



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 LENT

Sunday 8 March —Year A

St John's Offertory Giving Program

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As your Parish Priest, I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude for each one of you. Your presence at Mass, your prayers, your service, and your generosity are true signs of God's grace alive in our parish community. Parish life is not built by a few, but by the loving hands and faithful hearts of many. Over the years, I have witnessed countless quiet sacrifices, acts of kindness, and joyful service. Thank you for the many ways you give of your time, talents, and financial support to sustain and strengthen our parish family.

An Invitation to Committed Giving

As our parish continues to grow, so do both our blessings and our responsibilities. The celebration of the sacraments, faith formation for children and adults, pastoral care for the sick, outreach to those in need, and opportunities for prayer and fellowship are made possible through your faithful support. The daily running of our parish—utilities, maintenance, staffing, and resources—also depends on consistent financial contributions.

Today, I warmly invite you to participate in our Parish Commitment Campaign by completing the cards that are available in the Narthex. Whether your gift is small or substantial, what matters most is the spirit of faithfulness and consistency with which it is given.

Thank you for prayerfully considering this invitation. Your generosity will help ensure that our parish continues to be a beacon of faith, hope, and love for all.

Be assured of my prayers for you and your loved ones. Let us continue to build up the Body of Christ—together—one generous act at a time.

God Bless!

Dispin



Presbytery account

This collection covers the living expenses of the priests assigned to the parish, such as food, housekeeping and car allowance, as well as their stipends. Funds also go towards supporting the Archbishop and sick and retired clergy, and assisting the remote and financially burdened parishes.



Church account

This collection supports church expenses and our parish's missionary work. It covers staff salaries, utility bills, liturgical needs, loan repayments, parish sacramental programs, formation initiatives, and pastoral and evangelisation efforts.

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 Maurie 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: 2 Kings 5:1-15	Lk 4:24-30
Tue: Daniel 3:25. 34-43	Mt 18:21-35
Wed: Deuteronomy 4:1. 5-9	Mt 5:17-19
Thu: Jeremiah 7:23-28	Lk 11:14-23
Fri: Hosea 14:2-10	Mk 12:28-34
Sat: Hosea 5:15 – 6:6	Lk 18:9-14

4th SUNDAY OF LENT

1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41

Weekday Masses

	St John's	Our Lady's
Tue	10am Mass	6pm Mass
Wed	10am Mass	
Thur	No Mass	9.15am Mass
Fri	9am Mass SJV 10am Mass SJM	



Lord, you read me as you did the Samaritan woman. May I have a little of her humility and honesty in recounting how my life has been going in recent times.

AMONGST OUR PARISH FAMILY

We ask for the grace and peace of Eternal life for those who have died recently especially **Tim Jess, John Southorn and Elaine Studham** and for those whose memories are sacred to us at this time including **Paul Hay, Peter Rosemeyer, Giuseppe Di Iorio and Margarida Gomes**



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



March 14/15	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	G Rodrigues S Rodrigues	A Buchanan C Ryan	N Vernal H Wursthorn	D Kennedy J Kiekebosc	K Harvey M Lambert
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	M Kristan S Partridge M Campbell
Laptop operator Children Liturgist	T Tan	C Almeida	L Wursthorn Nina	A Jose Maxwell	

Faith Formation, Social & Other

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Come and pray the Stations of the Cross in the Church every Friday during Lent at 9.15am.

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.

JOURNEY THROUGH LOSS

When we lose a loved one, the emotions can be overwhelming, grieving can take many forms. Our friendly and informal gathering gives an opportunity to support each other as we journey through grief and loss.

Please join us:

Every second Wednesday of the month at 10:30am

St John's Parish Office

*"But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength".
2 Timothy 4:17*

Gold coin donation welcome

✦ ST JOHN'S YOUTH GROUP ✦

**1st Sunday of Every Month
5PM-8PM**

Next gathering will be held on Sunday 3rd May

We start at **5PM Mass**

Then head to the Zebedee Room for:

🍕 Pizza

💬 Real conversations

📖 Bible reflections (Sunday readings)

🎮 Games + good vibes

A place to belong.

A place to grow.

A place to have fun.

Bring a friend & come through!

