

St Damian's Catholic Church

<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/bundoora>

f /Damian church

P.O. Box 63 (5 Settlement Road)
BUNDOORA, 3083

Fr Joseph Dong Tran PP
Dianne Stubbs
Parish Secretary
Telephone: 9467 2797
Email: bundoora@cam.org.au

WEEKENDS

Saturday Evening: 5.30pm

Sunday Morning: 8.00am & 10.00am

WEEKDAYS

Monday: no Mass

Tuesday: 9.15am

Wednesday: 9.15am

Thursday: 9.15am & Divine Mercy

Friday: 9.15am

First Saturday: 9.15am Mass & Divine Mercy

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.00pm

BAPTISMS

1st & 3rd Sunday at 11.30am after Mass.

Preparation 1st Wednesday each month at 5.30pm in the Dunlop Room. Parents must contact the Parish Office to make necessary arrangements. One month notice is required.

ST. DAMIAN'S SCHOOL

Principal: Mrs Rosanna Piccolo

Telephone: 9467 8566

Email: principal@sdbundoora.catholic.edu.au

HOLY HOUR

One hour of Novena, Confession and Benediction after morning Mass on the first Friday of the Month.

MARRIAGES

Those intending to marry at St. Damian's should arrange to meet the Parish Priest at least 6 months in advance of the proposed date.

St. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

All enquiries: 1300 305 330

1st Sunday of Advent, 30th November 2025

THIS WEEKEND

Isaiah 2:1-5

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew:24:37-44

NEXT WEEK

Is 11:1-10;

Rom 15:4-9;

Mt 3:1-12.

PSALM

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.'
And now our feet are standing within your gates,
O Jerusalem.

It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord.
For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name.
There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David.

For the peace of Jerusalem pray: 'Peace be to your homes!
May peace reign in your walls, in your palaces, peace!'

For love of my brethren and friends I say: 'Peace upon you!'
For love of the house of the Lord I will ask for your good.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wed 3rd Dec: St Francis Xavier

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

Recent Deaths: Michael (jack) Mercovich

Anniversaries: Sr Letizia Selle , Rosa Dau Thi Canh & Joseph Nguyen Xuan Duong; Gabriele Sciarra, Nicola & Teresa Dalla Vecchia, Samantha Lucas, Feruccio Di Rico, Denny Wan, Ercole Di Rico, Francis Lucisano , Clean Mirando, Giuseppina Garra, Vittorio Gizzi, Irma Gizzi

Sick : Angelo Trinidad, Norma Frendo, Teresa Munoz, E. Cruz, B. Cruz, Lottie Constantino

CHURCH PRIVACY POLICY: In 2001, the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments introduced legislation that deals with the manner in which public and private sector organisations may record, use, store and disclose information, including health, collected from individuals. The Catholic Parish of St. Damian's Bundoora is committed to upholding the Privacy principles set out in the legislation.



Safeguarding of children and vulnerable young people

As required by law, we as the Church and Parishes have a moral, legal and ethical responsibility to care for, and promote the wellbeing of children and young people, and protect them from harm or abuse. Therefore while in church or on parish grounds: **Please ensure you know exactly where your child is if they're not beside you. *Please accompany your child (16 years and younger) if they need to leave the church for any reason (eg: going to toilet or car, etc...) *Children should never be alone in the car park or playground. *Please keep valuable personal belongings with you (purses, glasses, phones, etc...) and double check before leaving your seat, even briefly during Communion*

REFLECTION – 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR A)

1st Sunday
of
Advent

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today we begin a new Liturgical Year - a fresh spiritual journey, a grace-filled opportunity to speak Christ, to live Christ, and to deepen our faith, hope, and love in Him. Every liturgical year invites us to enter anew into the mysteries of our salvation, to rediscover the God-with-us, Emmanuel, who walks beside us and draws us closer to His Father through the Holy Spirit. May this new year strengthen our relationship with God, deepen our love for Him, and renew our hope in His saving presence.

The Season of Advent opens the door to this journey. The word *Advent* comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning "coming." This holy season teaches us to prepare for two comings of Christ: first, His glorious coming at the end of time to judge the living and the dead; and second, His first coming in Bethlehem, when "for us and for our salvation He came down from heaven." Advent is therefore a season of expectation, preparation, penance, and above all, **hope**, symbolised by the purple/violet colour we wear. With this spirit, today's Psalm invites us: *"I rejoiced when I heard them say: Let us go to God's house."*

The readings today lift our minds toward the One who will come again, while urging us to prepare our hearts to welcome Him. Jesus in the Gospel (Mt 24:37- 44) warns us clearly: *"Stay awake, for you do not know the day your Lord is coming."* To stay awake means to live in readiness - resisting the darkness of sin, the distractions of the world, and the temptations that lull the soul to sleep. The evil one tries to make our hearts opaque and heavy, but Christ, who is Light from Light, calls us to transparency. His grace flourishes only in hearts open to the light.

