



# St. John's Parish Mitcham

494 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham 3132

(Postal: P.O. Box 95, Mitcham 3132)

Email: [Mitcham@cam.org.au](mailto:Mitcham@cam.org.au)

Website: [www.stjohnsmitcham.com.au](http://www.stjohnsmitcham.com.au)

Phone: 03 9873 1341 Fax No. 03 9872 4316



## 1st Sunday of Advent November 27th 2016 —Year A

***Stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect***

The Liturgical year has turned full circle and we begin the new year with the first Sunday of Advent. This year we will read from the Gospel of Matthew which was written sometime in the 80s, approximately fifty years after the death and resurrection of Jesus. Matthew's community has strong roots in Judaism. They believe that Jesus is the long awaited Messiah who brings their past Scriptures and traditions to fulfilment. For this reason Matthew will emphasise the connections between Jesus' life and the Scriptures of Israel. When listening to or reading the Gospel it is important to listen / read with two time frames in mind. There is the time of Jesus and the later time of Matthew's community who are beginning to experience a separation from Judaism.

Two people are referred to in today's Gospel, Noah and the Son of Man. Both are meant to urge Christians to live with an alertness to God's reign. People were not ready for the flood in the time of Noah. According to the book of Daniel, at the end of time when all the powers of evil have been overcome one 'like a Son of Man' will be given all authority in God's new world. The early Christian communities related this image to Jesus. Matthew is therefore urging his community to be alert and ready for the day when Jesus will return.

Amidst the signs of Christmas and toys we too need to be reminded that the focus of this time is Jesus. He can be lost amidst the glitter and excitement if we are not attentive.

*Sundays under the Southern Cross—Gospel Reflections—Mary Coloe PBVM*

### ***PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM MISSION STATEMENT***

*To lead and empower the people of our parish to work independently and use their skills and gifts to grow the life of our faith community now and into the future.*

## Parish Information

### Normal Weekend Mass Times at St. John's

**Saturday Vigil, 6pm, then 8.30am, 9.45am, 11.15am, 5pm**

#### Parish Priest

Fr Mark Reynolds

#### Visiting Priests

Fr John Van Suylen

#### Pastoral Associate:

Maree O'Keefe (Tuesday-Friday Sunday am)

#### Pastoral Care:

Monika Bredhauer—Pastoral Care and Bereavement Ministry  
Kevin Hay—Coordination of Communion to the Sick  
Sr Margaret Richmond—Visitation

#### Parish Office

Office hours:  
Monday-Friday 9am-4pm Ph: **98731341**  
Parish Secretaries:  
Martine Giles (Monday-Wednesday)  
Elisa Kelesidis (Wednesday—Friday)  
Therese Matson, Finance Office (Tue only)

#### Schools

St John's School, 494 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham, **9874 1575**

**Principal:** Mrs Jacqui Marshall

St. James School, 51 Centre Road, Vermont, **9874 1830**

**Principal:** Mr Andrew Mullaly

#### RE for Government Schools:

Andrew Puls 0407 352 706

**Services:** St Vincent de Paul Shop 2/82 Maroondah Hwy Ringwood **9870 9124** - **St Vincent de Paul Furniture Pick-Ups 1800 621 349**  
The House of Books (house next door to the Church) **9874 2389** - **St Vincent de Paul Welfare Assistance 1800 305 330**

### Scripture Readings for week

Mon: Isaiah 4:2-6	Matthew 8:5-11
Tue Isaiah 11:1-10	Luke 10:21-24
Wed: Romans 10:9-18	Matthew 4:18-22
Thur: Isaiah 26:1-6	Matthew 7:21,24-27
Fri: Isaiah 29:17-24	Matthew 9:27-31
Sat: Isaiah 30:19-21,23-26	Matt 9:35- 10:1,6-8
Sun: <b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b>	
Isaiah 11:1-10	
Romans 15:4-9	Matthew 3:1-12

### AMONGST OUR PARISH FAMILY

We welcome into our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism, **Lucy Anne Hill, William Oliver Pevitt, Francis Ruolin Zang.**

