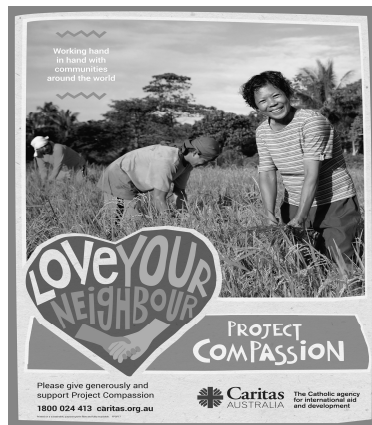


PROJECT COMPASSION



In Timor-Leste, Martina was driven from her home by domestic violence. The Protection Program connected her with livelihood training opportunities, offering the chance to afford education for her eight children and a safe life in a supportive community. Please donate to Project Compassion 2017 and help empower women in Timor-Leste to recover from domestic violence, develop sustainable livelihoods, and lead a life of dignity. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Invest in your most precious asset..... Your Marriage! There is no group sharing. Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome. 2017 Melbourne weekend dates : 24-26 March, 28-30 July, 17-19 November, 2017 Starts 7pm on Friday. Ends 5pm Sunday. Accommodation and all meals provided. Information/Bookings: PH: Marianne & Marcel (03) 9733 0997 Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: www.wwme.org.au

CARDS AFTERNOON

Join us on the last Monday of every month for Cards in the Parish Centre commencing at 12.15 pm. All welcome, please bring a plate to share.

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

MISSIONARY SISTERS of ST PETER CLAVER

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver will hold their annual Mission Concert on Sunday 26 March at the St Peter Claver Hall, 154 Hotham Road, Kew commencing 2.00pm. Admission is free, a collection will be taken during the concert. Proceeds will assist a community of 22 families affected by leprosy in the parish of Our Lady of Lourdes, Busanda, Tanzania, Africa.



St Vincent de Paul Press

11th & 12th March 2017
Second 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](mailto: Priest.Strathmore@cam.org.au)

Parish Administration: Mrs. Patricia McNicholl

Parish Office Email: [Strathmore@cam.org.au](mailto: Strathmore@cam.org.au)

Presbytery: 2 The Crossway, Strathmore, Victoria 3041

Telephone: 9412 8460

Facsimile: 9287 5536

Web: cam.org.au/strathmore

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.*

These days of Lent

It is so easy to slip back into old habits. Ponder for a while, those things in your life which you recognise need to change! These days of Lent are a wonderful opportunity for us to consider where we need to reflect and perhaps change some of our habits.

The Gospel this weekend continues the theme of discovering who Jesus is for us. The 'Transfiguration' helped Peter, James & John come to a deeper appreciation of the divinity of Jesus. The invitation to them was to 'Listen to him.' This same invitation is extended to us, to 'Listen to him' and perhaps the words Jesus spoke to his friends immediately after, 'do not be afraid' are also relevant to us today. It is Jesus who offers us support each day, it is Jesus who invites us to listen to him, it is Jesus who helps us build and improve our relationships.

May we use these days of Lent to consider how we may listen to Jesus as we place our trust in him, believing he is there to guide and sustain us.

Entrance Antiphon: Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard; this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

Recent Deaths: Sr Margaret Furey

Anniversaries: Agnes Wilken

Thanksgiving: \$4681.50 **Presbytery:** \$1981.55

Rosters for next weekend 18th & 19th March:

6.00 pm	8.30am	10.30am
Lectors:		
L Capparelli	B Hanley	G Johnson
Special Ministers:		
L Caridi, T Dargan	R McGowan, M Gavaghan	C Picinich, L Anderson
Offertory:		
Hewitt Family	K Foletti	Lo Giudice Family
Counters:	Transport:	
G Delaney, M Schembri	G Johnson, D Meller, M Sullivan	
Flowers:	Church Cleaning:	Linen:
D & F Boyle	Group C	P McMahan
Next week's Readings:	Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42	

STATIONS OF THE CROSS & SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Each Friday evening during Lent we have the opportunity to ponder the Passion of Christ reflecting in prayer on the Stations of the Cross in our Church. The Stations of the Cross help us to consider the loving sacrifice of Jesus who offered himself to free our sins, the ultimate expression of love. The Stations will commence at 7.00 pm followed by the Sacrament of Penance (Confession/Reconciliation) at 7.30 pm.

FEASTS THIS WEEK

Friday: St Patrick

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Tuesday: **Book Club** in the Parish Centre at 1.00pm
Data Projector Training in the Church at 7.30pm
Friday: **Stations of the Cross & Sacrament of Penance** in the Church at 7.00pm

RECENT BAPTISMS

Congratulations to **Ryan D'Amico** who was Baptised last weekend. May we remember him and his family in our prayers.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Congratulations to the children who will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time this Wednesday and Thursday evening. May we remember them and their families in our prayers.

Children's Liturgy of the Word this weekend during the 10.30 am Mass

First reading Genesis 12:1-4

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing. 'I will bless those who bless you: I will curse those who slight you. All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.' So Abram went as the Lord told him.

Second reading 2 Timothy 1:8-10

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

Gospel Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured: his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this the disciples fell on their faces overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order, 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

PALMS AUSTRALIA - GLOBAL VOLUNTEER NOTICE

Sending people can be more important than sending money
Communities in Asia, the Pacific and Africa are looking to provide mentoring opportunities for local personnel and improve processes and procedures for organisations vital to reducing poverty. To ensure sustainable development they prefer those willing to come for two years, but accept that some are only available for 12 months. If you are an experienced professional, business or trades person, in any area, but especially education, please consider volunteering with Palms Australia. Information Session: Saturday March 25, 10.30 am to noon Ross House (247 Flinders Lane) RSVP joey@palms.org.au or call 0431 995 058 Can't make it? Call now about applying for positions currently available. OR Look first via Palms' two-week Encounter. Go with a friend and get great discounts!

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.

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