



St. John's Parish Mitcham

494 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham 3132

Email: mitcham@cam.org.au

Website: www.stjohnsmitcham.com.au

Phone: 03 9401 6366 or 0402 330 128

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT Sunday 22 December 2024 —Year C

Mary — Mother and Friend

A very human side of Mary -
after she knew she was to be the mother of God,
Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth,
an older woman who herself was expecting her first child.

She needed to talk with someone -
Her hopes, her fears, her anxieties and the puzzlement
of her mysterious visit from God,
and what God asked her to become — the mother of Jesus.

And she knew her cousin would be the same.
Elizabeth, too, needed to talk over
her hopes, her fears, her anxieties and the puzzlement
of her mysterious visit from God.

Like we all do:
There are times in life we need to talk,
and we need someone to listen.

If we're out in the cold,
we need the warmth of someone else's sympathy, understanding,
someone just to listen, to be there, and maybe to give a bit of advice.

And when we're very happy,
feel like dancing around the room or the fields,
we like to share that too.

They helped each other grow in their faith,
In what God had given to them
and what God was asking of them,
and they helped each other trust
that what the Lord promised them would be fulfilled.

There are times in life when we need
more than someone to listen to us;
we need others to share their story and help us trust.
We also need faith:

She knew that God would not leave her alone
when times would be rough and painful.
She knew that God would be there,
through people like Elizabeth now,
like the shepherds at the birth,
like John at the foot of the Cross.
She knew that God had called her,
and she could welcome his call with courage.



St John the Evangelist Parish acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people of the wider Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of this land. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

**"St John's Parish community, is committed to the Victorian Child Safe Standards
& acknowledges that Child Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility."**

Parish Information

Normal Weekend Mass Times

St John's: Sat Vigil, 6pm, Sun 8.30am, 9.45am, 11.15am, 5pm

Our Lady's: Sat Vigil 5pm, Sun 9.30am

Parish Office Hours (Parish Office is closed on Mondays):

Tuesday-Friday 9am-3.30pm

Business Manager: Margaret Harrington

Parish Secretary: Manuela Brambilla

Bereavement Ministry: Jenny Kearney 0413 826 468

Pastoral Care: Loredana Iacobucci 0423 313 336

Christian Meditation Group: Chris Ryan

House of Books (house next door to the Church): 9401 6306

RE for Government Schools: Trish Chaston 0468 589 793

Safeguarding Committee Co-ordinator: Manuela Brambilla

Visitation and Communion to the Sick & Housebound:

Co-ordinator: Cath Brindle

Parish Priest Fr Dispin John

Supported by Fr Michael Kelly, CSsR

St John's School

494 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham, 9874 1575

Principal: Mrs Verona Gridley

vgridley@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au

St James School

51 Centre Road, Vermont, 9874 1830

Principal: Mr Dave Mutimer

principal@sjvermont.catholic.edu.au

Services:

St Vincent De Paul:

Shop 2/82 Maroondah Hwy Ringwood 9870 9124

Welfare Assistance 1800 305 330

PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE
ON 9401 6366 OR VIA EMAIL MITCHAM@CAM.ORG.AU
TO ACCESS ANY OF THESE PEOPLE OR SERVICES

Parish Information & Daily Readings

Scripture Readings for week

Mon: Malachi 3:1-4. 23-24

Lk 1:57-66

Tue: 2 Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16

Lk 1:67-79

Wed: Isaiah 52:7-10

Jn 1:1-18

Thu: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59

Mt 10:17-22

Fri: 1 John 1:1-4

Jn 20:2-8

Sat: 1 John 1:5-2:2

Mt 2:13-18

THE HOLY FAMILY

Sir 3:2-6. 12-14

Col 3:12-21

Lk 2:41-52

Weekday Masses

There will be no weekday Masses from the **26th December till the 3rd January**. The 10am Mass will resume on **Tuesday 7th January till Friday 10th January**. There will be no weekday Masses from the **14th till the 17th January**. Normally weekday Masses will resume from **Tuesday 21st January**.



Jesus accomplished what no other covenant did before him. Jesus is God's divine plan of redemption revealed to us, and all that's required of us is that we believe.

