



# 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  
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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](mailto: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 Nativity of Our Lord December 25th, 2025

## Christmas Eve Mass Readings

Isaiah 9:1-7  
Titus 2:11-14  
Luke 2:1-14



## Christmas Day Mass Readings

Isaiah 52:7-10  
Hebrews 1:1-6  
John 1:1-18

## PSALM FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

**Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.**

O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth. O sing to the Lord, bless his name.  
Proclaim his help day by day, tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples.

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad, let the sea and all within it thunder praise, let the land  
and all it bears rejoice, all the trees of the wood shout for joy at the presence of the Lord for he  
comes, he comes to rule the earth.

With justice he will rule the world, he will judge the peoples with his truth.

## PSALM FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

**All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have  
brought salvation.

The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations.  
He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring  
out your joy.

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, with the sound of music. With trumpets and the sound of  
the horn acclaim the King, the Lord.

VIEW OUR NEWSLETTER EACH WEEK ON OUR WEBSITE: [WWW.MELBCATHOLIC.ORG/S/BUNDOORA](http://WWW.MELBCATHOLIC.ORG/S/BUNDOORA).

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION FOR  
CHRISTMAS EVE

Alleluia! alleluia!  
Good News and great joy to all the  
world: today is born our Saviour, Christ  
the Lord.  
Alleluia!



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION FOR  
CHRISTMAS DAY

Alleluia! alleluia!  
A holy day has dawned upon us. Come  
you nations and adore the Lord. Today a  
great light has come upon the earth  
Alleluia!



**Wishing you all a Merry Christmas  
and Blessed for the New Year, 2026**



**From Father Joe Dong and the Staff**

**NEW YEAR MASS TIME**

|                          |            |                                 |
|--------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| FRIDAY 26TH DECEMBER:    | 9.15 AM :  | COMMUNION SERVICE BY DEACON HUY |
| WEDNESDAY 31ST DECEMBER: | 11.00 PM : | SRI LANKEN SINHALESE MASS       |
| THURSDAY 1ST JANUARY:    | 10.00 AM : | MARY THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD     |

## 2025 CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE PARISH PRIEST TO PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS



Dear Friends in Christ Jesus,

Once again, we gather to celebrate the great mystery at the heart of our faith: *"The Word became flesh and lived among us"* (John 1:14). God does not remain distant from human suffering. Instead, He chooses to enter our world as a vulnerable child, laid in a manger - born into a world already marked by fear, injustice, and uncertainty.

The Christmas readings speak powerfully to our time. The prophet Isaiah proclaims: *"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light"* (Isaiah 9:1). In the Gospel, angels announce peace to shepherds - ordinary people living on the margins of society. Saint John reminds us that the Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

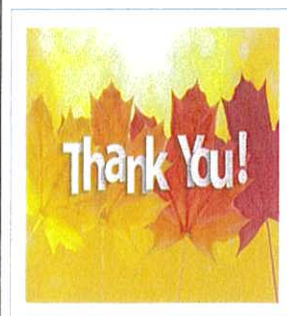
This year, the darkness has felt very real. We have witnessed shocking acts of violence and hatred, including the tragic events at Bondi Beach, Sydney. Across the world, war continues to devastate families and communities. Natural disasters: floods, typhoons, and earthquakes have claimed lives and destroyed homes. Many households face financial hardship, job losses, and growing uncertainty. Relationships break down, parents separate, and too many children go to sleep without safe shelter or enough food. These realities weigh heavily on our hearts.

So we ask: **Where is God in all this?**

Christmas gives us the answer - not in theory, but in flesh and blood. **God is with us. Emmanuel.** He comes not in power or spectacle, but in fragility. The Child of Bethlehem knows fear, poverty, displacement, and rejection. Mary and Joseph themselves were refugees, searching for shelter and trusting God one step at a time. God enters our pain from the inside and walks with us through it.

**What, then, are we invited to learn this Christmas?**

**First**, we are called to **trust God continually**, even when life feels uncertain. Trust does not deny suffering; it believes that God is still at work within it. Like Mary, we are invited to say, *"Let it be done to me according to your word,"* even when the way forward is unclear. **Second**, Christmas calls us to **live active hope**. The shepherds did not remain in the fields - they went to Bethlehem. Hope moves us to act: to comfort the grieving, support struggling families, protect the vulnerable, and care for children. In doing so, we become living signs of God's compassion. **Third**, Christmas reminds us that **light grows when it is shared**. Every act of kindness, forgiveness, generosity, and prayer allows Christ's light to shine again in our world.



**Finally**, I wish to express my **deepest and heartfelt gratitude** to all parishioners and volunteers of St Damian's Parish who have worked faithfully behind the scenes throughout 2025. Your generous dedication of time, talents, and service has strengthened our parish community and helped us grow in unity, love, hospitality, and belonging. I wish I could personally thank every single person; please accept my deepest gratitude, offered to all with great affection and respect.

As we look forward to the year 2026, we do not know what the future will hold. Yet we place our trust in God's providence and commit ourselves to loving one another and standing together. Thank you for walking alongside me, for your support, love, and care, especially in times when I needed it most. Together, we continue our journey as **one** community of faith, hope, and love.

Please continue to support and pray for me, as I promise to keep you and your loved ones in my Eucharistic celebrations and daily prayers. May the peace and joy of the newborn Christ fill your hearts and homes.

With every blessing - **Merry Christmas and a Happy and Blessed New Year 2026.**

Yours sincerely in Christ,

**Fr Joseph Dong Tran, P.P.**

## 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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