



St. John's Parish Mitcham

494 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham 3132

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

Email: Mitcham@cam.org.au

Website: www.stjohnsmitcham.com.au

Phone: 03 9873 1341 Fax No. 03 9872 4316



4th Sunday in Ordinary Time January 29th 2017 —Year A

Welcome to Fr Dispin—We hope you find your new parish a place of warm welcome, of support and encouragement and where you will feel a sense of belonging and fulfillment.

Reminder to Parishioners—we encourage everyone to wear their name badge to Mass until Dispin learns our names. If you need a badge please contact the Parish Office.

You are blessed

Strange that Jesus says that we are blessed
if we are poor, gentle, mourning, merciful, peacemakers.

Others might say we are blessed
if we are rich, tough and comfortable,
and looking for our own rights and needs.

There is a blessing in all that he says:
not an immediate happiness nor prosperity,
but a blessing comes from God
in the times when we are weak, vulnerable, broken.

The bread of Eucharist is bread broken and shared,
the blessing of God is mourning accepted and shared:
the blessing of God is mercy asked and given
so that the bread of the Eucharist is the bread of forgiveness,
and the blessing of God fills the places of the soul
where I am poor, lost, gentle,
and willing to let go of the grudges of life
for the life and resurrection of Jesus.

The closed fist cannot receive the gifts of life;
help us Lord, to be open in our weakness and our need,
in our mourning and our bitterness to the blessings you give
when we are disheartened.

Like in the Eucharist,
may we know your power and presence
in our broken dreams,
our broken relationships,
and rise to new strength within ourselves,
blessed as we are in the bread of life.

Communion Reflections—Donal Neary SJ

Parish Information

Normal Weekend Mass Times at St. John's

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

Parish Priest

Fr Dispin John

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 & Friday)
Elisa Kelesidis (Tuesday—Friday)

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: Hebrews 11:32-40 Mark 5:1-20
Tue Hebrews 12:1-4 Mark 5: 21-43
Wed: Hebrews 12: 4-7,11-15 Mark 6: 1-6
Thur: Malachi 3: 1-4 Luke 2: 22-40
Fri: Hebrews 13:1-8 Mark 6: 14-29
Sat: Hebrews 13:15-17,20-21 Mark 6 : 30-34
Sun: **5th Sunday in Ord Time**
Isaiah 58:7-10
1Corinthians 2:1-5 Matthew 5:13-16

AMONGST OUR PARISH FAMILY

We welcome into our Parish family through the Sacrament of Baptism, **Bryn Patrick Wakeham.**



We ask for the grace and peace of Eternal Life for **Fay Musumeci** and for those whose memories are sacred to us at this time, **Sheila O'Neill, Clement Comarwel, Geoffrey D'Arcy, Jean Pavey, Laura Bakker.**

Weekday Masses this week in our Parish

Monday Church Closed
Tuesday Midday Communion Service
Wednesday 10am Mass
Thursday **No 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 —will be held at the home of Helen Thomas 9874 7404 from **Sunday January 29th—Friday February 3rd .**



Enquiries Helen on 9874 7024

Feb 4 / 5	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
C'Tator	Youth Group	M McMahon	D Vecci	A Menon	A&F Puls	
Lector	J Dinh	A Buchanan	R Horner	P Spencer	S Solomons	P Chalkley
Eucharist	C Irvin	J Franklin	G Gill	S Box	B Belot	M Hosie
	K McClure	B O'Reilly	A Anthony	C Bantawig	D Lim	R McIntosh
	Y Martin	M Gartland	J White	J Bantawig		
			R Elliott	A Wilson		

Childrens Liturgy will return in mid February

Laptop N Bredhauer F McKenna B Ward Hangan Family R Doyle
Welcome Desk M Rasmussen H Thomas A Wallis S Box D O'Farrell



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

On Sunday 19th February, the Parish will be celebrating 65 years with a special Mass at 11.15am and a light lunch afterwards. This is also Founders Day.

We will be saying farewell to Fr Mark as a Parish on this day so please keep this very important date free!!



February Calendar 2017

- Tues 31st Jan—School commences SJM
- Wed 1 - School Commences SJV
- Liturgy Team Meeting—5pm
- Fri 3 - School Combined Staff Mass—4pm
- Tues 7 - Parish Management Group (PMG) Meeting
11am
- Music Ministry practice —7.30pm
- Thurs 9 - Parish Leadership Team Meeting—7.30pm
- Tues 14 - PMG & Lunch—1pm
- Mitcham Catholic Solos Group Meeting
—12.45pm
- Music Ministry practice—7.30pm
- Sun 19 - Founders Day & 65th Anniversary Mass &
Farewell to Fr Mark—11.15am followed by
Parish BBQ
- Tues 21 - PMG Meeting & Lunch—1pm
- Music Ministry practice—7.30pm
- Thurs 23 - Prep Parent/Child Faith Fomation “Children &
God Things” SJV—7pm
- RCIA Team Formation with Fr Elio Capra—
7.30pm
- Fri 24 - FEBFEAST—6.30pm onwards
- Sun 26 - Baptism Anointing & Stole Presentation—
9.45am
- Parish Family Mass—9.45am
- RCIA—Signing of Scroll & Dinner—5pm
- Mon 27 - Compassion & Friendship Group Meeting
— 10.30am
- Tues 28 - Burning of Ash Wednesday Palms
9.15am SJM, 10.45am SJV
- PMG Meeting & Lunch—1pm
- Music Ministry practice—7.30pm

