

Advent

A Season of Preparation

OUR LADY OF THE PINES CHURCH

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 11TH AND 12TH OF DECEMBER 2021

Joint Parish Reconciliation Service

We would like to invite you join us for our joint Parish Reconciliation Service on Thursday the 16th of December at 7.30pm at Ss Peter and Paul's Church, 23 Leeds Street Doncaster East.

The theme of the evening is "Healing and Restoration", providing a special opportunity to make right with our Lord before Christmas. Every one is invited to participate.



Christmas Mass times at Our Lady of the Pines Church Masses for the Vaccinated

Thu 16th of Dec: Reconciliation Service - 7.30pm at Ss Peter and Paul's Church

Fri 24th of Dec: Christmas Eve Mass - 6.10pm Carols, 6.30pm Mass

Sat 25th of December: Christmas Day Mass - 9.10am Carols, 9.30am Mass

Mass for the Unvaccinated

24th of December : Christmas Eve Mass : 7.30pm Mass at Ss Peter and Paul's Church. We are limited to 50 parishioners and mass is restricted to Parishioners of Our Lady of the Pines and Ss Peter and Paul's Only. Booking is essential and can be made on the following link: - <https://www.trybooking.com/BWHBE>



OUR LADY OF THE PINES CHURCH
77 CARBINE STREET, DONVALE VIC 3111
TEL: 9841 8354

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 Dallow, Josephine Noli, Teresa Talia, Sharon Rodrigo, Laurel Wood, John Gould, Meredith Barnes, Judith Frood, Jean Rive and Deborah Jansz.

Anniversary and Mass offering for :
Pricilla Maroney, Gerald Strentz and Ann de Penha

Recent Death and Mass Offering for Shirley Jacobsen

Update to guidelines—5th of December 2021

Following our Covid incident on the 28th of November—please note the following.

- **Face covering—whilst face coverings is no longer a requirement within the Church setting, we would like to encourage all parishioners to continue to wear a face covering within our Church setting. Please also continue to socially distance whilst seated. The chairs have been pushed back to the setup that we have all become accustomed to with a 1.5meter distance between the chairs. If you do move the chairs to be closer to family members, please push them back to the original position. We thank you all for your patience with this. Fr Jerald's priority is the well being and safety of all, and if we can continue to wear a face covering and socially distance, we can do our bit to help keep everyone safe.— PLEASE NOTE, THE WEARING OF FACE MASK IS NOT MANDATORY BUT A SUGGESTION ONLY. Thank you.**
- **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.

Weekday zoom masses will continue for the time being on our normal zoom details as follows :-

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2597564312?pwd=NGpkK2RsQTNlWkszdEdTTW5KSnl0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 259 756 4312

Password: 689922

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+ 2 months 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.

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 ORGANISATI_ON” box and nominate Our Lady of the Pines, Donvale).

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.

Festive Music for Christmas

Wednesday 15 December, 7.00pm

Cathedral Brass, with Anthony Halliday, organ. Brett Kelly, conductor.

\$25 - tickets online or at the door. Children under 15 are admitted free of charge.

Online tickets: www.trybooking.com/BVJPD

St Patrick's Cathedral & Cathedral Brass present



Reflection on this week's readings

Pope Francis reflects on this theme in his exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*. He warns against those Christians whose lives "seem like Lent without Easter" (EG 6), and, certainly, glum people glumly proclaiming mercy and the joy of the Good News are by no means convincing, for they appear unconvinced by their own message: "Consequently, an evangelizer must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral!" (EG 10). Indeed, the interpretation of John the Baptist in the musical *Godspell* accords with this, for his singing of "Prepare ye" is anything but a dirge. While the theme of joyful anticipation continues in the first and second readings, today's gospel passage (only Luke has this episode, though elements are related to parables in Matthew) reports John teaching a message of right living that is consistent with what is to be developed in other ways by Jesus. And the effect of John's mission on the people cultivates a feeling of expectancy among them. It seems they are infected, in the best sense, by John's enthusiasm. Thus although it is not mentioned in today's gospel pericope, joy, or anticipation of it, perfuses Luke's account.

Luke's fringe dwellers are there too; they are attracted to John, firstly in the tax collectors then in the soldiers. We do not normally think of such as these as being on the fringes, since they are among those who wield considerable strength as agents of the oppressors (if we ignore for the sake of argument the Pax Romana, the widespread political stability with the benefits of trade their empire brought), but they were themselves tools of ruling powers and thus were on the fringes of the bulk of the population. For them, too, the Good News has come. And indeed the structures and agents of the empire would also provide avenues for the rapid spread of the followers of Jesus bearing the Gospel in Luke's second great journey theme: from Jerusalem to all the world.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 4th Sunday of Advent

HOSPITALITY TEAMS— Williams, Symonds and McBride

READERS & COMMENTATORS

Sat 5.00 pm: Margaret Hughes and Vanessa White

Sun 9.30 am: Anna Basa and Leonard Healy

PROJECTOR OPERATORS

Sat 5.00pm : Carlos Cordeiro

Sun 9.30am : Julian Pirotta

Covid Captain:

5.00pm : Gabriel Collins and Mary Wynack

9.30am : Janet and Pat Goodwin

Money Counting Roster:

Group 6 : Marie Christensen, Chris Haswell, Joan McDonald and Barbara Johnson

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 – 4th Sunday of Advent

19th of December 2021

GOSPEL

Jerusalem Bible © 1966 by Darton, Longman & Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Company Inc.

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.' (Luke 1:39–44)

DID YOU KNOW?

- In Luke's Gospel, the conception and birth of Jesus are described in parallel with the conception and birth of John the Baptist. One important difference is that the announcement of the miraculous conception of John to elderly parents comes to his father, Zechariah, while the announcement of the conception of Jesus comes to his mother, Mary.
- In Matthew's Gospel, it is Joseph who is the main protagonist, while Luke concentrates on Mary's role in cooperating in God's plan for the world.
- Mary undertakes a journey from Nazareth in Galilee, in the north of Israel, to the hill country of Judah in the south. This is an extraordinary journey for a young pregnant woman of her time to undertake alone!
- **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 in Person Mass
Wednesday	9.00am in person Mass— Rosary after Morning Mass	9.00am Communion Service
Thursday	9.00am Zoom Mass	9.00am in person Mass 7.30pm Joint Parish Reconciliation Service
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