Saint Paul in the second reading (Rom 13:11-14) reminds us: *"The night is almost over; it will be daylight soon."* Advent is the time to cast off the works of darkness and to step into the light - to live decently and truthfully as children of the day. For the One we await is Himself the Light, and "darkness has nothing to do with Light." This is why Isaiah prophesies that all nations will stream to the mountain of the Lord, walking in His light (Is 2:1-5).

Dear friends, as we begin this Advent and this new liturgical year, let us ask for the grace to be faithful and luminous disciples - people of watchfulness, charity, and hope. May Christ find us awake, ready, and joyful when He comes. Amen!

Fr Joe Dong Tran P.P

Roster 6th & 7th December 2025

Time	Readers	Eucharist/ Welcome	Counters
5.30pm	A. Groom M. Joyce	M. Spiteri J. Mercado D. Whyley	G & A Mee
8.00am	J. North C. Fitzgerald	M. Sweetman S. Aldridge M. Beverley	Supervisor
10.00am	K. Mangubat J. Sobey	J. Venturini L. Careri C. Manabat	M. Jones
			Ministries

Readers & Eucharistic Welcomers

Please gather together in the Church about 5 minutes before Mass.

Eucharistic Ministers

Please remember

you are also welcoming Parishioners & visitors & handing out the newsletter.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND READERS

Dear Volunteers

Thank you so much for your ongoing contribution to our parish liturgy. Our current roster finishes in December. If you haven't done so already could you please advise me (carmelpatriciafitzgerald@gmail.com) or our parish Secretary, Dianne Stubbs (9467 2797 or bundoora@cam.org.au) if your availability or contact details have Changed. I require this information by **Monday Dec 1st**. Please also let me know if you wish your contact information to remain private and not printed on the 2026 roster.

New volunteers are always very welcome. Any prospective Eucharistic Ministers and /or Readers can rest assured that they will be given the necessary support and training to confidently perform the roles. New volunteers should contact me by **Monday Dec 1st** so that they can be included on the new roster. All volunteers reminded that a current Working With Children Check is mandated by the archdiocese and if they haven't done so, they should start the application process. Dianne can help you with this if you are experiencing difficulties, Just ring the parish office for an appointment.

Please note: I will be available after all masses on November 29/30 to meet prospective volunteers and answer any questions.

From Carmel Fitzgerald (Roster Co- ordinator)

SAD NEWS

Dear Parishioners,

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of **Michael (Jack) Mercovich** earlier this week. His funeral Mass will be held on **Thursday, 4th December 2025, at 11:00 am** at St Damian's Church. We warmly invite all parishioners to join us in prayer, to remember him, and to support his family during this difficult time.

SAVE THE DATE



2025 ADVENT & CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

- **Wed 3rd DEC:** ADVENT PRAYER MEETING AT 7:30-8:30PM IN THE DUNLOP ROOM.
- **1ST SAT 6TH DEC:** AT 9:15AM ANOINTING MASS: FOLLOWED BY MORNING TEA.
- **Mon 8th Dec: 9.15am Mass :** THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
- **Wed 10th DEC:** ADVENT PRAYER MEETING AT 7:30-8:30PM IN THE DUNLOP ROOM
- **THURS 11TH DEC : 7:30PM :** 1ST & 2ND RITES OF SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION:
- **FRI 12TH DEC. :** THANKSGIVING MASS & DINNER FOR VOLUNTEERS AT 7PM .
- **WEDNESDAY 24TH DECEMBER -** CHRISTMAS Eve MASSES: 6:30PM CHRISTMAS CAROLS & 7:00 PM MASS AND 9:30PM CHRISTMAS CAROLS & 10PM MASS.
- **THURSDAY 25TH DECEMBER -** CHRISTMAS MASSES: 8AM AND 10AM



St Damian's Church Bundoora



Zone ID: C2000010970

1ST & 2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Thursday, December 11 at 7:30 PM

As we prepare to welcome Christ this Christmas, our parish will celebrate both the First and Second Rite of Reconciliation.

The First Rite is a private celebration between the priest and the penitent, including personal confession, guidance, penance, and absolution. It offers privacy and spiritual direction.

The Second Rite is a communal celebration with individual confession. It begins with Scripture, hymns, reflections, and a communal examination of conscience, followed by individual confession and absolution. This rite highlights the communal nature of sin and forgiveness.

This sacrament is a beautiful opportunity to reconcile with God and others. I strongly encourage everyone to participate. It is offered only twice a year, before Easter and Christmas. I am also inviting two additional priests who will be available to hear confessions. Come, cleanse your heart, and prepare to welcome Christ!

BRING HOLY COMMUNION AROUND

Dear Parishioners and Visitors, please remember that if you would like Holy Communion brought to your loved ones at home, in hospital, or elsewhere, do not hesitate to contact us.

