

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas Cards are now available at the Piety Stall. \$4.00 for a packet of 5 cards and \$6.00 for a packet of 8 cards.

2015 COLUMBAN CALENDARS

The calendars are available at the Piety Stall for \$9.00 each. Sales of the Calendars support the mission activities of the Columbans in poor communities.

STAYING SAFE FROM FIRE THIS SUMMER

This summer, forecasts show that parts of Victoria are at above average risk of bushfire and grassfire. Emergency Management Commissioner Craig Lapsley has urged Victorians to take responsibility for their own fire safety this summer. 'On hot, dry, windy days, fires can start and spread quickly. Use Fire Danger Ratings to decide when to leave. Fire Danger Ratings are not a weather forecast – they tell you how dangerous a fire would be if one started. As the ratings increase, so does your risk of fire,' he said. 'If the Fire Danger Rating is Severe, Extreme or Code Red, you're risking your life if you wait and see. Leaving early is the safest option to protect yourself and your family.' Mr Lapsley has urged Victorians to check fire warnings, which are issued when a fire has started. 'There are three different levels of warnings – Advice, Watch and Act and Emergency Warning. Make sure you understand the three levels of warnings and what they mean,' Mr Lapsley said. For information on how to stay safe this summer, visit emergency.vic.gov.au or ring the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667, and download the FireReady app.

CAROLS THIS SUNDAY

Strathmore Inter Church Council invites you and your family to

Come to the Carols Evening

in the Strathmore Uniting Church,
The Crossway, This Sunday at 5.00 pm.

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

20th & 21st December 2014

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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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

Acting 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 - Friday 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.*

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



These next couple of days will most likely be hectic for all of us. Even so it is important to find some quiet time for reflection and prayer. Take a little while to contemplate the celebration we are about to engage in. Jesus, our God, coming to live with us gives us new hope, peace and an inspiration to strive to consider those who are walk with us in a new light. May we step aside for a moment.

Explore the possibilities



St Vincent de Paul Parish 2014

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: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

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: Fr Vin Creed P.E., Betty Hogg, Alida Van Wissen, Terry Kennedy, Peter Bennett

Anniversaries: Fr John O'Hara, Bill Mahoney, Paul Plummer, Lee Bilston, William & Vera Dolan, Liz, John, Stuart & Irene Beagley, Claude Bence

Thanksgiving: \$1563.00 **Presbytery:** \$910.95

Rosters for next weekend 27th & 28th December

6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
Lectors: M Henshall	K Hill	M Sullivan
Special Ministers: F Ferguson, J Burke	M Gauci, M Thomas	D Meller, R Legudi
Offertory: R & A Hutcheon	C Attard	Modica Family
Counters: A Monaghan, H Tobin	Transport: P Fox, G Johnson, M Green	
Flowers: C Picinich	Church Cleaning: F Group	Linen: N McCartney
Next week's Readings:	Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21; Lk 2:22-40	

Rosters for Christmas Masses

6.00pm	12 Midnight	10.00am
Lectors Sean Crombie	John Harris	G Johnson
Commentator: J Harris	L Capparelli	Volunteer
Special Ministers: J Mammone, T Dargan	P McKay, M Mollica	G Cascone, C Johnson
Offertory: F Rivellese	S La Vita	V Rogers & J Evans

FEASTS THIS WEEK

Thursday: The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas Day

Friday: St Stephen

Saturday: St John

RECENT BAPTISMS

Congratulations to **Scarlett Forcone** and **Imogen Obliubek** who were Baptised last week-end. 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 \$872.55 was collected.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve Vigil: 6.00pm Family Mass - Carols at 5.30pm

Christmas Midnight: 12.00 am Mass - Carols at 11.30pm

Christmas Day: 10.00am Mass - Carols at 9.45am

New Year's Eve: 6.00pm Vigil Mass

New Year's Day: 10.00am Mass

Sacrament of Penance: Saturdays at 9.00 am
Tuesday 23rd December 7.00 pm

STRATHMORE INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL CAROL EVENING

All are invited to celebrate Christmas with family and friends as Strathmore local people gather at this holy time of year. The carols will be held at **Strathmore Uniting Church**, Upland Road, Strathmore on **Sunday 21st December 2014** at **5pm**. Light refreshments will be served after the service.

Flyers for the Inter-Church Carol Evening are available for local distribution from the table on the east side of the Church. The flyers are in street order and your assistance with distribution would be appreciated.

ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

The Strathmore Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society would like to express our sincere gratitude on behalf of the people that we assist for the wonderful support the Society receives from the parishioners of St Vincent de Paul. The Vinnies Christmas Appeal will enable us to assist many families and individuals who are encountering difficulties in their lives to experience a joyous Christmas knowing that someone cares. There will be a leaving collection at all Masses this weekend.

GIVING A VOICE TO FAMILIES - 2015 SYNOD ON THE FAMILY

Following the recent Synod on the family, Pope Francis and the Bishops' Synod are again seeking input ahead of their 2015 meeting. In response to feedback during the previous process, a simplified questionnaire has been developed for our local Church. The survey can be found at: www.surveymonkey.com/s/Synod2015.

A simple guide with the questions is available from the Life, Marriage and Family Office website at: www.cam.org.au/lifemarriagefamily, or a hard copy is available in the East Porch of the Church. Any questions about the process can be directed to the Life, Marriage & Family Office on 9287 5579.

Vision

To be a community celebrating Christ in Life

Mission

That we strive to maintain a strong sense of belonging