We ask for the grace and peace of Eternal Life for those whose memories are sacred to us at this time, **Phil Wallis, Kathleen Young, Maureen Collins, Elsie Hetherington.**



### Weekday Masses this week in our Parish

Monday	Church Closed
Tuesday	Middy Mass
Wednesday	10am Mass
Thursday	9.15am Mass - SJV
Friday	10am Mass
Saturday	9am Morning Prayer & Communion Service
	9.30am Reconciliation

### St. John's Memorial Garden

Plaques for this pastoral project may be ordered at any time for any deceased person who either was a parishioner at St John's or who was buried from St John's Church. The forms are in the Newsstands. **These forms now include the Interment of Ashes at St. John's.** The completed forms can be handed into the Parish Office. **Enquiries: Maureen 9894 3288.**



**Travelling Rosary 2016—The travelling Rosary will be held this week **Sunday November 27th —Friday December 2nd** at the home of **Joan Santamaria 0412868655.** Enquiries Helen on 9874 7024.**



Dec 3 / 4	St John's 6pm	St John's 8.30am	St. John's 9.45am	St John's 11.15am	St John's 5pm	St James 9.30am
<b>C'Tator</b>	Youth Group	M McMahon	D Vecci	A Menon	A&F Puls	
<b>Lector</b>	J Dinh	A Buchanan	R Horner	P Spencer	S Solomons	W Gregg
<b>Eucharist</b>	C Irvin	J Franklin	G Gill	S Box	B Belot	M Gartland
	K McClure	B O'Reilly	A Anthony	C Bantawig	D Lim	L Cairnduff
	Y Martin	M Gartland	J White	J Bantawig		
			R Elliott	A Wilson		
<b>Childrens Liturgy</b>			A O'Riley			C Gorry
			L Freeman			A Thurbon
<b>Laptop</b>	L Elliott	F McKenna	T Rowland	Hangan Family	R Doyle	
<b>Welcome Desk</b>	M Rasmussen	H Thomas	A Wallis	S Box	D O'Farrell	



**Catholic Social Teaching—What Can I Do About it here and now?**

**December 1 is World AIDS Day**—Catholic HIV / AIDS Ministry invite you to the 5.30pm Mass at St Francis Church, Melbourne (cnr Elizabeth and Lonsdale Streets) on Wednesday 30th November.

Here we will:

- Remember the many people who have died from AIDS related illnesses
- Celebrate the advances in treatments which mean many more are able to live with HIV
- Hope and pray that a cure will soon be found

**Pope John Paul's address to Indigenous Australians**

This weekend we mark the 30th anniversary of Pope John Paul's inspirational address to Indigenous Australians in Alice Springs in 1986. See [www/Vatican/johnpaulspeeches/alicesprings.australia](http://www/Vatican/johnpaulspeeches/alicesprings.australia)

**December Calendar 2016**

Thur 1	- 2017 Prep Family Commitment Liturgy 7.30pm
Sun 4	- <b>2nd Sunday of ADVENT</b> - SJM Prep Welcome Mass 9.45am - SJV Prep Welcome Mass 11.15am
Tue 6	- Parish Management Group meeting 11am - RCIA 7.30pm - Music Ministry Practice 7.30pm
Wed 7	- Sion Yrs 7-9 End of Year Mass 9.30am - Liturgy Team 5pm - Catechist Meeting & Lunch - Parish Leadership Team 6.30pm
Thur 8	- SJV Thanksgiving Mass 7pm
Sun 11	- <b>3rd Sunday of ADVENT</b>
Tues 13	- Sion Staff Mass 10.30am - No Midday Mass - PMG meeting & lunch 1pm - Solo's Mass 6pm followed by Christmas dinner - RCIA 7.30pm - Music Ministry Practice 7.30pm
Wed 14	- Parish Penitential Celebration 7.30pm
Thur 15	- SJM Thanksgiving Mass 7pm
Fri 16	- Schools finish
Sun 18	- <b>4th Sunday of ADVENT</b> - RCIA—Rite of Welcome 9.45am - Rite of Welcome for Children 11.15am
Tues 20	- End of term for school staff
Sat 24	- Christmas Eve
Sun 25	- Christmas Day



**The Anointing Mass is to be held on Friday 9 December at 11.30am** followed by a luncheon in the Coghlan Centre. (no cost involved). For catering purposes and / or transport please ring the **Parish office on 9873 1341** .  
**It would be greatly appreciated if you could reply by the December 2nd.**

We warmly invite **Special Ministers** from St John's & St James who take **Eucharist to the sick in their homes** to an important meeting to update us all on some recent changes. Meeting will be straight after **10am Mass Friday 16 December**. If you are unable to attend please let the Parish Office know so we can let you know of the changes.

