

Advent

A Season of Preparation

OUR LADY OF THE PINES CHURCH

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 27TH AND 28TH OF NOVEMBER 2021

Welcome to the Season of Advent

After living with Covid restrictions for so long, we have now all come out of this with a huge sign of relief and gratitude that we have come this far. It is wonderful that we can now all gather once again to celebrate this very special season together as a community. Whilst we are thrilled that we can all gather in person once again for Masses and other parish activities, we understand if anyone is not comfortable joining us for the time being. Our first priority is that everyone feels safe and well.

Our Advent theme this year is "Healing and Restoration". Jeremiah 30:17 springs to mind :- "But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds declares the Lord." But what does Jeremiah 30:17 mean for us today? When we search for healing Scriptures it can be tempting to forget that God's people went through many of the same difficulties that we face today. Distressing reports, a technologically-distracted society, a broken spirit and a hurting body can nag at the edges of our hearts. It is easy to be pulled away from the truth that exists in this verse. Yet even in our brokenness, God's wholeness shines through.

God uses restoration to bring healing. He is not only able to restore us, but He makes a strong affirmative statement that he is willing to do so. The Bible demonstrates that God's restorative power is different than our natural human concept of how to heal wounds or illnesses. When God restores an aspect of our lives, it is better than it was before. As believers who are cleansed by Christ's sacrifice on the cross, we can come to God with our prayers for healing and restoration knowing that God's grace will be there to meet us in our sickness.

When God restores health it is more beautiful than our human minds can comprehend. We can put our faith in the willingness of our Savior to redeem us and lead us back to him. As we keep our eyes on Christ this advent, let us lay our troubles at the foot of the cross with faith that he will restore and heal.

Fr Jerald.

OUR LADY OF THE PINES CHURCH

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EMAIL: DONVALE@CAM.ORG.AU

WEBSITE:

WWW.OURLADYOFTHEPINESCHURCH.ORG

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS:

Mon and Tues 9.00 am to 4.00 pm.

Wed : 9-5pm

CAN ALSO BE CONTACTED AT SS PETER

AND PAUL PARISH, ON 9842 1480 ON

MON, THURS AND FRI.

Our Lady of the Pines Parish is a welcoming, inclusive community that aims to live our Christian faith by example in our daily lives.

Our Lady of the Pines Parish is committed to upholding the safety and dignity of each child and young person, ensuring they are able to grow and develop in a caring and supportive environment within our parish. Visit our parish website or contact our parish office for our child-safe policy."

We pray for Better Health: : Brian Sullivan, Kath Potger, Alden Ong, Lisa Dal-low, Josephine Noli, Teresa Talia, Sharon Rodrigo, Laurel Wood, John Goold, Meredith Barnes, Judith Frood, Jean Rive and Kathy Given.

Anniversary and Mass offering for: Kathleen and Frank Nash and Trevor Oakley.

Recent Death and Mass Offering for Eric Lim

Update to General Liturgical Guidelines

Following changes, we are pleased to advise the following

- **Face covering** is no longer required within our Church setting, although it is recommended that face covering be worn if you can't physically distance, or if you are with people who may be vulnerable to COVID 19. If you feel more comfortable to continue wearing your face mask, we encourage you to do so.
- **Fully Vaccinated 12 years + 2 months and over:** Places of worship may open for all celebrations for the fully vaccinated with no capacity or density limits.
- **Unknown Vaccination Status:** For all of our unvaccinated masses, the mass is restricted to one person per 4sqm up to a maximum of 50 parishioners.
- **Community (Parish) Facilities:** Is limited to the fully vaccinated only and no limits will apply.

Our Weekend Zoom masses ended on the 21st of November.

Weekday zoom masses will continue for the time being.

Weekday Masses (Wed and Friday 9.00am) Up to 50 people may attend, Vaccinations is not required. Bookings are not required.

Weekend Masses (Sat 5.00pm and Sunday 9.30am) No limits apply. All attendees aged 12+ must be fully vaccinated. Bookings are not required. Please arrive early to allow time to check-in and show your Vaccination Certificate to the Covid Marshall.

5pm Sunday Mass at Ss Peter and Paul's Church for those not fully vaccinated. If you have had only one dose of the vaccine or prefer to remain unvaccinated, there will be an extra Mass each Sunday at 5.00pm at Ss Peter and Paul's Church for both SSPP and OLOP parishioners only. 50 people are permitted. Bookings are no longer required.

