



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Ringwood

14 Bedford Road, Ringwood 3134

Phone: (03) 9926 2330 After hours: 0468 589 039 Fr Dispin: 0413 683 153

Email: Ringwood@cam.org.au Web: <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/ringwood>



Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year C)

22 December 2024

Parish Information

Parish Priest

Fr Dispin John

Assisted by

Fr Michael Kelly CSsR

Fr Len Size (retired)

Parish Catechist

Trish Chaston

Pastoral Care Worker

Loredana Iacobucci

Parish Secretary

Janine Meades

Office hours

Mon, Tues, Fri 9:30-2:30

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Week Day Masses

Tuesday 6:00p.m. Mass and Novena

Thursday 9:15 a.m.

First Thursday—Healing Mass

Confessions

Thursday 9:45 a.m.

Baptism

Please contact the office.

Weddings

Please contact the office.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School

Principal: Jenny Rohan

admin@olringwood.catholic.edu.au

2 Wilana Street, Ringwood

98707227

Merry Christmas!

Dear parishioners,

The joy of this great feast of the birth of our Lord beckons all of us to open our hearts to a world of new hope! In our increasingly secular world, where Advent seems forgotten and the Christmas season 'begins' in early November, Christmas decorations appear and lights shine on our summer nights, we, the people of faith are seeking out the light of joy, hope and peace. For us this time of celebrations means a time of renewal as we come to know, once again, that God is with us even through humanity's darkest moments. This is central to our belief.

There is so much darkness, despair and hopelessness in the world today. Not only born of conflict, political unrest, economic uncertainty, but for those whose livelihoods continue to be affected by violence, climate change and for those who struggle with personal demons and challenges, such as addiction and homelessness and poverty. In knowing that God is the light in the darkness, we are reminded of the call to be light in the world for others and to shine God's light into the darkness through our words, action and prayer.

In the midst of our struggles and challenges, we are reminded of God's amazing mercy and love that fill us beyond our capacity to fully comprehend. This generosity of love shown through the incarnation of Jesus Christ is the true gift of Christmas. It is my prayer that we all experience this true joy of God's love throughout this season.

As we come to the end of the year 2024, my heart is filled with so much gratitude for the many ways in which I experienced your love this year. I feel loved like a son, brother and friend and for this I am very grateful. A special thanks to our parish staff who worked with so much love and dedication for our community. We really bonded together as a good team, supporting each other in our efforts to reach out to our wonderful parishioners. I am amazed at their spirit of generosity. Thank you! Thanks to our beautiful volunteers (we are blessed with so many!!!) who make it possible to celebrate our liturgies, social events and many other good things in our community. I believe that our community is truly 'the place to be'; thanks to the warmth generated through our welcoming and nurturing spirit. I am really pleased that we have tried to live our calling as a community of the disciples of Jesus this year and it is my hope and prayer that we continue to commit to this in the new year with renewed hope.

A special thanks to our priests; Fr Michael Kelly and Fr Len Size for their shepherding. We also welcome Fr Maurie Cooney to our team.

As we enter into the new year 2025, I pray that the Lord bless you and your families with peace and joy!

Take care and stay safe.

Prayers and blessings,

Dispin John

The Parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Ringwood is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Parish Ministries

December 21/22

Saturday 5:00

Lectors: Maria Cruz, Frances Cassidy

Eucharist: Margaret Roper, Kate & Andy Coombs

Laptop: Maureen Platt

Sunday 9:30

Lectors: Angela Lacey, Kerry Peterson

Eucharist: Paula & Jim Corcoran, Sean Peterson

Laptop: Danae Villani

Music: Our Lady's Singers

Morning Tea: Team 3

December 27/29

Saturday 5:00

Lectors: Andy & Kate Coombs

Eucharist: Volunteers Please

Music:

Laptop:

Sunday 9:30

Lectors: Kathy Munro John Noronha

Eucharist: Volunteers Please

Music: Zomi Choir

Laptop: Zomi Choir

Morning Tea:

Flowers

Week 1 & 2—Polish Community

Week 3 & 4— Zomi Community

Link for Readings of the Day

<https://universalis.com/>

australia.melbourne/20240301/mass.htm

Children's Liturgy—Sunday 9:30am Mass

Each Sunday during the school term. All school age children are welcome to attend.