**CHRISTMAS MASS ROSTERS  
CAN YOU HELP OUT**

**If you would like to be involved in the Christmas Liturgies—please put your name on the sign up sheets in the Narthex or call Maree at the Parish Office on 98731341. Thank you**

Inspiration for the coming week from the  
**Compassion and Friendship Group**  
*Your mind is a garden. Your thoughts are the seeds. You can grow flowers or you can grow weeds.*



**ST JOHN'S CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE**

**Parish Advent Penitential Celebration—Wednesday , December 14 at 7.30pm**

**Christmas Eve Masses – Saturday, December 24**

**St James Family Mass** at 6pm (51 Centre Road Vermont) Carols at 5.30pm

**St John's Family Mass** at 8.30pm – Carols at 7.45pm

**Please Note: 11pm Mass replaces Midnight Mass**

**St John's 11pm Mass** – Carols at 10.30pm

**Christmas Day Masses –Sunday December 25**

**St John's—8.30am, 9.45am & 11.15am**

**PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO 5PM MASS CHRISTMAS DAY**

**PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO 9.30AM MASS AT ST JAMES VERMONT**



**Memorabilia needed!!! 1952—2016**

St John's Parish will celebrate its 65th year in February 2017. As part of our celebrations, we plan to commemorate school and parish life since 1952 with an exhibition of memories. We are calling for any photographs, vintage school items (from both St John's and St James) sacramental mementos etc.. If you have a story of a memorable school or parish event, we'd love to hear it!

Contributions may be dropped at the Parish Office. A box will also be placed in the narthex. Please include name and item details, along with a return address and contact phone number. If you would prefer items to be collected in person, or have any queries / ideas / stories, please contact Janine Sexton on [janinecallanan5@gmail.com](mailto:janinecallanan5@gmail.com) or call 0408 992 537. We look forward to compiling as many items as possible, to build a fabulous display of our Parish life across the decades.



# Social & Other

## COMPASSION AND FRIENDSHIP GROUP

**Monday 28th November**



At our next session we will commence at **10.30am** in the **Lyons Room**. Hope to see you there, so if you're interested please call the Parish office on 98731341.



*Val would like to thank Fr Mark, the Pastoral Care group, Parishioners, Friends and colleagues of Tony for the cards, flowers, words of condolence and the magnificent attendance at his Requiem Mass, we were overwhelmed and very humbled. Please accept this as a personal Thank You. The Box Family*



**ST VINCENT DE PAUL** seeking a **LADIES BIKE** in good condition. Please contact Kevin **0405 379 504** if you are able to assist.

## THANK YOU FROM THE FETE COMMITTEE

Dear parents, students and parishioners on behalf of the St John's Parish Fete Committee I would like to thank you for making the Saturdays St John's Parish Fete a wonderful success. The committee members took regular feedback during the day on what a great atmosphere the Fete has and the community spirit that was so evident.

I would also like to thank all the Stallholders that took on the responsibility for running a stall, coordinating their workers and greeting every fete goer with a smile.

This years changes to the closing of the fete was one of the great demonstration of the wonderful community in our parish. To watch the stallholders and their team take responsibility for the packing their stall and moving equipment to collection points took a huge pressure of the team and let all of us all enjoy a drink and pizza's at 6.00 to celebrate the day. I hope this becomes a tradition for the fete as it was great to sit for a moment to reflect of the success with a bulk of the hard work already done.