Check in Requirements. Please ensure you check in on arrival using the Service Victoria App. For all weekend masses except for the Sunday 5.00pm mass at SSPP, you will also need to show Proof of Vaccinate to the Covid Marshall.

Advent Reflection Program

To prepare our hearts and minds for Christ's arrival at Christmas, we will be holding an Advent Reflection Program together with Ss Peter and Paul's Church. This weekly program begins Tues 23 Nov at 10.15am in the SSPP church foyer. All materials will be provided. For those who are unable to make it during the day, a repeat session will be held on Wed 24th Nov at 7.30pm over Zoom. Please contact Trish at the parish office to register your interest for either session to assist with planning.

Family Groups—Hamper donations

Unfortunately, due to the delay in the lifting of restrictions and associated problems, it is again not possible to proceed with our annual donation of hampers to CatholicCare. CatholicCare will be distributing food hampers and welcome our continuing support – via monetary donation. Within the process of donating, an option will be available to record OLOP as a supporting community – see the relevant methods. If you are able to give a monetary donation it can be made via the following methods; By phone or bank transfer - contact the fundraising team on (03) 9287 5513 or fundraising@ccam.org.au _mention you are from OLOP

Or <https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/CAMPAIGN/DONATE/15/FOODHAMPERS>

(remember to tick the “_THIS PAYMENT IS ON BEHALF OF AN ORGANISATION” box and nominate Our Lady of the Pines, Donvale).

The First Assembly of the Plenary Council

“Can the Plenary Council achieve real change?”



One Down, One to Go!

July 2022



What Now? Where to Next?

**December 1st, 2021
7.30 to 9pm**

**St Kevin's Parish
26-44 Herlihy's Road,
Templestowe**

stkevinsparish.org.au

**Join us for a Q & A evening with guest
presenters:**



Rev. Dr Kevin Lenehan is Master of the Catholic Theological College in Melbourne & part of the Plenary Council 'Instrumentum Laboris' Team



Dr Nimmi Candappa is a Melbourne writer, Plenary Council member and academic.

www.trybooking.com/BVTHF



ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 2nd Sunday of Advent

HOSPITALITY TEAMS— Luttick, Howell, Argaet and Bradley

READERS & COMMENTATORS

Sat 5.00 pm: James Beckford and Mary Wynack

Sun 9.30 am: Peter Given and Luke Kay

PROJECTOR OPERATORS

Sat 5.00pm : Maria and Lyn

Sun 9.30am : Lukas Catanchin

Covid Captain:

5.00pm : Oswald Mendonca

9.30am : Mary Farnay and Lyn Wise

Money Counting Roster:

Group 4 : Brian Tooth, John Evans, John Brophy and Joanne Bonavia

Parish Priest : Fr Jerald Mariadas—98418354

Email: gerald.cecil@cam.org.au

CHAIR OF PARISH SERVERS

Peter Given 9841 8354

Email: olopchair@gmail.com

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Brendan Keeling: 9842 2991

Email: principal@olopdonvale.catholic.edu.au

PASTORAL WORKER :

Trish Keley—9841 8354—Mon and Tues.

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Wed : Liza Jansz 9841 8354

Email: donvale@cam.org.au

Year C –2nd Sunday of Advent 5th of December 2022

GOSPEL

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God. (Luke 3:1–6)

DID YOU KNOW?

- Luke goes to great lengths to describe the geographical and political world into which Jesus is born. God enters into human history at a specific time and place. The coming of Jesus for the salvation of the world is not a vague notion but a concrete event in time.
- The prophets of the Hebrew tradition were specially chosen people who spoke the word of God to Israel. John the Baptist is sometimes referred to as the last of the great prophets

• Extract from "The Summit" Online

MASS TIMES for partner Parishes of Our Lady of The Pines, Donvale & Ss Peter & Paul's, Doncaster East

	OLOP	SSPP
Monday	No Mass	9.00am Communion Service
Tuesday	9.00am Zoom Mass	9.00am Communion Service
Wednesday	9.00am in person Mass— Rosary after Morning Mass	9.00am Communion Service
Thursday	9.00am Zoom Mass	9.00am in person Mass
Friday	9.00am in person Mass— Rosary after Morning Mass	9.00am Communion Service
Saturday	5.00pm Vigil Mass	9.00am Mass and 6.00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.30am Morning Mass— Rosary after mass	8.00 and 11.15am Morning Mass