AMONGST OUR PARISH FAMILY

We ask for the grace and peace of Eternal life for those who have died recently especially **Kim Uy Chua** and for those whose memories are sacred to us at this time including **Greg Dore, Mark Tokarski, Geoff Bolt, Mary McCorkell, Patricia Miller, Merlyn Alwis, Mick McLachlan, John Duncan, Thomas Langford, Joe and Ruby D'Souza**



Tuesday Mass for healing of the sick



Prayers are offered and are followed by a **Novena of Saint Mary MacKillop**. If you know of someone who might need our special prayers or to be added to the Novena List please email the parish office mitcham@cam.org.au and leave a message for those you wish to be prayed for **by Monday afternoons**. Keeping you in our prayers. Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to keep the name/s of your loved one, as we are updating the current list."

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: Parish Office 9401 6366**



Dec 28/29	St John's 6.00pm	St John's 8.30am	St. John's 9.45am	St John's 11.15am	St John's 5.00pm
C'Tator	M Bredhauer	B Mills	L Kho	B Rudin	C Lobo
Lectors	A Livy	H De Kauwue	M Gartland	D Wates	K Holewa
Eucharist	M Livy E Booth R McIntosh	J Kaithavelil A Tham	G Gartland M Lafferty C Bramble	A Glenn P Darmody S Dowd R Jess D Garcia	C Kook
Laptop operator			J Curtis		
Children Liturgist					

**OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP
RINGWOOD NEWS**



Weekend Masses:

Saturday at 5pm
Sunday at 9.30am

Weekday service

6.00pm Tue: Mass and Novena
9.15am Thurs: Mass

Ringwood Parish website:

<http://pol.org.au/ringwood/Home.aspx>

Phone: 0468 589 039

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY MASS

The 4.30pm Mass on Christmas Eve will be a children's Mass. We will begin at **4.15pm** with a Christmas Nativity Tableau. We invite all children attending to come dressed as shepherds, angels, stars or anything representing the Nativity as all children will be invited to be a part of our Nativity Tableau. We require some children and parents to take on some of the lead roles during the Tableau and Mass. If you and your children will be attending this Mass and are willing to be involved, please text or call Diane on 0418 128 408 or Jenny on 0413 826 468.



"EVERYDAY COMFORT REFLECTIONS"

*Make one person happy each day
and in forty years you will made
14,600 human beings happy
for a little time, at least.*

Charley Willey

ST JOHN'S CAFE

Please come, enjoy a cuppa & chat with friends in the Narthex following the 10am Mass.

All are welcome

When: Tuesday 21st January 2025

Time: 10:30am to 11:30am

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Christmas Carols are happening on Christmas Eve at **4pm** (before 4.30pm Mass) **7.45pm** (before 8.30pm Mass) and at **10.30pm** (before 11pm Mass)
All are welcome!



Share the Joy of Christmas

You are invited to the

Christmas Lunch

at St John's

on Wednesday 25th December at 12.30pm

If you are spending Christmas by yourself or if you simply want to share the joy of this day with other people please join us at the Christmas lunch that will be held at St John's in the Coghlan centre.

The food will be offered by the Parish and you are invited to bring a sweet plate that you normally love to eat at Christmas to share.

If anyone feels to give a donation for the lunch please contact the parish office and we thank you in advance for your generosity.

RSVP by Friday 20th December
at the Parish office by phone 9401 6366
or by email mitcham@cam.org.au



**WEEKDAY MASSES
DURING HOLIDAY**

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SUNDAY MASSES DURING HOLIDAY

There will be no Sunday 5pm Mass from the **29th December till the 19th January**. The Sunday 5pm Mass will resume on the **26th January**.

FRIENDSHIP GROUPS

Friendship Groups have been run and enjoyed in the Parish for 30 years. A review took place 15 years ago and many new groups were established.

It is time to ask if others would like to form new groups.

In the New Year an invitation to Parishioners, to attend a meeting will be in the Newsletter. Approximately 10 families meet, make a Friendship Group and socialise regularly. Each group is autonomous and plenty of advice is on offer regarding places to visit. My group has explored a great deal of Melbourne. Places we had not been before. Expressions of interest will be sought next year.

Best wishes for a Happy and Holy Christmas.