You can reach us at bundoora@cam.org.au or by phone at 9467 2797. With thanks,

COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES

1st PRIZE!!

RAFFLE 2025



Thank you to everyone who has purchased tickets this year to support our parish project to purchase a Christmas Nativity. The raffle will be drawn on the 6th December . Good Luck Everyone.

St Damian's Parish Prayer

Lord, our God, your parish family thanks you for the faith we all share.

Make us a people who care for one another and may we have a genuine concern for the wider community.

*Help our parents to give good example;
Give our children the grace of love and respect.
Fill our youth with wisdom, hope and vision;
Their Leadership is the future of our Church and our Nation.
To our sick—grant health;
To those of advancing years—serenity;
And to those in sorrow—your peace and joy.*

*Lord, our God, deepen our love and strengthen our faith.
Jesus, nourish us with your Word and Eucharist.
Holy Spirit, direct us in all we do and help us to say always:*

"Lord, it is good for us to be here."

This is our home, be with us as we continue to build your kingdom on earth.

St Damian Pray for us

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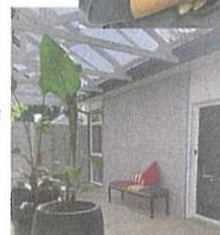
Bundoora Veterinary Clinic & Hospital



Providing affordable, honest Vet care to the Northern Suburbs for over 50 years

Come see us at our new GP Clinic-
15 Plenty Rd Bundoora- around the
back of St Damian's Primary
School!

- General Vet Consultations
- New Puppy/New Kitten Consultations
- Annual Vaccinations
- Routine De-sexing, Dentals & Microchipping
- Courtyard Waiting area



Hours:

Mon to Fri 8am to 6pm
Saturday 9am to 5pm
Ph: (03) 9467 2255

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ST DAMIAN'S CHURCH 2025 – YEAR A CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

**MISA DE GALLO – SIMBANG GABI
9 - DAY NOVENA MASSES BEFORE CHRISTMAS!
16-24 December at 7:00PM**



24TH DEC: WEDNESDAY, CHRISTMAS EVE

6.30pm Christmas Carols

7.00pm Family Mass

Celebrant Bishop Rene Ramirez

9:30pm Christmas Carols

10:00pm Christmas Eve Mass



25TH DEC: THURSDAY, CHRISTMAS DAY

8:00am & 10:00am Christmas Masses

Email: Bundoora@cam.org.au

Phone: 94672797

MISA DE GALLO – SIMBANG GABI

9-DAY NOVENA MASSES BEFORE CHRISTMAS – 7:00 PM

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

As announced in our weekend Bulletin, we will be celebrating a 9-Day Novena of Masses, a *first-time* spiritual event for our parish community. Each evening will focus on a special theme to help us prepare more deeply for the coming of Christ at Christmas.

The Novena will take place from 16–24 December, every evening at 7:00 PM, followed by a shared dinner in our Dunlop & Briglia Rooms.

As your Parish Priest, I warmly invite all of you to participate and support this meaningful celebration.

YOU CAN HELP IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

1. Bring your family and friends to join the Mass and Novena prayers.
2. Bring a plate to share for the fellowship meal after Mass. If you are contributing food, please write your contact details on the Food Sheet in the Church foyer.
3. We also gratefully accept cash donations to assist with food purchases or support for the visiting celebrant priests when needed.

THEMES & CELEBRANTS FOR EACH MASS:

Day 1 – 16 Dec: *Grace & Preparation* & Celebrant: Rev. Fr. Florentino (Boy)
Day 2 – 17 Dec: *Faith & Trust* & Celebrant: Rev. Fr. Jan Szweda (SVD)
Day 3 – 18 Dec: *Peace & Unity* & Celebrant: Rev. Mons. Joselito Cerna Asis (EV)
Day 4 – 19 Dec: *Joy & Gratitude* & Celebrant: Rev. Fr. Jan Szweda (SVD)
Day 5 – 20 Dec: *Families & Relationships* & Celebrant: Rev. Fr. Robin Lomangkok (CSSR) – **5:30pm (Only today)**
Day 6 – 21 Dec: *The Poor & Vulnerable* & Celebrant: Rev. Fr. Joe Dong Tran, P.P.
Day 7 – 22 Dec: *Hope & Light* & Celebrant: Rev. Fr. Florentino (Boy)
Day 8 – 23 Dec: *Church & Community* & Celebrant: Rev. Fr. Simeon Anthony
Day 9 – 24 Dec: *Love* & Celebrant: Most Rev. Bishop Rene Ramirez

If you have any questions or special requirements, please contact us at:

bundoora@cam.org.au or ☎ 9467 2797

Please note: There will be NO 9:15 AM Mass in our parish from 16–24

December. ONLY the 7:00 PM Mass will be celebrated during these days.

Kindest regards,
Fr. Joe Dong Tran P.P