



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

Saturdays 5.00pm and First Friday 10.00am

BAPTISMS

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

Preparation 1st Wednesday each month at 6.30pm 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

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD, 17th May 2026

THIS WEEKEND

Acts 1:1-11
Eph 1:17-23
Mt 28:16-20

NEXT WEEK

Gen 11:1-9
Rom 8:22-27
Jn 7:37-39

SRI LANKAN SINHALESE MASS

Every Third Sunday :

Rosary 6.30pm and followed by Mass.

Enquiries : Winifred 0425880611

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of the world

Alleluia!

PSALM

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth.

God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise.

God is king of all the earth, sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne.

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Recent Deaths: Philomena Bowlen, John Long

Anniversaries: Giuseppe Lucci

Sick : Diana Whylley, Susie, Moding Ilanto, Scott Bower

CHURCH PRIVACY POLICY: In 2001, the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments introduced legislation that deals with the manner in which public and private sector organisations may record, use, store and disclose information, including health, collected from individuals. The Catholic Parish of St. Damian's Bundoora is committed to upholding the Privacy principles set out in the legislation.

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 ON THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD – YEAR A

Today we celebrate the glorious feast of the Ascension of the Lord - a feast that does not mark Jesus "leaving" us, but rather His entering into glory and entrusting His mission to us. The three readings today help us understand who Christ is, who we are, and what we are called to do.

In the first reading, from the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 1:1–11), the disciples stand looking up into the sky as Jesus ascends into heaven. It is a very human reaction. They love Him; they do not want Him to go. But the angels ask an important question: *"Why are you standing there looking at the sky?"* In other words: "Do not remain frozen. The mission begins now."

How often in our spiritual life do we do the same? We pray, we attend Mass, we admire Jesus—but sometimes we forget that faith is not only about looking upward; it is also about moving forward. The Ascension reminds us that discipleship is active. Christ sends us into the world.

In the second reading, from Letter to the Ephesians (Ephesians 1:17–23), Saint Paul prays that the eyes of our hearts may be enlightened, so that we may know the hope to which God has called us. Jesus has ascended not to abandon humanity, but to open heaven for us. He is seated at the right hand of the Father, interceding for us.

This is a powerful message for our daily lives. In moments of suffering, discouragement, or uncertainty, we remember: our destiny is not earth alone—it is heaven. Our faith gives us hope beyond the struggles of today.

In the Gospel according to Gospel of Matthew (Matthew 28:16–20), Jesus gives His final command: *"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations."* He does not say, "Wait." He says, "Go." And He gives us the promise: *"I am with you always, until the end of the age."*

This is our mission as Catholics today:

- To **look up** with hope, remembering heaven is our home.
- To **look within** with faith, allowing God to enlighten our hearts.
- To **look outward** with love, becoming witnesses of Christ in our families, workplaces, and communities.

The Lord has ascended but His work continues through us. The question is no longer, "Where is Jesus?"
"The real question is: Can others see Jesus in us? Amen!"

Fr Joe Dong Tran P.P

ROSTER 23rd & 24th May 2026

Time	READERS	EUCCHARIST
5.30pm	N. Nugent J. Borg	M. Spiteri E. Taylor D. Whyley
8.00am	J. North L. Starvaggi	W. Fernando M. Harrison M. Sweetman
10.00am	J. Mercado J. Capuana	C. Manabat J. Tonkin N. Cardamone

COUNTERS

N & K Nugent
V. Zappa

SUPERVISOR

G. Spiteri



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.

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we stand, the WURRUNDJERI People. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully upon the land.



How Can We and Support Congratulate Deacon Huy?

Dear Parishioners,



As you may have noticed, Deacon Huy has now left our parish to begin his retreat in preparation for his Priestly Ordination on Saturday, 23rd May at 10:00 am. Anyone wishing to attend the Ordination is kindly asked to arrange their own transportation.

He will then return to celebrate his Thanksgiving Mass in our church at 5:30 pm on Saturday, 30th May. I would like to invite your support in three ways:

1. In the church foyer, you will find a food list for the dinner following the Thanksgiving Mass. Please write down what food or dishes you are able to provide.
2. After all three Masses this weekend, there will be a leaving collection as a gift to support Deacon Huy's trip back to Vietnam following his Ordination.
3. Ordination cards are also available in the church foyer. Please take a moment to sign the card and share your prayers, congratulations, and best wishes.

Thank you very much for your generosity, support, and prayers.

May God bless you all.

Fr. Joe Dong Tran, P.P.

DONATIONS TO PROJECT COMPASSION

Dear Parishioners,



We would like to thank everyone for your generous donations for Project Compassion 2026. All donations have now been sent to Project Compassion (Caritas) our parish raised \$2,187.00.

This money will be able to support those in need and give hope.

Thank you

LEGION OF MARY

English:

Legion of Mary – A Vietnamese Praesidium will be established at St. Damian's Catholic Church.

The Praesidium is scheduled to begin meetings in May 2026. You are warmly invited to register and attend. For more details, please contact us on: 0417 379 489

Tiếng Việt: Đạo Binh Đức Mẹ – một Praesidium (đơn vị) tiếng Việt sẽ được thành lập tại Nhà thờ Công giáo Thánh Damian. Praesidium dự kiến bắt đầu các buổi họp vào tháng 5 năm 2026. Xin trân trọng kính mời quý vị đăng ký tham gia và hiện diện. Mọi chi tiết xin liên hệ: 0417 379 489

ST VINNIES THOMASTOWN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are currently looking for volunteers to help in our Thomastown shop. If you are interested please contact us on: 8199 4233

St Damian's Church Bundoora



Zone ID: C2000010970



St. Francis of Assisi SHOWCASE

Calling all performers!

To celebrate the **Franciscan Jubilee Year**, COG Theatre is hosting a musical showcase highlighting the life of St Francis of Assisi.

Expressions of interest welcome!

If you are a performer, technician, administrant or are just eager to get involved, please contact cogtheatregroup@gmail.com OR 0413 398 528.

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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9467 2255

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313 Childs Rd Mill Park
Cnr Maxine Drive & St Helena Rd St Helena

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