

Advent

A Season of Preparation

OUR LADY OF THE PINES CHURCH

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 18TH AND 19TH OF DECEMBER 2021

Christmas Mass times at Our Lady of the Pines Church

Fri 24th of Dec: Christmas Eve Mass -

6.10pm Carols followed by 6.30pm Christmas Vigil Mass

Sat 25th of December: Christmas Day Mass -

9.10am Carols followed by 9.30am Christmas Morning Mass

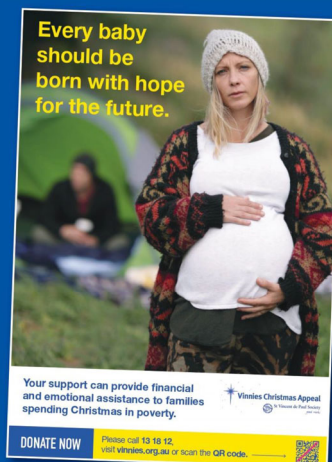


St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal

The Donvale Vinnies Conference is conducting its Christmas Appeal in the Parish this weekend. This year's Appeal spotlights one of the most basic of human rights – the right for every baby to be born with hope for the future.

We seek your financial support to help the Conference with its work in the local community and in South Melbourne.

Donations can be made via the envelopes in the Church foyer; on-line at www.vinnies.org.au; or by calling 13 18 12.



**CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2021
INFORMATION KIT**

 Vinnies Christmas Appeal
St Vincent de Paul Society
2021-2022

OUR LADY OF THE PINES CHURCH
77 CARBINE SREET, 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 Goold, Meredith Barnes, Judith Froid, Jean Rive.

Anniversary and Mass offering for :
Rose Ling

Parish Office

Please note the Parish office will be closed from the 23rd of December until the 5th of January inclusive. In case of emergencies please call the parish mobile on 0473 873 479

Update to guidelines– 18th/19th of December 2021.

- **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 MASKS IS NOT MANDATORY BUT A SUGGESTION ONLY.** Thank you.
- **VACCINATION STATUS:** With effect from 11.59pm on the 15th of December, the vaccination rule was removed for places of worship, weddings and funerals now that 92 per cent of the state's eligible population is double-vaccinated. Our Church's are now fully opened to all once again.
- **CHECKING IN IS STILL A REQUIREMENT:** could we kindly remind everyone to continue to check on arrival using our Service Victoria QR code . There is no longer the need to show your Vaccination Certificate to the Covid Marshall on entry, although they just might remind you to check in.
- **IF YOU HAVE COVID-19 SYMPTOMS** or if you have been advised to get tested by a contact, workplace or school, get a COVID-19 test and isolate until you get a negative result.

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2597564312?pwd=NGpkK2RsQTN1WkszdEdTTW5KSnl0Zz09>
Meeting ID: 259 756 4312
Password: 689922

Family Groups—Hamper donations

Unfortunately, with the 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).

Coping with Christmas - a guide for separated parents

Christmas can be a tricky and often stressful time of year for separated families – particularly for those who are spending their first Christmas apart. Conflict and disagreements between co-parents can also put a lot of stress on the kids, and can remove the joy and fun children usually associate with Christmas time.

CatholicCare Shepparton Family Relationship Centre (FRC) team support families through separation and help parents to focus on the kids during separation. As a way to support separated families this Christmas, the FRC team have produced a free guide for co-parents to help improve communication, reduce conflict, and respectfully negotiate Christmas holiday arrangements for the kids. This a wonderful resource to have and the pdf is on the link below.

