



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 23 March 2025 —Year C

Another chance

Jesus told a story about
someone coming to a fig tree
and looking for fruit,
and wanting it cut down because it was barren.
but he was persuaded to give it another chance,

Jesus liked that story
because he's the person of another chance.

With his friends
there was always the chance
to turn around,
become whole again
and follow him anew,
even after denial and cowardice.

He looks ahead of us
on our path of life
and sees a new way,
another chance out of failure,
a new conversion from sin.

Our book of life is never closed for Jesus,
our disk of life is never full,
the song of our life is never sung out.

We are not programmed like on a computer,
nor is our life's plan pressed on a compact disc.
We are people who can always change,
become strong again, walk confident,
hand-in-hand with God.

As Jesus sees us as people who may change and grow,
may we see others in the same light.



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: 2 Kings 5:1-15	Lk 4:24-30
Tue: Isaiah 7:10-14.8:10	Lk 1:26-38
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

Joshua 5:9-12
2 Corinthians 5:17-21
Luke 15:1-3. 11-32

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	

AMONGST OUR PARISH FAMILY

We ask for the grace and peace of Eternal life for those who have died recently especially **Karen Schoner and Paula Crawford-Hall** and for those whose memories are sacred to us at this time including **Ellen Coghlan, Kathleen Box, Anne Delaney, Matthew Ryan, Mary Sullivan, Marjorie Jackson, Desh Fernando and Arturo Valenzuela**



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



*Both Jesus and his Father
are continually at work
in our lives.*

*Let us make good use
of the opportunities
that are being given to us.*

March 29/30	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	P Cowan C Cowan	J Magree M McMahon	R Horner D Vecci	P Spencer A Menon	S Solomons A & F Puls
Eucharist	C Irvin Y Martin	B Mills T McLaughlin J McCarthy	G Gill R Elliott L Iacobucci	C Bantawig J Bantawig A Wilson B Bartling T Borges	B Belot D Lim
Laptop operator		C Vymel	T Wang		
Children Liturgist			N Vernal	A O'Reilly	

**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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Come and pray the Stations of the Cross in the Church every Friday during Lent at 9.15am from 7th March.

ST JOHN'S CAFE

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

All are welcome

When: Friday 28th March
Time: 10:30am to 11:30am



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

LENT - A TIME OF SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

Next and last session held

by **Fr Maurie Cooney** in the **Coghlan centre** on **Wednesday 26th March** from **7pm till 8.30pm**

Looking into some questions that participants have raised:

- People of faith in other religions?
- Place of prayer in our lives?
- What does our Church need in Priests and in us all?
- How can we restore confidence in our Church?
- Preparing for death: and what is resurrection?

All are welcome!

FUNERAL SERVICE AT ST JOHN'S



Karen Schoner

Tuesday 25th March at 12pm

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION FOR 2025

"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



Our next meditation gathering will be on Monday evening, **24th March at 7.30pm**. 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 on the night. Looking forward to seeing you!

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.

SENIORS GROUP MASS & LUNCH

The next St. John's Seniors monthly 11am Mass (including anointing of the sick) & Lunch will be held on **Wednesday 2nd April** For catering purposes please call the Parish office 9401 6366 to confirm your attendance by Monday 31 March. All are welcome.



**CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS
AT EASTER MASSES**



We need volunteers to assist during the Easter Triduum Masses as special ministers. 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.

PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY

Lam is 27 years old from a small village in rural Vietnam who faced significant challenges due to his short stature. Through the I-SHINE program Lam completed a six-month course developing his graphic design skills. He now runs a successful freelance graphic design business from home, serving clients worldwide and earning a steady income.



Photo credit: Caritas Australia

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at:

caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413 413.



ST JAMES PRIMARY SCHOOL

51, Centre Road, Vermont

Warmly invites our past families to the opening of our new

FOSTER ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Wednesday 2nd April 2025

2:00pm - Light refreshments & Building Tour
2:30pm - Official Opening Ceremony
3:15pm - Conclusion for student dismissal

RSVP by Friday 28 March
office@sivermont.catholic.edu.au

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Live Your Best Life in Love...

A Marriage Encounter weekend is for you...

Every married couple deserves this very special weekend.

Time-out to nurture your most precious relationship away from daily distractions. The two of you will come away from your weekend feeling more deeply connected and with tools to help keep the passion alive. No group sharing required. The weekend is based around Catholic values. Couples of all faiths are welcome. Please check our website for more details and to book your special weekend: Our next weekend is: **25-27 April 2025** at 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

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

Share the Joy of the Risen Lord!

You are invited to the

Easter Lunch

at St John's
on Sunday 20 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 17th April at the Parish office by phone 9401 6366 or by email

mitcham@cam.org.au

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.

FINDING SOLUTIONS

Looking at how to cope with what life throws at you? Trying to find peace and happiness in a troubled time? Call Claire 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.

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**



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