



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

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD 25 December 2024—Year C

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 for his 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

"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

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: Andrew Buchanan

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

Services:

St Vincent De Paul:

Shop 2/82 Maroondah Hwy Ringwood 9870 9124

Welfare Assistance 1800 305 330

Furniture Pick-Ups 1800 621 349

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

Faith Formation, Social & Others

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

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 2025. Classes for First Eucharist begin on Thursday 20th February 2025, Confirmation on Thursday 6th March and First Reconciliation on Thursday 28th August. To enrol or find out more please email Trish: Trish.Chaston@cam.org.au



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

House of Books will reopen on Tuesday 28th January
Monday– Friday 10am–4pm
Saturdays 10am–1pm

AMONGST OUR PARISH FAMILY

We ask for the grace and peace of Eternal life for those who have recently passed away and for those whose memories are sacred to us at this time **Geoff Bolt, Mick McLachlan Joe and Ruby D'Souza**



Weekday Masses will resume
on Tuesday 7th January till 10th January.
There will be no weekday Masses from the **14th till the 17th January**. Normally weekday Masses will resume from **Tuesday 21st January.**
The Sunday 5pm Mass will resume on the 26th January .

The Parish Office is closed and will reopen on **Tuesday 21st January**. For emergencies please call the office mobile 0402 330 128, send an email mitcham@cam.org.au or call Fr Dispin on 0413 683 153

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

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