Please go to https://ccamcatholiccare.blob.core.windows.net/assets/news_htmlcontent/Coping%20with%20Christmas%20-%20A%20guide%20for%20separated%20parents%20-%20CCV%20and%20FRC%202021%20-%20Final.pdf

Reflection on this weeks readings

The use of Micah's "And you, Bethlehem..." (Micah 5:1) in Matthew 2:6, which we read on the feast of Epiphany, emerges from a first-century fascination with this prophecy, especially in Christian circles. In other Jewish circles the full prophecy (Micah 5:1-14) was read as applying to the Roman occupation of Israel and a hoped-for liberation from such dominion, rather than from that of the historical Assyrians mentioned in the verses omitted by our Lectionary. The Israeli interpretation expected a warrior king who would forcibly evict the invaders.

A phrase in the second reading suggests itself as appropriate for this liturgical period of preparation for Christ's birth: "You... prepared a body for me". The original line in the Hebrew Psalm 40:6 (LXX 39:7), with which some Greek texts agree, reads "you opened/prepared my ears", a reference to hearing and obeying. Most Septuagint manuscripts have the same reading as Hebrews, in which *ōtia* [ears] appears by scribal error, adding the final S from the preceding word, to have been read as *sōma* [body]. However, study across ancient Jewish and Christian texts reveals that this verse was an object of much interpretation, including interactions with other passages, such that the Greek form cannot be dismissed as a simple error. One interaction is with a phrase two verses later in the same psalm, literally, "Your law is within my abdomen", usually translated as heart. The rich history of interpretation around the ears/body complex includes the sense of one wholly, bodily honouring God's commands, as in one in whom the Law is written on the heart—and this appears to have already emerged in Jewish, not Christian, circles. Even if the substitution of body were simply a scribal error, then it is a happy fault that would later accord with the Christian understanding of the incarnation. Hebrews' author used the psalm as a proof text for rejecting the efficacy of holocausts and their being replaced by the perfect submission to the Father of Jesus, who in being perfectly obedient accomplishes in himself what no other could.

The gospel's account of the visitation continues the theme of the preparation of Christ's body, for he is in utero as Mary journeys from Galilee to Judah to visit her cousin Elizabeth, then six months pregnant. There John the future Baptist, key character of the previous two Sundays and himself now in formation in the womb, already jumps for joy, perhaps we may say in anticipation of seeing the Lord face to face. But there is more to this preparing of a body. In Christian faith, recollection of the reality of the human body of Jesus is always accompanied by awareness of the mystical body of Christ, represented in Church members who joyfully anticipate that day when they will see his face and truly know him as their salvation.

Text: Homily Help - Rev Dr Barry Craig - Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year C

**ROSTERS FOR THE 26TH OF DEC.
The Holy Family of Jesus Mary and
Joseph**

HOSPITALITY TEAMS— Baird , Stewart and Separovic

READERS & COMMENTATORS

Sat 5.00 pm: No Mass

Sun 9.30 am: Natalie Chim and Mark Keating

PROJECTOR OPERATORS

Sat 5.00pm : No Mass

Sun 9.30am : Bruce Stewart

Covid Captain:

5.00pm : No Mass

9.30am : Gabrielle Collins

Money Counting Roster:

Group 7 : Shinta Sugeng, Buford Ng, Shane Johnson and Jack Deady

Parish Priest : Fr Jerald Mariadas—98418354

Email: jerald.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 – The Feast of the Holy Family
26th of December 2021**

GOSPEL

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere.

Three days later they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant.

He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men. (Luke 2:41-52)

DID YOU KNOW?

This text demonstrates yet again that Mary and Joseph were devout and pious Jews who observed all the rituals and customs of Judaism.

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 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 Christmas Vigil Mass 6.10 pm Carols, 6.30pm Mass	9.00am Communion Service Christmas Vigil Mass 6.30pm Carols—7.00pm Vigil Mass Midnight Mass 11.45pm Carols and 12.00pm Midnight Mass
Saturday	Christmas Day Mass 9.10am Carols and 9.30am Mass	Christmas Day Mass 10.00am Christmas Day Mass
Sunday	9.30am Morning Mass—Feast of the Holy Family	8.00 and 11.15am Morning Mass