



St Damian's Catholic Church

Diocese: www.cam.org.au
Parish: www.stdamiansbundoora.cam.org.au

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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WEEKENDS

Saturday Evening: 5.30pm

Sunday Morning: 8am & 10am

WEEKDAYS

Monday: no Mass

Tuesday: 9.15am

Wednesday: 7.00pm Mass & Novena

Thursday: 9.15am

Friday: 9.15am

First Saturday: 9.15am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5pm and during monthly Holy Hour

BAPTISMS

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

Preparation 1st Wednesday each month at 5.30pm in the Dunlop Room. Parents should 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 and Benediction after morning Mass on 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

FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT 24th DECEMBER 2023

READING

2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

Rom 16:25-27

Lk 1:26-38

CHRISTMAS EVE

Is 9:1-7

Ps 95:1-3, 11-13

Lk 2:1-14

PSALM

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth. Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: I will establish your dynasty for ever and set up your throne through all ages.'

He will say to me: 'You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me.' I will keep my love for him always; for him my covenant shall endure.

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Sun 24th Dec: Christmas Eve 6.00pm & 9.00pm

Mon 25th Dec: Christmas Day 8.00am & 10.00am

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION!

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord;
may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

Recent Deaths : Margaret Muldoon,

Anniversaries : Concetto Giaccotto,

Vincenza Giacotto,,

Angelo Farrella,

Joven Mercado

Milena Magaton,

Anna Camilli

Sick:: Anita Gentile, Paul Long, Louisa, Virginia, Samuel Sughihto, Emman Paneda

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...)*

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

Gospel Reflection for the 4th Sunday of Advent – Year B

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



Today marks the culmination of our Advent journey as we celebrate the fourth and final Sunday. This day resonates with the everlasting love of God, encapsulated in His covenant with His servant David. The mystery of the Old Covenant finds its revelation in Mary, the vessel of God's New Covenant.

In our first reading, David, moved by gratitude for God's love, sought to build a dwelling for Him. Yet, God, in His wisdom, made a promise to David, establishing an eternal covenant: "...I will preserve your offspring...I will be a father to him, and he will be a son to me...your throne will endure forever." This promise is about to be fulfilled.

Both St Luke and St Matthew meticulously trace Jesus Christ's genealogy (Mt 1:1-17; Lk 3:23-38) to affirm His lineage from David, the fulfillment of prophetic promises. The hidden mystery of the old covenant finds revelation in the new.

Paul, in our second reading, glorifies God for enabling him to proclaim the Good News, shedding light on the mystery concealed for ages – Jesus, the salvation of the world. This revelation embodies the core of the old covenant.

As we continue our Christmas preparations, let us continually glorify God for His imminent work in our lives and the world. Paul's message sets our hearts on the path toward the incarnation of God's Word, imminent and profound.

Today's Gospel unveils two pivotal figures in the drama of Christ's nativity. First, the faithful messenger, Gabriel, bears tidings of promise and the revelation of the hidden mystery of the old covenant in the new - Jesus Christ, the embodiment of this mystery!

Mary, an exemplar in salvation's narrative, humbly receives the angel's message: "I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done unto me according to your word." Her response epitomizes humility, generosity, courage, and love for humanity. In her generosity, Mary teaches us the essence of joy, receiving, and sharing.

As we await the imminent manifestation of the new covenant and God's promise to David, let us echo the psalmist's proclamation: "I will sing forever of your love, O Lord. My mouth will proclaim your truth through all ages!" Amen!

Fr Joe Dong Tran P. P



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 30th December:

Feast of the Holy Family, 5.30pm

Sunday 31st December:

Feast of the Holy Family 8.00am & 10.00am

Monday 1st January 2024:

Mary, the Holy Mother of God, 7.00pm Mass

No Rosters During January

During January normal weekday and weekend Masses Program..

THE PIETY SHOP

During the Month of January the Piety Shop will be closed. We will re open in February 2024. We Thank all our volunteers who assist during the year.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

From Friday 29th December to

15th January, Dianne will be on annual leave.

If you need anything please contact

Fr Joe Dong on 9467 2797.

ST VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

For our Christmas offering we are requesting any of the following.

The school children of St Damian's have been so generous that we have enough presents for small children but we would love to receive Retail Store Gift Vouchers for teenagers, this would be much appreciated.

Donations by cash and credit card would also be greatly received. All donations can be delivered to a container beside the Christmas tree in the Church. The gifts will be distributed among the needy in the Parish whose parents cannot afford to buy presents. There are many families doing it



STAY ALERT & VIGILANT THE ROBBERS MIGHT COME!



Hello All!

It's understandable to feel concerned about recent events, especially during such a joyful time as Christmas. Your reminder to stay vigilant and alert is important for everyone's safety, particularly in light of the unfortunate incidents at our St Damian's Primary School. The robbers have broken into it twice in a short of time last week.

So during this bustling season, it's crucial to prioritize not just the festivities but also the safety of your families and our community. Your message serves as a reminder to keep an eye out for any suspicious activity and to take necessary precautions to ensure everyone's well-being.

Wishing everyone a safe and secure Christmas season. Let's keep an eye out for each other and spread goodwill, not just in celebration but also in safeguarding you families and our community.

ADVENT APPEAL FOR UKRAINE

Dear Parishioners,

The Archbishop Charitable fund has asked if we can open our hearts and provide assistance and relief for those in their homes in Ukraine or externally displaced to Australia and other countries. We have some Envelopes available in the Church foyer for any donations if you would like to assist. Thank you.

Sacraments Program 2024

January 22 (Monday) 1.00 PM TO 2.00PM Enrolments in the Dunlop Room

January 31st—March 20: Reconciliation Classes

July 17- September 4 : Eucharist Classes

All Classes are scheduled every wenesday 4.00 pm to 5.00pm in the Dunlop Room

Any enquiries please contact the Parish Office 9467 2797

Andrea Groom

Sacramental Co-Ordinator

The new roster (Feb - July) 2024

All new rosters will be available to be collected on the 20th & 21st January in the Church.

We thank Carmel for Readers & Special Minister Rosters. If you have supplied your email address this will be emailed to you.

Any enquiries please contact the Parish Office 9467—2797.

Thank you

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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