1st Sunday of the Month—January 5

Polish Mass 8:00am

4th Sunday of the Month—December 22

Zomi Community Mass 2:00pm

Filipino Mass 5:00pm

Parish Sacramental Program

For those not attending the Parish School, email trish.chaston@cam.org.au

Please pray...

For those who are sick or suffering serious illness, their families and loved ones who care for them, Theresa Curran, Moria Hatchett, Peter O'Shannessy

For those who have died recently:

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Readings next Week

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28

Ps 83: 2-6, 5-6, 9-10

1 Jn 3: 1-2, 21-24

Lk 2: 41-52

Office Hours

The Parish Office will close at 2:30 Monday 23 December and reopen on Monday 13 January. The emails and parish mobile will be monitored over this time.

SVDP Christmas Appeal 2024

Our Conference have had another busy year, and now with the Christmas Appeal, this is the highlight of our year and busiest 6 weeks of the year for our us, therefore, we are asking you once again, to donate so that we can give to so many families in need.



With rising costs in everything, it has been a difficult year for all, our conference is meeting homeless clients, some sleeping in their cars, others finding a room in boarding houses, single Mothers/Dads with children struggling on what they receive from Centrelink.

We want to give some cheer and happiness to those in most need and especially for the children. With your donations we can and will achieve to the best of our ability.

Every family receives a Woolworths voucher for main food, this is why we also give a Box with Christmas Treats, a Christmas bag for each child with Lollies, goodies that they love, etc. Our priority is for the children with single Mothers and Dads, every item donated goes to many others in need. We are very happy to help with those who donate money and want us to shop and fill a box. Money donations can be given to the Piety Stall and then passed on to ST V de P members.

Please take a tag or two with request for items to help fill boxes. Donations can be returned and placed in the large SVDP Box in the Narthex.

5pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass

Our Lady's Children's Liturgy welcomes all children to participate in the Gospel Nativity at Ringwood Christmas Eve 5pm mass. Please come dressed as Shepherds, Angels,

or Wise Men. Please see Jennifer Tolcher prior to mass on the night in the narthex for those wishing to have a role in the mass.



Our Lady's Table Tennis—Resumes 13 January

Renovation Fundraising Update

Donations are still trickling in with \$76422.60 raised.

(Contribute by Direct Debit to our **Repair and Maintenance Account: BSB 083 347 Account 534233044** use your surname in reference line OR Envelopes are available if you would like to contribute by cash/cheque. Thank you for the most recent donation of \$500.

Child Safety

The Child Safety Officers, will no longer be wearing the orange vests but can be identified by a name tag which they will now be wearing. They should be a first point of contact for any concerns regarding child safety. Remember we ask that children be accompanied by a parent or older sibling when they leave the church to go to the toilet in the Narthex.

Archbishop's Campaign

We are pleased to share the success of the inaugural Archbishop's Campaign and sincerely thank you for your generosity and support.

Together, parishes across the Archdiocese raised \$811,178 including **\$2,189** contributed by Parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Ringwood.

These funds will support vital mission areas such as the Priests Retirement Foundation, the John Pierce Centre, Melbourne Overseas Mission, Corpus Christi College, Catholic Theological College and the Archbishop's Evangelisation Initiatives.

Thank you for being part of this important campaign and for living out your faith with action.

Vanuatu Earthquake Appeal

Vanuatu has experienced two earthquakes within 24 hours impacting over 116,000 people and causing significant damage to buildings and infrastructure. The main hospital in Port Vila has sustained extensive damage and is overwhelmed by the mass casualties.

There are hundreds of people have been injured or trapped under rubble and at least 14 people deceased with the death toll expected to continue to rise. People remain fearful of further disaster, as Vanuatu is one of the most susceptible countries to natural disasters such as earthquakes, storm damage, flooding, and tsunamis. This appeal will provide support to our on the ground partners who are ready to respond to the humanitarian requirements by providing emergency shelter, food and other essentials, psychosocial support, and recovery efforts.

Please **Donate today:** <http://www.caritas.org.au/vanuatu>

Everyday Comfort Reflections

When I learn something new-and it happens every day

- I feel a little more at home with the universe, a little more comfortable in the nest.