The success of the Fete closure was only mimicked on Sunday morning with some 30 families coming to assist with the final clean and pack of the fete and I would like to thank those families for their support

Finally the member of the Fete Committee, the fete is organised over 9 months and the committee go about their business of organising and preparing with little recognition that culminates in a wonderful day.

So again on behalf of myself and the Fete Committee, Thanks and see you all again in 2017!

Regards, Andrew Russell (Retiring Chairperson)

**St John's Seniors**—The Seniors will finish the year in the Coghlan Centre on Wednesday 30th with a short Bingo session and a lovely Christmas afternoon tea. We will have a lovely door prize and ask everyone to bring a Kris Kringle gift to share. Cost is \$5 and we start at 1pm. After the concert on 14th December we are going to lunch at Mr Green in Brentwood Square. Any members who want to join us please contact Helen on 9874 0809.

Many thanks to all members of the parish who have supported the 2016 St John's Fete Raffle. Totals are still being finalised, but initial figures show the raffle to have raised over \$11,000. An amazing result. Thank you to everyone who assisted in the selling of tickets both on Fete Day and after Masses. Special thanks to the St John's School Parents Association and the St James Parents and Friends who co-ordinated the selling of tickets at both schools within our parish. Thank you to our Fete sponsors for their financial support, especially Biggin and Scott our major Fete Sponsor for the past 11 years. Please note that in 2017 the Fete Raffle in November will be the **ONLY** major raffle in our Parish.

### 2016 Raffle Winners

1st Prize	Ticket 6762	9th Prize	Ticket 0189
2nd Prize	Ticket 0188	10th Prize	Ticket 2985
3rd Prize	Ticket 2160	11th Prize	Ticket 3168
4th Prize	Ticket 1394	12th Prize	Ticket 4752
5th Prize	Ticket 4590	13th Prize	Ticket 2457
6th Prize	Ticket 3523	14th Prize	Ticket 5277
7th Prize	Ticket 6092	15th Prize	Ticket 2574
8th Prize	Ticket 6166— Thank you Rob & Gracie Smith		

Supporting Traditional Marriage E-newsletter—Understanding the sacred & social value of traditional marriage, and the need to come to grips with the issues and consequences of redefining marriage, is the genesis of this invitation in our parish. The newsletters contain articles from well researched and reliable sources of information for your information and interest. The newsletter is an easy way for this information to come directly and regularly into your email in box—without you having to put your time into research. A great way to become more fully informed on this [critical social policy issue](#). If you are interested please email Jan at [plaf0249@gmail.com](mailto:plaf0249@gmail.com) or register via the new dedicated website [www.supportintraditionalmarriage.com.au](http://www.supportintraditionalmarriage.com.au) If you have previously registered & NOT received any newsletters please resubmit your correct email address via the website above. Many thanks

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL November:** Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Carrots, Christmas Cake, Christmas Pudding, Shortbread Biscuits UHT Custard, Jelly Crystals. Please leave donations in the tub at the Piety Stall in the Narthex.— Conference Meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of each month and on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm. Enquiries Glyn McIntosh 9873 5772.

**ONLY FOOD ITEMS** are to be placed in the boxes behind the Piety Stall counter. All other items should be placed in the St Vincent de Paul Bin at the Basketball courts.

### St Vincent de Paul—Christmas Gifts

Christmas Gift Card Labels are available beside the doors of the Church for Gifts to be included in the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers. Can you please take a label and purchase a suitable gift based on the gender and Age Group written on the label. We particularly have a need for Adult Gifts and suitable gifts would be toiletries or gift vouchers such as JB Hi Fi or K-Mart etc. It would be appreciated if gifts could be placed under the Church Christmas Tree by December 11 as we will be packing and distributing the Hampers the following week.

Calling all youth! Last **Stronger** gathering for the year and we're having a Christmas party! Join us for mass and then for dinner and games afterwards! Be sure to bring some mates, there will be prizes! **Saturday 3rd December 6pm Mass** followed by **7pm DGROUP**. Contact Lauren 0431 638 675 for more details.



*A huge thank you to everyone who supported the Fete Plant Stall. It was great to have so many people contributing through growing plants, buying plants and helping on the day.*

