

Advent

A Season of Preparation

4th Sunday of Advent
17th and 18th 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

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:

Parish Reconciliation Service

20th December—7.30pm

All parishioners are invited to attend our Parish Reconciliation service being held here at Our Lady of the Pines Church on Tuesday the 20th of December at 7.30pm.

During this last week of the Advent season, as we prepare to celebrate Christ's coming to earth and anticipate the time when Christ will come again in glory, let us reflect more deeply on Christ's presence in our midst, so that we may bring God's message of mercy.

Our Advent theme of Welcome continues during this service as we prepare ourselves to WELCOME our Lord Jesus Christ.

We look forward to Welcoming you for this service and hope to see you all there.



No Morning Tea after Mass on Christmas Day

As it is expected parishioners will have family lunches to get to, please note, there will be no morning tea and coffee served after Mass on Christmas Day.

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 loved ones during the year are invited to attend.

Christmas Raffle

Our Fundraising Committee is holding a Christmas Raffle in the weeks leading up to Christmas. Tickets are now on sale and the reffle will be drawn just prior to Christmas. The prizes are on display in the Church Foyer. These are also delicious home made preserves for sale. All proceeds from the raffle and the preserves will go to the Parish.





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-for-children/> or email trish.keley@cam.org.au.

Trish Keley

Last week we advised the community that Trish Keley will unfortunately be leaving her role as our Pastoral worker due to an impending move.

As a community we intend to farewell Trish in February 2023. More details will follow in due course.



HAMPER MASS THANK YOU.

May thanks to the generous parishioners who contributed to our hampers this year.

Special mention to Janet, Clare, Pat and Arthur for their coordination of the whole process.

Judy, John, Peter and Kathy on behalf of the Family Group Leaders.





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	5.30pm Carols 6.00pm Mass
Christmas Day	25th Dec 2022	9.30am mass

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy has now finished for the year. 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. 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.

Piety Stall

Don't forget to have a look at our piety stall for those last minute Christmas gifts. This will be a great opportunity to get your gift list sorted.

Soy Candles for sale

A new parishioners will be selling hand poured soy candles after Mass. Have a look for some gift ideas.

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

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

24th and 25th of December 2022 Christmas Weekend

HOSPITALITY TEAMS:

There will be no Hospitality on Christmas Day

READERS & COMMENTATORS:

Sat 5.00 pm: Trish Gurney and Maria Carey

Sun 9.30 am: TBA

ALTAR SERVERS:

5.00pm: Alex, Andre and Emily

9.30am: Daniel, Tiana and Marcus

CHILDRENS LITURGY: Holidays

MASS DRIVER: TBC

PROJECTOR OPERATORS:

Sat 5.00 pm: Leonard and Chris

Sun 9.30am: Anthony and Lucas

WELCOMING COMMITTEE:

5.00 pm: Gill and James Beckford

9.30 am: Mirella Drago and Sue Separovic

MONEY COUNTING: GROUP 5

Geoff Mullane, David Sowersby, Anna Basa and Clare Davis

PIETY STALL:

5.00pm : Anne Khoo

9.30am: Mirella Drago

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Jerald Mariadas 0473 873 479

Email: jerald.cecil@cam.org.au

CHAIR OF PASTORAL COUNCIL

Peter Given

Email: olopchair@gmail.com

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Brendan Keeling: 9842 2991

Email: 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

PARISH ADMINISTRATION Tel: 0473 873 479

Liza Jansz - Wed 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

Email: donvale@cam.org.au

Year A - Christmas Day

25th December 2022

Gospel

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census—the first—took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing:

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and peace to those who enjoy his favour.'

Did you know?

Points of interest and Catholic lore

Luke's Gospel is sometimes referred to as the 'gospel of joy' because this theme of rejoicing and joy is often repeated.

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	7.30 pm Advent Reconciliation Service	7.30 pm Advent Reconciliation Service at Our Lady of the Pines Church—77 Carbine Street, Donvale
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	6.00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass	9.00 am Weekday Mass and 6.00pm Carols followed by 6.30pm Mass. 11.30pm Carols followed by 12.00am Midnight Mass
Sunday	9.30 am Christmas Day Mass	10.00am Christmas Day Mass