May our children flourish If you see something that concerns you, say something childreň flourish Commitment Statement to Child Safety are committed to a safe and purturing culture for all children and young people in our Churr are committed to preventing child abuse and identifying risks early and then redum. If you see something of concern, please let us know.

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

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.

Please note the new Parish Phone number 9412 8460.





ST VINCENT DE PAUL PRESS

10th & 11th December 2016 THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT Year A

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

Parish Priest: Fr Peter J Ray Fr Peter 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

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.

Old-fashioned, Spiritual Christmas?

John R. Brokhoff, *Preaching the Parables—Cycle C.* p. 28.

"What has happened to the old-fashioned, spiritual Christmas? The cause is our disregard of Advent. The church set aside this four-week pre-Christmas season as a time of spiritual preparation for Christ's coming. It is a time of quiet anticipation. If Christ is going to come again into our hearts, there must be repentance. Without repentance, our hearts will be so full of worldly things that there will be 'no room in the inn' for Christ to be born again....We have the joy not of celebration. Which is the joy of Christmas, but the joy of anticipation."

Memory Awakens Hope

Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, (Pope Benedict) Seek That Which Is Above,1986

"Advent is concerned with that very connection between memory and hope which is so necessary to man. Advent's intention is to awaken the most profound and basic emotional memory within us, namely, the memory of the God who became a child. This is a healing memory; it brings hope. The purpose of the Church's year is continually to rehearse her great history of memories, to awaken the heart's memory so that it can discern the star of hope....

It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope."

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed the Lord is near.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, come and save us.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring

Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

<u>Communion Antiphon:</u> Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries:

Thanksgiving: \$4069.50 Presbytery: \$1710.20 Rosters for next weekend 17th and 18th December:

6.00 pm 8.30 am 10.30 am

Lectors:

J Harris G Cronan G Johnson

Special Ministers:

J Mammone, A Mammone A Henshall, M Gauci C Picinich, L Anderson

Offertory:

Marino Family K Foletti Tenuta Family

Counters: Transport:

G Delaney, D Lane P Fox, G Johnson, M Green

Flowers: Church Cleaning: Linen:
A Scerri Group B M Hitchcock

Next week's Readings: Is 7:10-14; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

FEASTS THIS WEEK

Tuesday: St Lucy, virgin, martyr

Wednesday: St John of the Cross, priest, doctor

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Monday: Book Club in the Parish Centre at 1.00 pm

Tuesday: Pray for Peace and Reconciliation in the Church at 7.00 pm followed by

supper in the Parish Centre

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

RECENT BAPTISMS

Congratulations to **Emma Connelly** and **Greta Garvey** who were Baptised last weekend. May we remember them and their families in our prayers.

MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSION COLLECTION

This weekend the annual collection for the Melbourne Overseas Mission will be taken up at Notice Time. Envelopes are available for credit card use and tax deductibility.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE

Catholic Church Insurances have donated a hamper for us to raffle at the value of over \$150. Raffle tickets can be purchased for \$1.00 via the Piety store and all proceeds raised will be maintained within our Parish. Raffle will be drawn on the 13th December in the Parish Centre.

PIETY STALL IS READY FOR YOU

Columban Calendars are also now available at a reduced price of \$8.00. The sale of the Calendars supports the Columban Mission. **Christmas Cards** at \$3.00 for a pack of 5 are also available - Great Value. Also a selection of Christmas gifts.

An Evening to gather to Pray for Peace & Reconciliation.

As we draw closer to the end of this our 75th Year as a Parish, I invite you to come and share an evening to pray for Peace and Reconciliation in our lives and in our world:

7.00 pm on Tuesday the 13th December in our Church followed by light refreshments in the Parish Centre.

The Strathmore Inter-Church Council

invites you to share in our

Community Carol Evening

Please come and celebrate Christmas with family and friends as Strathmore local people gather at this holy time of year in St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church on Sunday, 18th December at 5pm Light refreshments served after the Carols in the Parish Centre

Christmas Timetable

Tuesday 13th December An Evening to gather to Pray for Peace & Reconciliation in the

Church at 7.00 pm followed by supper ion the Parish Centre.

Friday 16th December End of School Year Mass at 10.00 am

Tuesday 20th December Communal Celebration of Penance at 7.00 pm in the Church

Christmas Eve Carols at 5.45 pm & Family Mass at 6.00 pm

Christmas Midnight Carols at 11.45 pm & Mass at 12.00 am

Christmas Morning Carols at 9.45 am & Mas at 10.00 am

The Annual Christmas Carols and Street Party in Napier Park will be held on Saturday 17th December at 7.30 pm.

Everybody is welcome to come along and celebrate, with friends, family and neighbours. Come early, bring a torch, chair, food and drink and meet on the Noble Avenue side of Napier Park. The street will be closed to traffic from 5 pm. Inquiries: Mark Roberts 9379 7164

CHRISTMAS CONCERT FOR ORGAN AND TRUMPET

Tuesday 13 December, 6.30pm-7.30pm

St Patrick's Cathedral, Cathedral Place, East Melbourne

This one-off Christmas concert will feature music from the 17th century to the present day, played by the extraordinarily gifted pair of Geoffrey Payne (principal trumpet with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra) and Melbourne's Anthony Halliday (described in Leipzig as 'one of the great international organists'). Handel, Bach and Haydn are represented, along with other great composers, including Anthony Halliday himself, who will play his *Christmas Rhapsody*. **Cost:** \$20. Children under 15 free. Tickets at the door.

Details: 9926 5753 or paul.taylor@cam.org.au

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