

# Advent

## A Season of Preparation

### 3rd Sunday of Advent

10th and 11th of December

Year A

**OUR LADY OF THE PINES CHURCH**  
**77 CARBINE SREET, DONVALE 3111**  
**TEL: 0473 873 479**  
**EMAIL: DONVALE@CAM.ORG.AU**

**WEBSITE:**  
[www.ourladyofthepineschurch.org](http://www.ourladyofthepineschurch.org)

**PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS:**  
**Tues: 9.00 am to 4.00 pm.**  
**Wed: 9.00 am to 5.00 pm**  
**We may also be contacted at Ss Peter and Paul Parish, on 9842 1480 on Monday, Thursday and Friday.**

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 Safety Policy.

#### We pray for Better Health:

Brian Sullivan, Kath Potger, Alden Ong, Lisa Dallow, Josephine Noli, Sharon Rodrigo, Meredith Barnes, John Yates, Fiona Faulkner, Melvin Rodrigo, Sharon Hill, Angela Daffey, Marlene Delzoppo, Keith Delzoppo, Dominic Cruz, Belinda Swan.

**Anniversary:**

### WELCOME TO THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The third Sunday of Advent we are invited to reflect on the joy we have access to because of our faith in Jesus. One of the defining characteristics of Christ-followers is their joyful demeanor. Let's not allow the struggles of this year steal from the great joy we have because of Jesus. Philippians 4:4-5 says, "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near."

### Trish Keley

With sadness we advise the community that Trish Keley will be leaving us as Pastoral Worker at the end of Dec. Due to an impending move, Trish has decided to vacate this position whilst she prepares to move home.

We thank Trish for all that she has done and wish her and Peter well in their move.

### Christmas Memorial Mass

Families who have lost a loved one this year are invited to join in for a Christmas Memorial Mass celebrated by Fr Kevin on Mon 19th Dec at 7.30pm at Ss Peter and Paul's Church.

All those who have lost love ones during the year are invited to attend.

### FAREWELL TO OUR PARISH BAND "ARKAIOS"

It is with much sadness we advise that our Parish Band, "Arkaios" will be disbanding at the end of the year. Their last official performance will be at the Christmas Vigil Mass. The band comprises, Andrew Buchan, Fiona Buchan, Patrick Monahan, Rochelle Buckley and Roger Gurney. They have provided wonderful singing and music for the parish for many years and we will be very sorry to see them go. This weekend is their official farewell. We thank them for all their service to our community and wish Andrew and Fiona well with their move.

## Christmas Raffle



Our Fundraising Committee is holding a Christmas Raffle in the weeks leading up to Christmas. Tickets are now on sale and the raffle will be drawn just prior to Christmas. The prizes are on display in the church foyer. All proceeds will go to the parish.

**"You have to be in it to win it!"**



Unfortunately we advise that we have no RCIA candidates for this year, and there have been no expressions of interest in the RCIA Co-ordinator role. However, it is important to point out that a large number of parishioners are committed to the RCIA Ministry in our parish. This means that much of the co-ordinator role is already covered by volunteers. It also means that candidates would be made welcome at any time and their faith journey would be encouraged. In addition, it is important to thank those parishioners who have supported the RCIA Ministry at OLOP with great enthusiasm, many of whom have participated since RCIA recommenced at OLOP in 2005: Rita Latimour, Shinta Sugeng, Mary Wynack, Xiao Yang, Shireen Seah, Ron Choong, Nan Perreau, Suzanne Conway, Vince Taranto, Steve Kay, Neal Murphy, Peter Johnstone, John Evans, Tricia Keley, Trish Gurney, Margaret Bentley, Margaret Hughes, Emmy Oakley and Judy Brophy.

Persons who are interested in learning more about our Catholic tradition, with a view to becoming a full Sacramental Member of the Catholic Church, are welcome to contact Father Jerald or Mary Ann Payne to learn more about the vibrant RCIA Ministry at OLOP. Our enthusiastic volunteer parishioners will be pleased to open up the treasures of our Catholic faith and spirituality for you. RCIA offers an opportunity to privately explore your faith journey. Making a commitment is always a personal choice.

Mary Ann Payne



### **SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION FOR CHILDREN WHO ATTEND NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

Registrations are now open for children attending non-Catholic schools who wish to make the Sacrament of First Reconciliation. The Sacrament will be held on Thursday, 30th March, 2023 and compulsory catechist classes will be held each Thursday from 2nd Feb to 23rd March at 4.00 pm. Registrations close on 27th January, 2023. To obtain a registration form please

visit <https://www.ourladyofthepineschurch.org/sacramental-programme->

### **Journey to Bethlehem**

What a wonderful performance we had for the Journey to Bethlehem production held by the school during the week.

Thank you to all those who attended, but especially thank you to all the teachers involved in the production, especially to Veronica who prepared the children so well.

### **PHOTOS FROM OUR YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Thank you to all our Youth group and coordinators who had their Christmas Party last Sunday the 4th of Dec. They had a wonderful Christmas celebration. Thank you to all the co ordinators who have done so much during the year, especially to Teresina who is always overseeing all the activities. Thank you everyone.





God  
with  
us.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

## Christmas Mass Times at Our Lady of the Pines

Reconciliation	20th Dec 2022	7.30pm at Our Lady of the Pines Church
Christmas Eve	24th Dec 2022	6.00pm Mass
Christmas Day	25th Dec 2022	9.30am mass

### Children's Liturgy

As we are nearing the end of Term 4, next Sunday, 11th December, will be the last Children's Liturgy lesson for 2022.

