

ADVENT

A Season of Preparation

Our Lady of the Pines Church

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

16th and 17th December
2024

OUR LADY OF THE PINES CHURCH
77 CARBINE SREET, DONVALE 3111
TEL: 0473 873 479

EMAIL: DONVALE@CAM.ORG.AU

WEBSITE:

www.ourladyofthepineschurch.org

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PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS:
TUES—FRI 8:30AM—3:00PM

We may also be contacted at Ss Peter and Paul Parish, on 9842 1480 on Tuesday—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,
Josephine Noli, Sharon Rodrigo,
Meredith Barnes, John Yates,
Belinda Swan, Lina Sopagnol

PARISH OFFICE HOURS—CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

The Parish Office will be closed starting at 12 noon on Friday, December 22, and will resume normal operations on Tuesday, January 2, 2024. Warm wishes for a joyous Christmas and a blessed 2024!

Christmas Mass Times for Our Lady of the Pines and our partner Parish, Saints Peter and Pauls



MASS	Our Lady of the Pines	SS Peter and Pauls Church
Joint Parish Reconciliation Service	19th December 2023—7:30pm at St Peter and Pauls Church	
Family Christmas Eve Mass		Carols/Nativity at 4:30pm Mass at 5:00pm
Christmas Vigil Mass	Carols at 6:30pm Mass at 7:00pm	
Midnight Mass		Carols at 11:30pm Mass at 12:00pm
Christmas Day Mass	Carols at 8:30am Mass at 9:00am	Carols at 10:30am Mass at 10:45am

Please note the regular Sunday Mass scheduled for December 24th at 9:30 am will proceed as usual.



Embrace Reconciliation: Joint Service on December 19th

A reminder of this years Second Rites of Reconciliation on December 19th at 7:30 pm at Ss Peter and Paul's Parish.

Let's come together, seek forgiveness, and prepare our hearts for Christmas. It's a perfect time to experience God's mercy.

Details: - Date: December 19th - Time: 7:30 pm

- Location: Ss Peter and Paul's Parish

Website— Donations and Thanksgiving Offerings Link Update

We recently received notice that the Donations and Thanksgiving Offering link on our website was experiencing issues. We want to inform you that the matter has been addressed, and the link is now operational. Your continued support is invaluable to our parish.

If you encounter any further issues or have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Parish office. Thank you for your understanding and ongoing support.

Parish Fundraising Raffle

The Parish fundraising raffle will take place this Sunday, December 17, following the 9:30 am mass. Tickets will be available for purchase until then. Act swiftly for your opportunity to win one of the three delightful hampers, along with a children's prize and a mysterious prize.



Christmas Caroling and Christmas Vigil Choir Rehearsals

As Christmas approaches, this is a friendly reminder for those who have volunteered to sing carols in our neighborhood and at the Christmas Vigil. Please take note of the rehearsal times:

- Christmas Carollers: Tuesday, December 21, at 7:30 pm.
- Christmas Vigil Choir: Friday, December 15, and Monday, December 18, at 7:30 pm.

Even if you haven't officially signed up, we encourage you to come and join in the Christmas celebration. Your participation is warmly welcomed!



Praying for Ukraine: A Call for Support

In the midst of our festive celebrations, let's take a moment to remember the people of Ukraine facing the harsh reality of war. Bishop Mykola Bychok CScR, the head of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Australia and New Zealand, has asked for our prayers and support.

Please find Christmas Blessings Cards from Archbishop Commensoli in the parish foyer. Take one, offer a prayer, and keep the people of Ukraine in your thoughts. Additionally, various donation options are available within the card for those who wish to provide tangible financial support.

Let's unite in prayer and action, embodying the true spirit of Christmas.



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Vinnies Christmas Appeal – Thank you

The St Vincent de Paul Society Conference here at OLOP thanks parishioners for your generous support of our Christmas Appeal last weekend. The Appeal raised \$1770.50, for which our companions in need will be very appreciative. If you have brought back your donation envelope this weekend, there will be a collector in the narthex after each Mass.

The Parish of Our Lady of the Pines warmly welcomes Anita Skok into the Catechumenate this weekend. We offer our prayers and best wishes to Anita as she continues her preparation through RCIA to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in 2024.



Catholic Mission thanks the parish of Our Lady of the Pine for your support of this year's World Mission Day Appeal. Your generosity has empowered Church workers

across 1047 mission dioceses, allowing them to spread the message of hope and love within their local communities. Your contribution of \$1,302.10 has been most gratefully received. Through your partnership with Catholic Mission, Sr. Carolina in Timor-Leste can continue providing life-saving treatment and essential resources for health, education and well-being. Your gift not only transforms individual lives but also fuels mission programs globally, reaching out to those in dire need. Many thanks!

**23rd and 24th December 2023
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B**

HOSPITALITY TEAMS: Cruz, Dilva and Perreau

READERS & COMMENTATORS:

Sat 5.00 pm: Margret Hughes and Vanessa White

Sun 9.30 am: Various—Youth Group

ALTAR SERVERS:

5.00pm: Lynette, Jeremy and Samantha

9.30am: Various—refer website

CHILDRENS LITURGY: School Holidays

MASS DRIVERS: Jill Howell

AUDIO VISUAL OPERATORS

Sat 5.00 pm: Gabrielle Collins

Sun 9.30am: Bruce Stewart

WELCOMING COMMITTEE:

5.00 pm: Oswald Mendonca

9.30 am: Janet & Pat Goodwin

MONEY COUNTING: GRP3— Anna Basa, Arthur Williams and Janet Goodwin

PIETY STALL: 5.00pm : Mary Ann Payne **9.30am:** Janet Goodwin

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Toan Nguyen

Email: toan.nguyen@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

PARISH ADMINISTRATION Tel: 0473 873 479

Email: donvale@cam.org.au or

PASTORAL WORKER

Maria Carey

Tue,- Fri: 8.30-am to 3.00pm

Email: maria.carey@cam.org.au - Tel : 0473873479

Third Sunday of Advent Year B

Gospel

John 1:6-8. 19-28

There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.

A man came, sent by God. His name was John.

He came as a witness, to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked, 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not,' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.'

This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

Next Weekend Readings: 3rd Sunday of Advent Year B

First Reading: [2 Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16](#)

Second Reading: [Romans 16:25-27](#)

Gospel: [Luke 1:26-38](#)

You will conceive and bear a son.

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 Communion Service
Tuesday	No Mass	9.00am Mass
Wednesday	9.00am Mass followed by Rosary	9.00 am Communion Service
Thursday	No Mass	9.00am Mass
Friday	9.00am Mass followed by Rosary	9.00am Communion Service
Saturday	5.00pm Mass	9.00am Mass and 6.00pm Mass
Sunday	9.30am Mass followed by Rosary	8.00am and 11.15am Mass