For more info please contact the Parish Office at



BAPTISM

Today we welcome

**Spencer Brian Dowley and
Fletcher Michael Dowley**

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

FUNERAL SERVICE AT ST JOHN'S



Leo Womersley

Tuesday 10 March
11am Funeral Mass

John Southorn

Thursday 12 March
11am Funeral Mass

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION FOR 2026

"Come and See"

John said, "Look, there is the lamb of God"... The disciples asked "Where do you live?"... "Come and see", Jesus replied. Jn 1:36-39



Wanting more than the clamour and busy-ness at Mass? Consistent meditation is known to help calm our busy minds. If you are interested in deepening your spirituality, or want to strengthen your connection to God, you can benefit from meditation – even if you are new to it. Free of charge. All welcome. All enquiries Chris Ryan at the Parish Office, 9401 6366 - or simply turn up in the church on the night. Our next gathering will be on Monday evening, **16 March at 7.30pm**. Looking forward to seeing you!

OFFERTORY PROGRAM

Thank you to everyone who promptly collected their offertory giving envelopes last weekend. If you have not yet retrieved yours, we kindly remind you to do so this weekend. For those who wish to submit their filled-out pledge cards, there are several convenient options:

- Place them in the collections during Mass
- Drop them off at the parish office
- Deposit them in the designated box located in the Narthex

Thank you for your support in strengthening our community and mission.

PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY

Monoranjon lives in a village in Bangladesh close to the sea, where floods and storms often damage his crops and his home. With support from Project Compassion, he learnt climate-resilient farming techniques and new ways to diversify his income, helping his family survive and build a safer, more sustainable future. Please donate today. You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes that you can find in the Church or by scanning the QR code. Or online at:

www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2026

Do you have a child who does not attend a Catholic school, that you want to receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist or Confirmation in 2026. Classes for Confirmation will begin on Thursday 19th March and First Reconciliation on Thursday 6th August. To enrol or find out more please email Trish: trish.chaston@cam.org.au



SPIRITUAL WORKSHOP

Liminal spaces are those of transition in our lives, from grief to the everyday feelings of dread uncertainty that we commonly encounter. We will explore in poetry the countless ways in which our liminal moments are experienced and ways that we devise to traverse them. Using writing prompts from Nature to lectio divina and beyond, we will consider themes such as suspended moments (in time), remaining present, and ubiquitous Spirit." For enquiries call parishioner Chris Ryan (9401 6366). To learn more: <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/liminal-poetry-how-poetry-can-break-through-our-wordless-places-of-pain-and-transformation/>

Live Your Best Life in Love...

A Marriage Encounter weekend is a gift for every married couple

Every married couple deserves this very special weekend. Time-out for the two of you to focus on your most precious relationship. You will come away feeling more deeply connected and with tools to help keep your renewed intimacy alive. No group sharing is required. The weekend is based on Catholic values and couples of all faiths are very welcome.

We are currently offering 2 weekends in 2026.

Please check our website for more details and to book your special weekend:

April 24 - 26th

St Paul's Retreat Centre, Wantima South.

November 6 - 8th

St Paul's Retreat Centre, Wantima South

Starts Friday evening at 7pm and finishes Sunday afternoon around 4:30pm

Information/Bookings: Please phone **Mercy & James 0409**

183 676 or Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au

Website: wwme.org.au

ST VINCENT DE PAUL— MARCH—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**



Share the Joy of the Risen Lord!

You are invited to the

Easter Lunch

at St John's

on Sunday 5 April at 12.30pm

If you are spending Easter by yourself or if you simply want to share the joy of the Risen Lord with other people please join us at the Easter 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 Easter 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 Thursday 2nd April at the Parish office by phone 9401 6366 or by email

mitcham@cam.org.au

MELBOURNE SYNOD

On the third Sunday of Lent, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli will formally convoke a Synod for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. The synod calls the Melbourne Church to journey together in communion, participation and mission, echoing Pope Francis' vision of a 'listening Church' (Evangelii Gaudium, §31).

There are three themes about which the church of Melbourne is being invited to discern: young discipleship, missionary leadership and formation and participation.

The synod assembly will be held across the weekend of **4-6 December 2026**. Over these next months, a range of opportunities will be available for Melbourne Catholics to be part of the consultation process toward the synod. In the meantime, further information can be accessed at melbournecatholic.org/synod2026.

HOUSE OF BOOKS

Monday—Friday 10am - 4pm

Saturday 10am-1pm

Closed Sundays & Public Holidays.



The shop has a great range of good quality second hand books at very low prices. Proceeds support St John's and St Vincent de Paul. 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 083347

ACCT NO. 459 634 437