Thank you to all our leaders: Anna Basa, Stefanie Leman, Miriam Silva, Anne Khoo, Tracey Baxter, Sue Keating and Lizzy Kay. Without you ladies the program would not have been able to continue. Your support is invaluable and very much appreciated. A huge thank you also to Fiona Buchan, who, even though she left the Children's Liturgy Ministry a few years ago after many years, was instrumental in getting this program up and running again after the lockdowns. Fiona provided wonderful assistance in lesson planning and craft activities for the children.

We are in desperate need for a new Children's Liturgy Co-ordinator if the program is to continue in 2023. If you, or anyone you know may be interested, please advise Trish Keley at [trish.keley@cam.org.au](mailto:trish.keley@cam.org.au). If we don't have a new co-ordinator to take over next year, sadly the program will have to be paused once again. Lesson outlines and craft materials are provided and you will receive as much support as you require from the Parish Office.

### A Christmas Gift For You

We are all busy at present buying Christmas gifts for others. But what about a Christmas gift for you.

At the same time as you are doing your shopping, do you find it disconcerting, even distressing, that this time of year is becoming more and more known as 'the holiday season' or 'the festive season'.

Why not gift yourself a free digital copy of 'Why Christmas' by Nicky Gumbel.

Why Christmas? is a concise, easy-to-read booklet about the very real questions people may have about Jesus and why His birth, death and resurrection are central to the Christian faith.

Over 3 million copies of this popular booklet have been sold worldwide since it was first published. Written by Nicky Gumbel, the pioneer of Alpha and vicar of Holy Trinity Brompton in London, it explores why we need Jesus and how He satisfies our hunger for meaning and purpose in life.

Why Christmas? is illustrated throughout by Charlie Mackesy, author of the best-selling book 'The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse'.

Just go to -

[https://www.alpha.org.au/invite?mc\\_cid=f19559d87a&mc\\_eid=54a78988cf](https://www.alpha.org.au/invite?mc_cid=f19559d87a&mc_eid=54a78988cf)

or go to the link on our website and download your free copy.

**17th and 18th of December 2022  
3rd Sunday of Advent**

**HOSPITALITY TEAMS:**

Davies, Lazzari and Oakley

**READERS & COMMENTATORS:**

**Sat 5.00 pm:** Rita Latimour and Trish Gurney

**Sun 9.30 am:** Natalie Chim and Geoff Mullane

**ALTAR SERVERS:**

**5.00pm:** Jerry, Jeanelle and Alex

**9.30am:** Ryan and Eva

**CHILDRENS LITURGY:** Trish Keley and Stefanie Leman

**MASS DRIVER:** Jill Howell

**PROJECTOR OPERATORS:**

**Sat 5.00 pm:** Ophelia Wong

**Sun 9.30am:** Andrew Buchan

**WELCOMING COMMITTEE:**

**5.00 pm:** Rose and Roy Tavenor

**9.30 am:** Joanne and Godwin Bonavia

**MONEY COUNTING: GROUP 3**

Keith Delzoppo, Arthur Williams, Janet Goodwin and Noranda Lai

**PIETY STALL:**

**5.00pm :** Gill Beckford

**9.30am:** Nan Perreau

**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr Jerald Mariadas 0473 873 479

**Email:** [jerald.cecil@cam.org.au](mailto:jerald.cecil@cam.org.au)

**CHAIR OF PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Peter Given

**Email:** [olopchair@gmail.com](mailto:olopchair@gmail.com)

**SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

Brendan Keeling: 9842 2991

**Email:** [principal@olopdonvale.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@olopdonvale.catholic.edu.au)

**PASTORAL WORKER** Tel: 0431 835 626

Trish Keley - Tue & Wed 9.00 am to 4.00 pm

**Email:** [trish.keley@cam.org.au](mailto:trish.keley@cam.org.au)

**PARISH ADMINISTRATION** Tel: 0473 873 479

Liza Jansz - Wed 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

**Email:** [donvale@cam.org.au](mailto:donvale@cam.org.au)

**Year A - 3rd Sunday of Advent**

**11th December 2022**

**Gospel**

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.' As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: 'Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. 'I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.' **(Matthew 11:2-11)**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- The Word Messiah means 'anointed one' in Hebrew. The word Christ means the same thing in Greek.
- *The healing of those who are afflicted was one of the signs given in the Hebrew Scriptures that the Messiah had come. When the blind see and the deaf hear; when the downtrodden are raised up and the lame walk, the reign of God will have come.*

**Extract from "The Summit" Online.**

**MASS TIMES FOR THE PARTNERED PARISHES OF OUR LADY OF THE PINES & Ss PETER & PAUL'S, DONCASTER EAST**

	OLOP	SsPP
Monday	No Mass	9.00 am Mass—Communion Service
Tuesday	No Mass	9.00 am Mass
Wednesday	9.00 am Mass followed by Rosary at 9.30am	9.00 am Communion Service
Thursday	No Mass	9.00 am Mass
Friday	9.00 am Mass followed by Rosary at 9.30am	9.00 am Communion Service followed by Adoration
Saturday	5.00 pm Vigil Mass	9.00 am Weekday Mass and 6.00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.30 am Mass followed by Rosary	8.00 am and 11.15 am Masses