



St Damian's Catholic Church

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P.O. Box 63 (5 Settlement Road)
BUNDOORA, 3083

Fr Joseph Dong Tran PP

Dianne Stubbs

Parish Secretary

Telephone: 9467 2797

Email: bundoora@cam.org.au

WELCOME TO ST DAMIAN'S

WEEKENDS

Saturday Evening: 5.30pm

Sunday Morning: 8.00am & 10.00am

WEEKDAYS

Monday: no Mass

Tuesday: 9.15am

Wednesday: 9.15am

Thursday: 9.15am & Divine Mercy

Friday: 9.15am

First Saturday: 9.15am Mass & Divine Mercy

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.00pm

BAPTISMS

1st & 3rd Sunday at 11.30am after Mass.

Preparation 1st Wednesday each month at 5.30pm in the Dunlop Room. Parents must contact the Parish Office to make necessary arrangements. One month notice is required.

ST. DAMIAN'S SCHOOL

Principal: Mrs Rosanna Piccolo

Telephone: 9467 8566

Email: principal@sdbundoora.catholic.edu.au

HOLY HOUR

One hour of Novena, Confession and Benediction after morning Mass on the first Friday of the Month. ✠

MARRIAGES

Those intending to marry at St. Damian's should arrange to meet the Parish Priest at least 6 months in advance of the proposed date.

St. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

All enquiries: 1300 305 330

3rd Sunday of Advent, 14th December 2025

THIS WEEKEND

Is 35:1-6,10

James 5:7-10

Mt 11:2-11

NEXT WEEK

Is 7:10-14

Rom 1:1-7

Mt 1:18-24

SRI LANKEN SINHALESE MASS

Every Third Sunday :

Rosary 6.30pm and followed by Mass.

Enquiries : Winifred 0425880611

DATES TO REMEMBER

FROM 16th -23rd DEC: 9 DAY NOVENA @ 7.00pm MASS/ NO MORNING MASS

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

PSALM

Lord, come and save us.

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed.

It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free,

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan.

It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked.

The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age.

Lord, come and save us.

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: Luigi Giacon (4th Anniversary), James Lewis,

Sick : Angelo Trinidad, Norma Frendo, Teresa Munoz, E. Cruz, B. Cruz, Lottie Constantino, Estellita Steven



Safeguarding of children and vulnerable young people

As required by law, we as the Church and Parishes have a moral, legal and ethical responsibility to care for, and promote the wellbeing of children and young people, and protect them from harm or abuse. Therefore while in church or on parish grounds: **Please ensure you know exactly where your child is if they're not beside you. *Please accompany your child (16 years and younger) if they need to leave the church for any reason (eg: going to toilet or car, etc...) *Children should never be alone in the car park or playground. *Please keep valuable personal belongings with you (purses, glasses, phones, etc...) and double check before leaving your seat, even briefly during Communion*

REFLECTION – 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR A)



To share my reflection, let me begin with a story:

There was once a gardener who planted seeds in a barren field. Each day, he watered the soil and waited patiently, even though nothing seemed to grow. Neighbours mocked him, asking why he spent so much time on dry earth. But one morning, green shoots appeared, then flowers, and eventually a lush, fruitful garden. His patience and hope had been rewarded.

This is a picture of our Advent waiting, a time to prepare, to hope, and to rejoice in what God is bringing into the world.

Isaiah 35:1-6, 10 speaks of a wilderness blooming and the blind, deaf, lame, and mute being healed. It's a vision of joy, hope, and restoration, a world transformed by God's presence. In the midst of hardship, God promises renewal. This is the "good news" we are waiting for in Advent.

James 5:7-10 urges patience, like the farmer waiting for the harvest. We are reminded not to grumble or lose heart. Our waiting has purpose; it shapes our hearts to be ready for God's coming. Patience is active hope; it is trust in God's timing.

Matthew 11:2-11 shows John the Baptist in prison, unsure if Jesus is truly the Messiah. Jesus responds with words of healing and liberation: the blind see, the lame walk, the poor hear good news. Even in uncertainty, God's action is real. This is our reassurance that the Lord is near.

Dear friends in Christ, this Sunday is also called Gaudete Sunday. "Gaudete" means rejoice. That's why the priest and deacon wear rose-coloured vestments - a gentle, joyful break in the purple of Advent. It reminds us that our waiting is filled with hope and joy: the Lord is coming soon, and we have reason to rejoice even now.

Application in Daily Life:

1. Like the gardener or the patient farmer, we are called to wait with hope. Trust that God's work is unfolding, even when we do not see immediate results.
2. In moments of uncertainty or struggle, we can look for signs of God's presence: healing, mercy, and transformation.
3. Finally, we are challenged to recognize the Messiah in our midst today, not only in extraordinary miracles but in acts of kindness, service, and love.

Advent is a season of waiting, patience, and joy. Just as the wilderness will bloom and the earth will bear fruit, God's promises will come to fulfillment. Let us rejoice, for the Lord is near, and let our lives be signs of hope and renewal in the world around us. Amen!

