

Entrance Antiphon: Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

Responsorial Psalm: Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel; God-is-with-us. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

Recent Deaths: John Thomas

Anniversaries: Reginald Percy Oakley, Lee Bilston

Thanksgiving: \$2102.25 **Presbytery:** \$1036.55

Rosters for next weekend 28th & 29th December

6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
Lectors:		
L Capparelli	S Boyle	M Sullivan
Special Ministers:		
F Ferguson, D De Silva	P McKay, M Gauci	G Johnson, C Picinich
Offertory:		
J Mammone	C Vega	V & J Evans/Rogers
Counters:	Transport:	
H Tobin, J Burke	J Fraser, E Sheppard, M Sullivan, P Waddington	
Flowers:	Church Cleaning:	Linen:
D Boyle, F Boyle	G Group	E Sheppard
Next week's Readings:	Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23	

Rosters for Christmas Masses

6.00 pm	12 Midnight	10.00 am
Lectors:		
C Romano	K Hill	Volunteer
Commentator		
S Boyle	S Crombie	J Pattison
Special Ministers:		
M Ruberto, T Dargan	M Thomas, M Mollica	J Burke, C Johnson
R Legudi, A Monaghan		
Offertory:		
Romano Family	R & A Hutcheon	F Rivellese

FEASTS THIS WEEK

Wednesday: The Nativity of the Lord

Thursday: St Stephen

Friday: St John

Saturday: The Holy Innocents

RECENT BAPTISMS

Congratulations to **Ian Culwick**, **Freya Langston** and **Maeve Langston** who were Baptised last weekend. May we remember them and their families in our prayers.

PARISH WEBSITE

Our Website is now up and running. Check it out at 'cam.org.au/strathmore'. Comments and feedback would be appreciated, especially if there are aspects that you would like included.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve Vigil: 6.00 pm Family Mass
Proceeded by Carols at 5.30 pm
Midnight Mass
Proceeded by Carols at 11.30 pm

Christmas Day: 10.00 am Mass
Proceeded by Carols at 9.30 am

New Year's Eve: 6.00 pm Vigil Mass

New Year's Day: 10.00 am Mass

A Very Happy and Holy Christmas

As we are about to celebrate the birth of Christ, I wish you and your family a very Happy & Holy Christmas. May the peace and joy that we share with our families and loved ones over these days, bring a true sense of the spirit and love of God into our lives.

Thank you for your prayer and support during the year. May we all continue to sustain the spirit of belonging and generosity of heart.

During the coming year may we continue to be generous and support each other through the implementation of our Pastoral Plan.

ARCHBISHOP'S 2013 CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Archbishop Denis Hart has prepared a Christmas video message for Catholics in Melbourne to mark the 2013 joyful celebration of the birth of Christ. To view the message visit the Archdiocesan website at www.cam.org.au

Vision

To be a community celebrating Christ in Life

Mission

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

ACU SHORT COURSE: CHRISTIAN FAITH & THEOLOGY

Wednesdays: 19 February - 12 March 2014, 6pm - 8pm Learn the basics of Catholic theology with ACU experts, including Dr Joel Hodge, Dr Christiaan Jacobs-Vandegier, Rev Professor Anthony Kelly CSsR and Professor Anne Hunt. Refreshments provided from 6pm. Registration is essential and closes Friday 14 February. Cost: \$20 per person. Australian Catholic University, 115 Victoria Pde, Fitzroy. Register: www.acu.edu.au/595204. Contact: <mailto:email.joel.hodge@acu.edu.au>

TYPHOON HAIYAN AID RESPONSE

Super Typhoon Haiyan, one of the strongest storms to ever make landfall, has caused widespread devastation in the Philippines and caused significant damage in Vietnam and China. Millions of people are now in need of emergency aid relief in the Philippines. Caritas Australia is responding to the disaster with our partners prioritising emergency shelter, water and sanitation, household relief item (blankets, kitchen items), potable water and toilets. Give generously to the Caritas Australia Typhoon Haiyan Appeal. To donate: Call the Melbourne Office (03) 9926 5706 or 1800 024 413.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER CELEBRATES 40 YEARS IN AUSTRALIA

Saturday 22 February 2014 In February, Marriage Encounter will celebrate 40 years of running weekends in Australia. We would love to hear from couples and priests who have been involved with ME in the past and who would like to gather to share memories, celebrate what has been and hear about ME today, as well as our vision for the future. Join us for a special gathering as we celebrate this milestone. Please spread the word. More info: Helen & Leo Wursthorn or call 9874 6979 or helenandleo@gmail.com for more information.

CORPUS CHRISTI SPIRITUAL DIRECTION AVAILABLE

The Champion Team at Corpus Christi, Greenvale offer opportunities for spiritual direction, ministry supervision and live-in retreats. The Corpus Christi Community in Greenvale was founded by Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Jacinta Bright 0425 710 797 More info: www.championcorpuschristi.com

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 are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion please contact the Parish Office on 9379 1488 to be placed on our roster. Also, if you would like to attend Mass on Sunday but cannot do so due to lack of transport we can arrange it for you.

Caring for one another



St Vincent de Paul Press

21st & 22nd December, 2013

Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

Parish Priest: Fr Peter J Ray

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Web: cam.org.au/strathmore

Telephone: 9379 1488

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St Vincent de Paul Primary School: Woodland Street, Strathmore, 3041

Principal: Mr John Grant

Telephone: 9379 5723 **Facsimile:** 9379 2389 **Email:** [principal@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au](mailto: 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 Tuesday - Saturday 7.00 am - 5.00 pm for private prayer

Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation: Saturday 9.00 - 9.30 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.*

4th Sunday of Advent

During these final days of Advent the Scripture reminds us that -

‘God is with us’

The Gospel of Matthew records for us the account of the annunciation of the impending birth of Christ.

As we do in the reading form the prophet Isaiah and the Gospel of Matthew the words, “God is with us” are used to let us know that the promised Messiah was the gift of God to us, allowing us then to know that we were ever in the care and love of our creator.

The words of Paul in the beginning of his letter to the Romans also highlights for us to purpose of this ‘Good News’ - “Through him we received the grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith”. May we ponder these words as we are about to celebrate the birth of Christ, endeavouring to live the message we celebrate and proclaim, by the action of our lives. In the words of Paul:

‘May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace’.