
10:30 am	Christmas Mass

Please note, there is an obligation to attend Mass both for the 4th Sunday of Advent and for Christmas. One Mass does not suffice for both obligations.



GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

Help provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the people affected by the conflict.



DONATE NOW
www.caritas.org.au/gaza
1800 024 413

PLEASE BE AWARE:

There have been opportunists targeting churches pretending to help with collections or money counting and then stealing the money. If anyone you don't recognize asks to help with money collecting do not allow them.

Christmas timetable cards are now available in the church foyer. Please take one home.



NATIVITY PLAY TONIGHT

There will be a Nativity Play starting at 6.30 pm, before 7.00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass. Come early for the 7.00 pm Vigil Mass, and see this live drama which will lead us into the spirit of Christmas Vigil.

THANKSGIVING RECEIPTS & NEW ENVELOPES

Thanksgiving receipts for those that contribute via all methods, and new sets of envelopes have now been posted and should be received by next week. Thank you for your continued support.

A huge thank you to all parishioners for the wonderful response to the 2023 St Vincent De Paul Annual Appeal for donations of gifts for needy families in our Parish. We thank you for your faithful support and generosity, which helps make their Christmas brighter. We wish you and your loved ones a happy, holy and joyous Christmas.



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works



The Piety Stall is now selling the 2023 Divine Mercy and Columban Art Church calendars. Buy your copy now so as not to be disappointed. Thank you.



HOLIDAY ROSTERS

The rosters for Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion will continue during January. If you will be absent or on holiday on your rostered turn, please contact another person to take your place.

CHOIRS ON BREAK DURING JANUARY

During January our choirs at Mass will have a well-earned break. We thank them for the talents they share with us faithfully every week.

ADVENT APPEAL FOR UKRAINE

Since the start of the war, millions of Ukrainians have fled their home country, with thousands of refugees coming to Australia.

In response to the continued conflict in Ukraine, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli is launching a special Advent appeal, the proceeds of which will go towards providing aid and practical assistance to those who have been displaced and are without basic supplies, especially as winter approaches.

'There are no winners in war, only families torn apart. Sadly, this is the painful reality facing so many at this time,' Archbishop Comensoli reflected. 'I'm inviting the faithful of Melbourne to offer whatever they can at this time. And I pray that, together, we can be a sign of God's nearness to those who need it most.'

Please collect a Christmas card from the Archbishop from the church foyer.