

the Christ?' This brought people out of the town and they started walking towards him. Meanwhile, the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, do have something to eat; but he said, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples asked one another, 'Has someone been bringing him food?' But Jesus said: 'My food is to do the will of the one who sent me, and to complete his work. Have you not got a saying: Four months and then the harvest? Well, I tell you: Look around you, look at the fields; already they are white, ready for harvest! Already the reaper is being paid his wages, already he is bringing in the grain for eternal life, and thus sower and reaper rejoice together. For here the proverb holds good: one sows, another reaps; I sent you to reap a harvest you had not worked for. Others worked for it; and you have come into the rewards of their trouble.' Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

## PROJECT COMPASSION



Kinchela Boys home Aboriginal Corporation offers Uncle Richard and other former Stolen Generations survivors the chance to heal after a childhood of suffering, and manage the inter-generational effects of their pain.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2017 and help members of the Stolen Generations support each other on the journey to wellbeing.**

## **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

## **CATHOLIC CHURCH INSURANCE EASTER HAMPER RAFFLE**

**CCI has offered us an Easter Hamper to Raffle. The proceeds will be used to support our pastoral outreach this year.**

**Tickets for the Hamper are only \$1.00.**

**The hamper is valued over \$150.00. A list of contents is available with the hamper at the Piety Stall in the Narthex of the Church or the Parish Administration Office.**



## **St Vincent de Paul Press**

18th & 19th March 2017  
Third 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  
**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

**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.*

## **Life giving**

Imagine being tormented by thirst! It would be a very trying time craving for that life saving drink.

The Scripture this weekend presents to us the wonderful gift our God offers us as life saving. The image of water symbolises Jesus Christ himself as life saving gift. Water we know is the source of life and God uses this as a sign of the life he gives to us. Within the Gospel the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan women is a most powerful and wonderful example of the life giving love of our God to each one of us. Note Jesus reveals himself to the woman (a Samaritan with whom Jews do not associate) at the well. Water sustains life here on earth. The water Jesus offers gives us life for all eternity. So we ask what is this water for eternal life? Jesus is speaking about his Death on the Cross and Resurrection which is preceded by the Last Supper where he gave himself to his friends in the very first Holy Communion. We likewise share in this gift of life when we receive Jesus in Holy Communion.