St Vincent de Paul—Piety Stall

Have you visited our Piety Stall in the Narthex?
We have some beautiful prayer cards for only 25 cents;

- * Rosary Beads with Mary MacKillop
- * Baptism Candles
- * Crucifixes
- * Cards & gifts
- * Rosaries and Rosary cases
- * Prayer Cards
- * Prayer Books for adults & children
- * Holy pictures
- * Bibles for children
- * Books on Saints for children
- * Medals (with & without chain)
- * Scapulars (Green & Brown)
- * Car magnets & key rings

Please note if the Piety Stall is unattended you can still purchase greeting cards and place the money in the hole in the wall beside the St John statue.
Thank you.

**VOLUNTEERING REFUGEE STUDENTS
MERCY CONNECT MELBOURNE—Mercy Works Ltd.**



MercyWorks
SISTERS OF MERCY
OF AUSTRALIA & PAPUA NEW GUINEA

is currently recruiting volunteers to support Refugee Students and Asylum Seekers in the Melbourne Archdiocese. This commitment is approximately half a day per week for four school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred but not limited to. Interview process will be in late January followed by a Training day early 2017. Please contact Sr Mary Lewis RSM for application form.

**Email : somml@bigpond.com
www.mercyworks.org.au Tele: 93261895**

**Inspiration for the coming week
from the
Compassion and Friendship Group**



*There's a story behind every person.
There's a reason why they're the way they are.
Think about that before you judge someone.*

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 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



FEB FEAST

Parish community event on **FRIDAY 24th**
February 2017 at St. John's
 Enjoy foods from Italy, Vietnam, Poland,
 Cook Islands, Malta, Sri Lanka UK, Australia
Time: 6.30 pm start...until the food runs out!!
Tickets: \$25 on sale
after Masses on 4th /5th Feb
Kids \$5 - sausages/drink/icypole



Mitcham Seniors— The Seniors will start the new year with Mass, film and a lovely luncheon in the Coghlan Centre on Wednesday 8th of Feb, cost \$15. Please RSVP for catering purposes. I also need to collect the money for the concerts on the 15th of February and 15th of March as I have had to pay for both up front, so please bring the money on the 8th of Feb. Hope you have all had a lovely restful break and are looking forward to a successful year but remember we can only accomplish that with your support. A new program will be ready at the luncheon on the 8th and any Senior parishioner who would like to join us at the luncheon will be most welcome. Helen 9874 0809

ST VINCENT DE PAUL February

Peanut Butter, tinned vegies, spaghetti, savory biscuits, tinned fish or ham. 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.



TRAVELLING ROSARY

The important part of the prayer life of the Parish commences again this week, and we would love to hear from any of you who would like to become a "Rosary Host". This entails making a commitment to have the statue of Mary and say the Rosary in your home from a Sunday to a Friday evening 3—4 times a year. Some of our current hosts have neighbours join them, while others say the prayers by themselves. Some of our hosts left the Parish during the year, and we would love to hear from anyone who may be able to take their place. If you would like further information please call us and have a chat. Helen Thomas 9874 7404

Religious Education Classes for Children attending non-Catholic schools



Are you interested in your child learning about the Catholic faith? Then join us at **ST JOHN'S PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL**, 494 Whitehorse Rd, Mitcham on **WEDNESDAY** afternoons during school terms **4.15-5.15pm** **Enrolments are now open for 2017.** We offer a 4 year program for children from Year 2-6 who would like to receive the sacraments in the Catholic Church. Please note that the Sacrament of the Eucharist is celebrated in the third year of the program.

Contact **Parish Office** on **9873 1341** for an enrolment form.

PILATES CLASSES—FREE TRIAL

Do you want to improve posture and core strength? Relieve back pain or need injury rehabilitation or just improve your general health and fitness? Then come and try a Pilates class today. Classes start Monday 30 January in the Coghlan Centre. Classes are school term only and are \$15 /session.

Monday: 5.30pm (new class), 6.45pm and 8pm

Wednesday: 7pm

Please contact Peta Marriner for further information.

Phone: 0419 028 769 or email:

petamarriner@gmail.com

\$10/session or \$8 if paying by term.



HOUSE OF BOOKS

House of Books will re open Monday 30th of January 2017



A Palms Encounter with our Catholic Communities in East Timor: A last minute gift that will deliver the real message of Christmas and be remembered forever. Palms long-term volunteers guide this intimate, immersive, inter cultural experience providing insights that challenge perceptions and deepen understanding.



Register now for our **2-14 April Encounter** and receive \$400 off a 2nd ticket. Call Roger on **(02) 9560 5333** or go to **www.palms.org.au/Encounters** for more information.

Real encounter, real people, real exchange, real life