



St Damian's Catholic Church

<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/bundoora>

f /Damian church

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

2nd Sunday of Advent, 7th December 2025

THIS WEEKEND

Is 11:1-10;

Rom 15:4-9;

Mt 3:1-12.

NEXT WEEK

Is 35:1-6,10

James 5:7-10

Mt 11:2-11

SRI LANKEN SINHALESE MASS

Every Third Sunday :

Rosary 6.30pm and followed by Mass.

Enquiries : Winifred 0425880611

DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon 8th Dec: Immaculate Conception

Thur 11th Dec: 1st & 2nd Rite of Sacrament

Fri 12th Dec: Thanksgiving Mass at 7.00pm

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his
paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

PSALM

Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your
justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in
right judgement.

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's
bounds.

For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are
helpless.

He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor.

May his name be blessed for ever and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him, all nations bless his name.

Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Recent Deaths: Gerhard Wirth, Sandra Easterling

Anniversaries: Joven Mercado, Jason Howard, Michael Cifone, Franco Gagno, Gianni Zantta, Vittorio Gizzi, Irma Gizzi
Gina Remulla Garcia, Concetto and Vincenza Giaccotto

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

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: 2nd Sunday of Advent – Year A

2nd Sunday
of
Advent

Dear Friends, in the Church's liturgical calendar, Advent is a season of preparation, calling us to welcome Christ into our lives, just as John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus. All four Gospel writers highlight John's witness and his urgent call to repentance. To truly receive Christ, we must prepare ourselves with a sincere conversion of heart, not merely focus on the external celebrations of Christmas. While the Gospel emphasizes repentance for the coming of the Prince of Peace, the first reading and the Responsorial Psalm reveal the beauty, harmony, and hope that will mark the reign of the Messiah.

St. Matthew presents John as a *"voice crying in the wilderness."* The wilderness may refer both to John's physical setting and to the spiritual preparation required to receive Christ. John's simple life - clothed in camel hair and nourished by locusts and wild honey - demonstrates his detachment from worldly comforts. In this wilderness, he prepared the people's hearts, echoing Isaiah's prophecy of a time when all creation will live in peace: the wolf with the lamb, the leopard with the kid, the calf and the lion together, and children playing safely among wild animals. This vision of harmony points to the Kingdom that John announces.

John's message is clear: *"Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand."* He not only proclaims the coming kingdom but also challenges us to prepare ourselves with the right disposition. Many desire the peace of the kingdom without accepting the personal change it requires. Today, the lack of peace often stems from unchecked desire for wealth, power, and material gain - even among those who are meant to guide and serve others. John models the path of authentic preparation: confronting the Pharisees and Sadducees, he demanded good fruits as evidence of genuine repentance, calling them a *"brood of vipers."* Heritage alone is not enough; true conversion must be lived through concrete actions.

As Christmas draws near, we too may be tempted to focus on acquiring things rather than preparing our hearts. In the process, selfishness, greed, or indifference can distance us from God's love and justice. John's life reminds us that preparation for Christ is not in accumulation, but in conversion, humility, and love.

This Advent, let us awaken to John's message. Let us prepare our hearts, not just our homes. Let us witness to Christ through our deeds, not only our words. And let us remember that at Christ's coming, the wheat will be gathered and the chaff burned. May John's call to repentance guides us to live as faithful children of God, ready to welcome the Prince of Peace into our lives. Amen.

Fr Joe Dong Tran P.P

Roster 13th & 14th December 2025

Time	Readers	Eucharist/ Welcome	Counters
5.30pm	P. Cosgrave P. Bezzina	D. Mash W. Fernando A. Karuppiah	G. Mee A. Doukakis
8.00am	Sr. Nelia T. Shebaul	C. Love J. Fellowes K. Keating	Supervisor
10.00am	C. Manabat J. Mercado	Sr. S. Barker N. Cardamone J. Tonkin	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.

1ST & 2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Thursday, December 11 at 7:30 PM
As we prepare to welcome Christ this Christmas, our parish will celebrate both the First and Second Rite of Reconciliation.



The First Rite is a private celebration between the priest and the penitent, including personal confession, guidance, penance, and absolution. It offers privacy and spiritual direction.

The Second Rite is a communal celebration with individual confession. It begins with Scripture, hymns, reflections, and a communal examination of conscience, followed by individual confession and absolution. This rite highlights the communal nature of sin and forgiveness.

This sacrament is a beautiful opportunity to reconcile with God and others. I strongly encourage everyone to participate. It is offered only twice a year, before Easter and Christmas. I am also inviting two additional priests who will be available to hear confessions. Come, cleanse your heart, and prepare to welcome Christ!

BAPTISM:



This weekend we welcome, into the family of St Damian's, Noah Gotti, Octavia Kaing, Serafina Wong who are being baptised.

SAVE THE DATE



2025 ADVENT & CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

- **Mon 8th Dec: 9.15am Mass** : THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
- **Wed 10th DEC:** ADVENT PRAYER MEETING
1ST & 2ND RITES OF SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION.
- **FRI 12TH DEC.** :THANKSGIVING MASS & DINNER FOR VOLUNTEERS AT **7.00 PM** .
- **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 & **10PM** MASS.
- **THURSDAY 25TH DECEMBER** - CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES: **8AM** AND **10AM**

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.

Thank you Godfrey Spiteri

VISITING ST LUKE IN LALOR – JUBILEE YEAR

Dear St Damian's Parishioners,
The Jubilee Year, which begins on December 24, 2024 and continues until January 6, 2026, is a sacred time of prayer, pilgrimage, forgiveness, and spiritual renewal. Celebrated **only every 25 years**, it invites us to deepen our relationship with God and rediscover the hope that comes from faith, especially as we prepare spiritually for Christmas. The theme announced by Pope Francis for this Jubilee is "**Hope does not disappoint**" (Romans 5:5).

As your parish priest, I warmly invite you to join me for **Holy Mass at St Luke's Church, Lalor**, on **Saturday, December 20th at 10:30 AM, 1A David Street, Lalor.**

For enquiries: 9467 2797 | bundoora@cam.org.au
I look forward to journeying with you as Pilgrims of Hope.

Kind regards,

REALIGNMENT OF ARCHDIOCESAN REGIONAL BOUNDARY

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

I would like to inform you that on Wednesday, 26 November 2025 at 4:22 pm, Archbishop Peter released an official letter announcing changes to the Northern and Eastern Regions of our Archdiocese.

To achieve better alignment, he has decided that **our parish of St Damian's will be transferred from the Northern Region to the Eastern Region**, together with several other parishes. This change will take effect on **1 January 2026**.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak with me.

Kind regards,

Fr Joe 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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