

**THE 25TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROLS  
AND STREET PARTY IN NAPIER PARK**

will be held on Saturday 12th December at 7.30 pm. Everybody is welcome to come along and celebrate the festive season, with friends, family and neighbours. Come early, bring a torch, chair, food and drink and meet on the Noble Avenue side of Napier Park. Both Noble Avenue and Bruce Street will be closed to traffic from 5 pm. Inquiries: Mark Roberts 9379 7164

**OPENING OF THE HOLY DOOR, ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL**

Sunday 13 December, 2.30pm St Patrick's Cathedral, Cathedral Place, East Melbourne  
In announcing the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis asked that a special holy door be opened in every diocese, 'to allow everyone in every part of the world to experience the Mercy of the Father ... the Holy Door will become a Door of Mercy through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons and instils hope.' (Misericordiae Vultus) To mark the opening of the Jubilee in Melbourne, Archbishop Denis Hart will open a special Holy Door of Mercy on Sunday 13 December at 2.30pm. Program highlights: • Opening of the local Door of Mercy by Archbishop Denis Hart at 2.30pm • Food stalls, music and activities hosted by Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, CatholicCare, Catholic Mission, Melbourne Vocations Office, and more! • Hour of adoration and prayer led by Bishop Vincent Long OFMconv at 4pm Pilgrims are advised to arrive as early as 2pm, as we anticipate a large crowd for the official opening of the Door of Mercy at 2.30pm.

**ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF READINGS, PRAYERS AND CAROLS** Friday 11 December, 7.30pm St Patrick's Cathedral, Cathedral Place, East Melbourne. St Pat's will once again resound with the glorious music of Advent and Christmas when the annual Festival of Readings, Prayers and Carols is held on Friday 11 December. The tradition of the carol service dates only from the late nineteenth century, but its deepest origins may be found in the great tradition of the daily prayer of the Church, whose customary nine readings and responsories provide the basis for the structure of the modern service as we know it. The service will conclude with Benediction as principal celebrant Archbishop Denis Hart places the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance and enthrones it upon the altar. Directed by Dr Daryl Barclay and accompanied by organist Mr Dion Henman, the St Patrick's Cathedral Choir will lead the various carols, and also sing a variety of sacred works expressing the profound mysteries of Advent and Christmas.

*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



***St Vincent de Paul Press***

5th & 6th December 2015  
Second Sunday of Advent

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:** 9379 1488 **Facsimile:** 9379 1574

**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.*

**PRAYER OF POPE FRANCIS FOR THE JUBILEE**

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.

Show us your face and we will be saved. Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief. Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman: "If you knew the gift of God!"

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified. You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

**Entrance Antiphon:** O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

**Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

**Recent Deaths:** Frank Beggs

**Anniversaries:** Rose Samna, Mary Awad

**Thanksgiving:** \$2072.00 **Presbytery:** \$1000.55

**Rosters for next weekend 12th & 13th December**

**6.00 pm** **8.30 am** **10.30 am**

**Lectors**

L Capparelli G Delaney J Pattison

**Special Ministers:**

M Mollica, J Mammone M Gauci, A Henshall L Anderson, C Johnson

**Offertory:**

T & J Scott B Evans Children's Liturgy

**Counters:**

B Tormey, D Lane P Fox, G Johnson, P Waddington

**Flowers:**

D & F Boyle F Group M Hitchcock

**Next week's Readings:** Zeph 3:14-18; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

**FEASTS THIS WEEK**

**Monday:** St Ambrose

**Tuesday:** The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**MEETINGS THIS WEEK**

**Thursday:** Maintenance & Planning Committee Meeting in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm

**TUESDAY MASS TIME CHANGE**

Mass on Tuesday 8th December will be celebrated at 7.30 am. There will be no 10.00 am Mass, as Fr Peter will be attending a Diocesan Meeting.

**EVENING OF PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION & PEACE**

As an expression of appreciation for your support of our Parish community this year I invite you to gather with us on Tuesday 15th December at 7.00 pm firstly in the Church for prayers for Reconciliation & Peace in our lives followed by Supper in the Parish Centre. As we are about to commence the 'Year of Mercy' you are welcome to gather with us.

**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 in the Parish Centre for Children's Liturgy of the Word. During each session the gospel of the day is explored in a way that assists children to understand and make meaning of the message, through stories, pictures and discussion.

**MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSION**

Next weekend we are invited to support Melbourne Overseas Mission. A collection will be taken up at Notice Time. Envelopes will be available in the porches of the church.

## Christmas at St Vincent de Paul

Reconciliation Ceremony - Tuesday 22nd December 7.00 pm  
Reconciliation on Saturdays at 9.00 am

### Christmas Masses

- \* 6.00 pm Christmas Eve (Family Mass) with Carols starting at 5.30 pm
- \* Midnight with carols at 11.30 pm
- \* 10.00 am Christmas Morning with carols at 9.45 am

### COMMUNITY CAROL EVENING

Hosted by the Strathmore Inter-Church Council at St Aidan's Anglican Church  
Come and celebrate with our Anglican and Uniting Church communities on Sunday 20th December at 5.00 pm.

To assist in the promotion of the Carol Evening and Christmas Ceremonies you are invited to help distribute flyers around the southern areas of our Parish. Please help by taking a street near you. The flyers on the table in the east Transcept.

### 1941 TO 2016 ST VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH STRATHMORE

Next year begins the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the foundation of our Parish. A year long program has been arranged for us. The first of these will be held on Sunday 21st February 2016.

To begin 'our journey' Come and Share High Tea at 'North Park Mansion' with the Columban Fathers 69 Woodland Street, Essendon, across the road from our Church, between 2.00 to 4.00 pm

The Columban Fathers celebrated Mass and were responsible for this part of North Essendon (Strathmore) from 1923, before Fr Durkin was appointed the 1st Parish Priest in 1946.

A variety of sandwiches & petit four together with Tea, Coffee & Hot Chocolate will be available Gold coin donation would be appreciated to help cover the costs. A part of our history we will have our 1st Historical Display (1923-1946) & Tours of North Park Mansion.

To cover catering for this event tickets will be available in January

### *Vision*

*To be a community celebrating Christ in Life*

### *Mission*

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