



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

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday 14 December 2025 —Year A

Building the Kingdom

Have you ever watched children building bricks?
As they sit there, they are at work and play.
Look at the wonder in their faces as they build.
They are building their dreams.

Their eyes are closed with determination.
'I'll do it this time,' they are thinking.
They smile as they place each brick,
and this is the joy of learning.

Look at their gentle hands,
they are the hands
of a carpenter,
of a healer,
of a peace-maker,
of a creator.
Each brick is precious,
it is handled with care.

Let's learn from these children,
as we work to build our lives
and the kingdom of God.
May we plan and design with hope and care,
may we always use our Christian materials,
the bricks of love,
the sands of tolerance,
the waters of faith.

John Mc Hugh



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

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 trish.chaston@cam.org.au

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 and Fr Maurice Cooney

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: Numbers 24:2-7. 15-17	Mt 21:23-27
Tue: Zephaniah 3:1-2. 9-13	Mt 21:28-32
Wed: Genesis 49:2. 8-10	Mt 1:1-17
Thu: Jeremiah 23:5-8	Mt 1:18-24
Fri: Judges 13:2-7. 24-25	Lk 1:5-25
Sat: Isaiah 7:10-14	Lk 1:26-38

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 7:10-14
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-24

Weekday Masses

	St John's	Our Lady's
Tue	10am Mass	6pm Mass
Wed	10am Mass	
Thur	No Mass	9.15am Mass
Fri	10am Mass SJM	



A faithful, holy, fruitful life will, by its nature, require hardship and patience. Consider them aspects of a healthy "normal."

AMONGST OUR PARISH FAMILY

We ask for the grace and peace of Eternal life for those who have died recently especially **Raymond Byrnes and Lymraina D'Silva** and for those whose memories are sacred to us at this time including **Moyha Watson, Anthony Winter, Bernie Hanlan, Geoff Bolt, Mary & Greg Dore**



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**



December 20/21	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 Lectors	S Rodrigues G Rodrigues	C Ryan A Buchanan	N Vernal H Wursthorn	J Kiekebosh D Kennedy	M Lambert K Harvey
Eucharist	M Webb M Pinto Y Martin	M Coghlan R Smith G Smith	T Harkin A Martonyi H Wursthorn	M Battagello C Brindle A Glenn C Lowry A Jose	M Kristan M Campbell S Partridge
Laptop operator	T Tan	C Almeida	L Wursthorn		
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

MORNING TEA

Every Sunday after the **8.30am** and **9.45am** Mass you are invited to share a cuppa and a chat in the narthex with other parishioners.



**Children's Liturgy at St John's
Every Sunday at 9.45 and 11.15am
during school term**

Children will move to the Narthex of Church for their own Liturgy of the Word. All ages welcome.



**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
DURING THE HOLIDAYS**

The Parish Office will be closed from **24th December** till **12th January** and will reopen on **Tuesday 13th January**. If you wish to include in the newsletter an anniversary name during the holiday closure please contact the Parish office at 9401 6366 or send an email to mitcham@cam.org.au by the 19th December.

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



**WEEKDAY MASSES
DURING HOLIDAY**

There will be no weekday Masses from the **26th of December** till the **8th of January**. Normally weekday Masses will resume on **Friday 9th January**.



**CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS
AT CHRISTMAS MASSES**



We need volunteers to assist at Christmas Masses as special ministers, lectors, commentators and laptop operators. You can register your name on the list in the church or contact the parish office

mitcham@cam.org.au or 9401 6366.

Thanks for your participation.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Christmas Carols are happening on Christmas Eve at **4.15pm** (before 4.30pm Mass) **7.45pm** (before 8.30pm Mass) and at **10.30pm** (before 11pm Mass)



BAPTISM

Today we welcome

**Lennon Abram Sabalo, Bodhi Theodore Sabalo,
Santino Villanueva Bajao, Otto Jan Riha**

*into the life of the Catholic Church
through the Community of St John's*



FUNERAL SERVICE AT ST JOHN'S

Anthony Tossel

Tuesday 16 December at 2pm

Anthony Lalama

Wednesday 17 December at 11.30am

Raymond Byrnes

Thursday 18 December at 10.30am

Congratulations to

Peter Cowan

who will celebrate

his 80th Birthday on the 15 December.

With prayers and best wishes

for your joy and happiness

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

Advent Penitential celebration

Tuesday 16th December

7pm - **Our Lady's Ringwood**

Wednesday 17th December

7pm - **St John's Mitcham**

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve—Wednesday 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 - Thursday 25th December

8.30am - **St John's Mitcham**

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

10.30am - **St John's Mitcham**

Wednesday 31st December

Midnight Mass (11.00pm)

St John's Mitcham

Thursday 1st January

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

10am - **St John's Mitcham**



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 carols, followed by mass. We invite the children attending to come dressed as characters from the Nativity story such as Mary, Joseph, wise men, shepherds, angels or stars. We look forward to seeing lots of smiling faces as we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus.

The Children's Liturgy team wishes all families a blessed and joyful Christmas!

Share the Joy of Christmas

You are invited to the

Christmas Lunch

at St John's
on Thursday 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 **Tuesday 23rd December**
at the Parish office by phone 9401 6366
or by email mitcham@cam.org.au

FINDING SOLUTIONS

Looking at how to cope with what life throws at you? Trying to find peace and happiness in a troubled time? Call Clare to have a chat in a safe place. I can do face to face, online or phone counselling.

Email: counselling.findingsolutions@gmail.com

Phone: 0409 990 907

Registered Counsellor with Australian Counselling Association. Change is only a conversation away.

HOUSE OF BOOKS

Monday—Friday 10am - 4pm

Saturday 10am-1pm

Closed Sundays & Public Holidays.



The last trading day for the House of Books for 2025 will be Saturday **20th December** 10 am until 1 pm. The shop will reopen at 10 am on Tuesday **27th January 2026**. The shop thanks all our customers for their support during a very successful 2025.

Please note: if you want to donate books to the shop please do not leave them outside the shop when the shop is not open. All donations must be made when the shop is open so our volunteers can check the suitability of donated books. Please check the donations policy before visiting the shop to donate. Not all books can be accepted. Thank you.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL—CHRISTMAS FOOD

The Vinnies team provide Christmas food hampers to needy people in the area. Food donations of tinned ham, Christmas cake, Christmas pudding, long life custard, biscuits, tinned fruit would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be made at the Parish Office from Tuesday to Friday between 9am-3pm, or in the Narthex in the Mass center. Thank you to all our parishioners who continue to generously support this worthy cause. All enquiries contact Ross Hancock on 0419 117 343.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL—CHRISTMAS GIFTS

We are again requesting the donation of Gift Cards the recipients of our Christmas hampers can use to choose their own gift. Cards from Big W, Kmart or similar retailers offering a wide range of products would be best. Gift cards can be left after Mass in a basket at the Piety Stall in the Narthex or with the Parish Office. It would be appreciated if these could be delivered by **December 15th**.



Thanks, The Vinnies team.

ST JOHN'S CARD MAKING GROUP

Our card makers have been busy creating beautiful Christmas cards for you to purchase. We are excited to let you know the cards will be sold after Masses this weekend or you can find them from the House of Books, the Piety Stand and in the Parish Office. The profits from our Christmas card sales are an extra important boost to funds we donate at the end of the year. Please shop early whilst stocks last.



Thanks you for your support.

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 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**



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 083347
ACCT NO. 459 634 437