Bill Moyers

Outreach Pastoral Care Ministry

Pastoral care is available @ Our Lady's, if you or someone you know would like to have a chat, please don't hesitate to call me (Loredana) on 0423 313 336 or e-mail loredana.iacobucci@cam.org.au.

RCIA – St John's and Our Lady's A Journey in Faith

Come and See.

Find out about this journey of faith and discovery. See what the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) program can offer you.

Do you ever ponder:

Who is Jesus?

Why a Church?

What do you seek?

And Much More.....

The Parish RCIA program will commence mid October. If you or someone you know is interested in finding out more about the program please contact the Office on 9401 6366 or email Mitcham@cam.org.au.

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

6:00pm – St John's Mitcham

8:30pm – St John's Mitcham

11:00pm – St John's Mitcham

5:00pm – Our Lady's Ringwood

8:00pm – Our Lady's Ringwood

Christmas Day - Wednesday 25th December

8:30am – St John's Mitcham

10:30am – St John's Mitcham

8:00am – Polish Mass Ringwood

9:30am – Our Lady's Ringwood

12:00pm – Zomi Mass Ringwood

Tuesday 31st December

Midnight Mass (11:00pm)

St John's Mitcham

Wednesday 1st January

9:00am – Our Lady's Ringwood

10:00am – St John's Mitcham



Stewardship Corner

"For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy." (LUKE 1:44)
When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading at Mass, do you "leap for joy?" If not, don't blame the lecturer or priest, rather look inside yourself. What are you doing to grow in friendship with Jesus? How do you prepare for Mass each week? Do you just show up and expect to be entertained? As the Body of Christ, we are called to be active participants, not just passive observers.

<https://resources.archstl.org/article/359120/stewardship-bulletin-inserts>

Supporting the Parish

Through the Stewardship Program, parishioners are asked to pledge a regular amount to the upkeep of the parish. This allows the parish to pay utility bills, insurance premiums, Archdiocese levies, purchase church supplies and pay staff wages. This amount is given as the "Thanksgiving Offering" and placed in the appropriate envelope or given as a direct debit. Any loose cash contributes to the support of the Parish Priest. A percentage of the Presbytery collection is also required to be sent quarterly to the Archdiocese. Become part of the Stewardship Program, please contact the office for further information on how this can be done or click the link below to take you to the 'donate' page on the parish website and choose how you wish to support the parish.

to support our parish
click [HERE](#) or use the QR
Code
Please chose where you
wish your
support to go.



Parish Meetings

Parish Pastoral Council: First Wednesday of Month
Parish Finance Council:
Safeguarding Committee: 7:30pm
Time Out : Third Wednesday of Month 12 noon

St Vincent de Paul Piety Stall

CASH ONLY—Sorry.

The piety stall has available items for Sacraments: stoles, cards, gifts. Opened: After 5:00pm Mass Saturday and 9:30 am Mass Sunday. For welfare enquiries please call Vinnies on 1800 305 330 Mon-Fri 10am –3pm

Sharing from St. John's Parish Mitcham

Phone: 03 9401 6366 or 0402 330 128

Email: Mitcham@cam.org.au

Website: www.stjohnsmitcham.com.au

Weekday Masses

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 10:00a.m.

Weekend Mass Times

Sat Vigil 6pm, Sun 8:30am, 9:45am, 11:15am, 5pm

Venue hire— St Johns

Call Manuela at St John's Parish Office for more information.

<https://stjohnsmitcham.com.au/venue-hire>

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. Gold coin donation welcome.

Christian Meditation

We meditate fortnightly. You are most welcome to join us. Lockdown can sorely test our endurance and spirits. If you are interested in deepening your spirituality, or want to know what God wants of you at present, you must try this.

To indicate your interest or for any enquiries:
Chris Ryan, 9401 6366.

House of Books

Finished your 'to be read pile'! Looking for a good book to read? Visit the House of Books, located at 508 Whitehorse Rd, Mitcham, next to St. John's Church. All books, CD's and DVD's have been donated and there are books for every taste, including fiction and non-fiction and an extensive children's section. Prices generally range from \$1-\$5. The Bookshop is open from 10am to 4pm Monday to Friday and 10am to 1pm on Saturdays.