Fr Joe Dong Tran P.P

Roster 20th & 21st December 2025

Time	Readers	Eucharist/ Welcome	Counters
5.30pm	D. Whyley A. Favrin	Sr . Felicity L. Gooneratne T. Garcia	No counters this week
8.00am	L. Starvaggi O. Carvalho	V. Smith M. Sweetman C. Love	Supervisor
10.00am	J. Venturini N. Mathews	E. Jones P. Del Popolo R. Sacco	No supervisor



Readers & Eucharistic Welcomers

Please gather together in the Church about 5 minutes before Mass. Eucharistic Ministers Please remember you are also welcoming Parishioners & visitors & handing out the newsletter.

DAYS NOVENA MASSES STARTS THIS TUESDAY



This Tuesday, our parish community will begin **the Nine-Day Novena Masses** to prepare our hearts for Christmas. These days are a beautiful journey of **faith, hope, and love**, inviting us to pause, reflect, and let the Lord gently renew our hearts. The Novena also reminds us that we are part of the loving and faith-filled **community of St Damian's Church**.

I warmly encourage you to come and bring your family, so together we may prepare a worthy dwelling place for the Christ Child.

The first Novena Mass is on Tuesday, 16th December at 7:00 PM, with the theme "Grace & Preparation", celebrated by Fr Florentino (Fr Boy).

NO 9:15 AM MORNING MASSES ON THIS DAYS. After Mass, all are invited to share a dinner in the Dunlop Room - please bring a plate to share.
The Hospitality Team!

ST VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL



For our Christmas offering we are requesting any of the following. The school children of St Damian's have been generous and we have received enough Presents for small children. We would love to receive Retail Store Gift Cards for teenagers this would be much appreciated.

Donations of cash & credit card would also be greatly appreciated. All donations can be delivered to the container besides the Christmas Tree in the Church.

The gifts will be distributed among the needy in the Parish whose parents cannot afford to buy gifts. There are many families doing it tough at present so we will appreciate the help. All Donations to be received by 21st Dec 2025.

VISIT TO ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, LALOR – JUBILEE YEAR



Pope Francis has announced the theme for the Jubilee Year as *"Hope does not disappoint"* (Romans 5:5). The Jubilee, beginning on December 24, 2024, and continuing until January 6, 2026, is a sacred time of prayer, pilgrimage, forgiveness, and spiritual renewal, celebrated every 25 years. The season of Advent invites us to deepen our relationship with God, seek His forgiveness, and rediscover the hope that flows from faith, especially as we prepare our hearts for Christmas.

I have contacted Fr Luciano, Parish Priest, to book St Luke's Church, Lalor, for our Jubilee Mass. I (Fr Joe Dong) will be the main celebrant on **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20TH AT 10:30AM**, at **1A David Street, Lalor**. For enquiries: **9467 2797** | bundoora@cam.org.au

2025 CCPR RAFFLE - LIST OF WINNERS
DRAWN SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER AT 7:30PM
AT RESURRECTION PARISH
402 CORRIGAN ROAD, KEYSBOROUGH
Permit No – 10189/25



1st Prize: Kia Picanto Auto:
Winner: Josie: Parish Lara/Corio
2nd Prize: \$5000 Coles/Myer Voucher
Winner: Grace Parish : Life Boat
3rd Prize \$3000 Coles/Myer Voucher
Winner: Celia Ella Williams: Parish : Broadmeadows
4th Prize: \$1000 Coles/Myer Voucher
Winner: Hoai Pham: Parish: St Damian's Bundoora
5th Prize: \$1000 Coles/Myer Voucher
Winner: Frank Cosgitis : Parish: Wantirna
6th Prize \$500 Coles/Myer Voucher
Winner: Tak To Pang : Parish: Wantirna

BAPTISM: This weekend we welcome, into the family of St Damian's, Lilly Collett & Cooper Collett, who are being baptised.



SAVE THE DATE



2025 ADVENT & CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

- **FROM 16th –23rd DEC: 9 DAY NOVENA @ 7.00pm MASS/ NO MORNING MASS**
- **WEDNESDAY 24TH DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES:**

6:30PM CHRISTMAS CAROLS & 7:00 PM MASS
9.30 PM CHRISTMAS CAROLS & 10 PM MASS.

- **THURSDAY 25TH DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES: 8AM AND 10AM**

St Damian's Parish Prayer

Lord, our God, your parish family thanks you for the faith we all share.

Make us a people who care for one another and may we have a genuine concern for the wider community.

*Help our parents to give good example;
Give our children the grace of love and respect.
Fill our youth with wisdom, hope and vision;
Their Leadership is the future of our Church and our Nation.
To our sick—grant health;
To those of advancing years—serenity;
And to those in sorrow—your peace and joy.*

*Lord, our God, deepen our love and strengthen our faith.
Jesus, nourish us with your Word and Eucharist.
Holy Spirit, direct us in all we do and help us to say always:*

"Lord, it is good for us to be here."

This is our home, be with us as we continue to build your kingdom on earth.

St Damian Pray for us

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Bundoora Veterinary Clinic & Hospital



Providing affordable, honest Vet care to the Northern Suburbs for over 50 years

Come see us at our new GP Clinic-
15 Plenty Rd Bundoora- around the
back of St Damian's Primary
School!

- General Vet Consultations
- New Puppy/New Kitten Consultations
- Annual Vaccinations
- Routine De-sexing, Dentals & Microchipping
- Courtyard Waiting area



Hours:

Mon to Fri 8am to 6pm
Saturday 9am to 5pm

Ph: (03) 9467 2255

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