

### **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.

### **ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL MIDNIGHT MASS LIVE STREAMING**

It's been announced that the midnight Mass from St Patrick's Cathedral this week will be live streamed. Parishioners anywhere in the world with internet access will be able to watch the Mass streaming live from the cathedral from 11pm. The webcast will be viewable through the Archdiocesan website. The CAM home page will have a live link to the service, which will also be available for replay right through the following days, again via the link clearly visible on the home page of the Melbourne Archdiocese's website, [www.cam.org.au](http://www.cam.org.au)

### **GOOD NEWS FOR VOCATIONS**

This year in Melbourne the Archbishop ordained nine new priests for service in Melbourne. All of these priests are now serving in parishes in the Archdiocese. This ordination class was the biggest for many years, and is a sign that the Lord is hearing our prayers for vocations. This Christmas, please join us in praying that many more young people will hear the call of the Lord to serve in priesthood or consecrated life.

### **CELEBRATE ST MARY MACKILLOP'S BIRTHDAY. WITH CAKE!**

Friday 15 January 2016, 11am All Saints Church, King William Street, Fitzroy Come celebrate the birthday of St Mary MacKillop as the first official event in Melbourne of the Sesquicentenary of the Sisters of St Joseph (1866–2016). Each year the birthday Mass is celebrated at All Saints Church Fitzroy, the suburb where Mary MacKillop was born in 1842. Following Mass refreshments will be served in All Saints Church Hall and the traditional cutting of the birthday cake will also take place. Details and RSVP: 9030 9926 or [admin.mmhc@sosj.org.au](mailto:admin.mmhc@sosj.org.au)

### ***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

### **PIETY STALL**

All the Christmas cards have been sold. A selection of other cards and items are available from the Piety stall after each Mass.

### **COLUMBAN CALENDAR**

The 2016 Columban Art Calendar is now available at the Piety Stall for the special price of \$8.00. When you purchase the calendar, you are assisting the Columbans.



## ***St Vincent de Paul Press***

19th & 20th December 2015

Fourth 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](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 **Web:** [cam.org.au/strathmore](http: 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](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 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.*

## ***4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT***

There is a wonderful expectancy in the Scripture readings we are invited to reflect upon today. How do we respond in our outreach and concern for others? As we ponder we can do no better than to look to Mary who focused not upon herself. Mary stands as a example for us when we consider her outreach to the news she received of her cousin Elizabeth, who was to give birth to a child.

Mary's focus was not on herself, as she accepted the invitation to bring the Messiah into the world, for she, with haste, went to assist and support Elizabeth.

We, in our reflection, may consider how prepared am I to put aside where I might be, to consider the needs of the other.

These days leading up to Christmas are a wonderful time for each of us to ponder on the things that really matter in life- How do I reach out to give .....

**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:** Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

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

**Recent Deaths:** Wendy McEvoy

**Anniversaries:** Irene & Les Beagley, John, Pat & Stuart Beagley, Claude Bence, Lee Bilston, Ed & Pat Delaney, Jack & Alice Kelly, Fr John O'Hara

**Thanksgiving:** \$1501.70 **Presbytery:** \$1024.55

**Roster for Christmas Masses**

<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>12 Midnight</b>	<b>10.00am</b>
<b><u>Lectors:</u></b>		
L Capparelli	G Delaney	G Cronan
<b><u>Commentator:</u></b>		
A Mucic	J Harris	G Johnson
<b><u>Special Ministers:</u></b>		
R McGowan, J Mammone, F Ferguson, T Dargan	J Nesci, P McKay A Henshall	C Johnson, L Anderson

**Offertory:**

B Evans M Scarpino T & S Comerford

**Rosters for next weekend 26th & 27th December**

<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>8.30 am</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>
<b><u>Lectors</u></b>		
S Crombie	M Gavaghan	G Johnson
<b><u>Special Ministers:</u></b>		
J Mammone, M Mollica	A Henshall, M Gauci	L Anderson, C Johnson

**Offertory:**

A Timmins K Foletti M Scarpino

**Counters:**

G Cook, P Hill G Johnson, M Sullivan, P Waddington

**Flowers:**

T Dargan & J Whelan A Group N McCartney

**Next week's Readings:** Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21; Lk 2:41-52

**FEASTS THIS WEEK**

**Friday:** The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas Day

**Saturday:** St Stephen

**RECENT BAPTISMS**

Congratulations to **Valerie Smith** and **Kyah Watts** who were Baptised last weekend. May we remember them and their families in our prayers.

**MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSION**

Thank you to all who generously donated to the Melbourne Overseas Mission Appeal. A total of \$899.40 was collected.

## Christmas at St Vincent de Paul

2nd Rite Reconciliation Ceremony - Tuesday 22nd December 7.00 pm

1st Rite 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

### **CHURCH REFURBISHMENT PROGRAM**

The Parish Leadership Team has considered all feedback regarding the proposed refurbishment of the church, and will proceed with the program originally proposed in the information sessions held in September. A model of the church showing the new sanctuary and seating layout has been prepared to visually illustrate the planned changes within the context of the existing building. The model will be on display on the sanctuary after all Masses, and pictures will be displayed in the church foyers. We invite all parishioners to have a look at the model and discuss any questions you have with Fr Peter or members of the Parish Leadership Team.

While the core elements of the design have been finalised, final details regarding fitout, screening, lighting and flooring will be finalised as the program proceeds. We expect the contract for the construction aspects of the program to be finalised shortly, with work commencing early January 2016. At this stage, we expect Masses to be celebrated as usual in the church up to Sunday 3rd January, and after that weekday Mass in the Parish Centre and weekend Masses in the Parish Hall during the refurbishment. Further details of arrangements will be provided closer to that time.

We will be providing regular information bulletins via the church and school, to keep people informed of what is happening during the refurbishment program, including a high level plan of activities once it is available. We encourage anyone who would like to discuss any aspect of the program to contact the Parish Leadership Team directly or through the Parish Office.

Parish Leadership Team

### ***Vision***

*To be a community celebrating Christ in Life*

### ***Mission***

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