Nola Rush. Coordinator.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

Advent Penitential celebration

Wednesday 18th December

7pm – St John's Mitcham

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve—Tuesday 24th December

4.30pm - St John's Mitcham

5.00pm - **Our Lady's Ringwood**

6.00pm - St John's Mitcham

8.00pm - **Our Lady's Ringwood**

8.30pm - St John's Mitcham

11.00pm - St John's Mitcham

Christmas Day - Wednesday 25th December

8.30am - St John's Mitcham

9.30am - **Our Lady's Ringwood**

10.30am - St John's Mitcham

Tuesday 31st December

Midnight Mass (11.00pm)

St John's Mitcham

Wednesday 1st January

9.00am - **Our Lady's Ringwood**

10am - St John's Mitcham



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED DURING THE HOLIDAYS



The Parish Office will be closed from **23rd December till 20th January** and will reopen on **Tuesday 21st January**. During the closure for emergencies or urgent matters please call the office mobile on 0402 330 128, send an email to mitcham@cam.org.au or call Fr Dispin on 0413 683 153

COLUMBAN CALENDARS (\$11)

Columban calendars are now available at the Piety Stall or at the Parish Office at \$11 each.

PIETY STALL

The Piety Stall has a new spot in the narthex and new items too. Statues, Rosary beads, rosary bracelets and pouches. Scapulars brown and green and 25 different medals, also prayer cards and holy pictures. If you are looking for a piety item we may be able to order it for you.

ST JOHN'S CARD MAKING GROUP



We are thrilled to announce our donation to St Vincent de Paul, Mitcham Conference this year is \$2,000.00

We would like to sincerely thank the very generous St John's Parish Community for your wonderful support, encouragement and for purchasing our cards during the year and especially at Christmas time. Whether you ordered cards for a special occasion or purchased cards from the Piety Stall, House of Books or from the Parish Office, it is your incredible ongoing support that enables us to pass on this fantastic contribution to the works of St Vincent de Paul.

I would like to thank our card makers: Ann, Clare, Joanna, Marianna, Nola, Sandy and Val for the beautiful cards they have created this year. We all look forward to making wonderful cards for you next year.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL— DECEMBER—FOOD



Donations can now be left in the plastic tub in the **Narthex**. We are currently requesting: **coffee, rice, tinned vegetables long life milk. All Enquiries to Danny Rafferty 0437 498 877**

JUBILEE 2025

The 2025 Jubilee will officially open on December 24, 2024 at 7pm, with the rite of Opening of the Holy Door of the Papal Basilica of St. Peter by the Holy Father.



Jubilee years are a time of newness. They have been celebrated throughout the history of the Church, but their roots go back to the Old Testament, when the Israelites were commanded to celebrate a jubilee every 50 years.

Jubilee in the Church

The first jubilee was celebrated in 1300 AD at the initiative of Pope Boniface VIII. They are celebrated every 25 years in the Church— though the pope may mark 'extraordinary jubilees' outside of that— and bear the hallmarks of the ancient spirit of jubilee.

Pope Francis reminds us that indulgences are 'a way of discovering the unlimited nature of God's mercy. Not by chance, for the ancients, the terms "mercy" and "indulgence" were interchangeable, as expressions of the fullness of God's forgiveness, which knows no bounds.

We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire; that is why I have chosen as the motto of the Jubilee, Pilgrims of Hope'.

OUR LADY'S NETBALL CLUB

Our netball club is looking for boys & girls (aged 6-10) to join the Club. We train on Wednesday afternoons from 4pm-6pm and are looking for players to join our Under 9 & Under 11 teams for 2025. For more information, please call Sara Love on 0400 988 727 or email ourladysnc@gmail.com

HOUSE OF BOOKS

House of Books is closed and will reopen on **Tuesday 28th January**.
Monday– Friday 10am—4pm
Saturdays 10am—1pm



Phone: 9401 6306

HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE PARISH

The QR Code is unique to St John's Church and will give parishioners direct access to our account. To make a payment, parishioners simply scan our QR code with their mobile phone and follow a few easy steps.



Thank you for your continued support

If you would like to support our Parish via TAP and GO please use the terminals located in the narthex and in the church. All you need to do is to select the amount displayed and tap the terminal with your credit card / debit card / smart phone or smart watch—your contribution will go straight into our Church account.

If you would like to **contribute to the support of our Priests** here are the Bank details:

Account name: St Johns Presbytery Account
BSB 083343
ACCT NO. 515 469 035