

IN THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL WE PRAY FOR:

Our Sick: Dianne Hutchinson and those of our community.

Recently Deceased:

Repose of the Souls: Gilman Santos and those whose anniversary occur about this time and those whose names are on the memorial wall.

Church
Cleaning

Saturday 6th December — Spanish Community.

Safeguarding of children and vulnerable young people.

St Dominic's Community holds the care, safety and wellbeing of children as a fundamental responsibility of the church. This commitment is drawn from, and inherent to, the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ, with love, justice and dignity of each human person at the heart of the Gospel. A cultural of safety within the Church ensures that children can actively and fully participate in the life of the Church and realise their potential in a faith community. **We are committed to upholding the safety and dignity of each child and young person and ensuring that they are able to grow and develop in a caring and supportive environment in our Church.**

Attention Parents and Carers!
If your child goes to the toilet or just outside of the Church, one of the parents must accompany him/her.

School Graduation Mass:

Year Six Graduation: Wednesday 10th December at 6.00pm.
No Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on this Wednesday.

School Year Ending Mass: Tuesday 16th December at 9.00am, combined with the community.

A Special Thank you to those parishioners who keep the church and garden clean on a regular bases. It is very much appreciated.

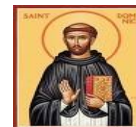
For Sale at the Piety Stall
2026 Columban Art Calendar at \$10.00 each
and Packet of 8 Christmas Cards at \$3.00

**THANKSGIVING
OFFERING ONLINE TO:
ST DOMINIC'S CHURCH
BSB: 083 347
ACCOUNT NUMBER:
67441 1404**

PLEASE TYPE YOUR THANKSGIVING
ENVELOPE NUMBER WHEN YOU DO
THE TRANSACTION.

The Parish has the facility of
**EFTPOS DEBIT, VISA CARD
and MASTER CARD.** This is a
good option for those who do
not carry cash and would like
to contribute to the church.
**The set up is of: \$5.00;
\$10.00; \$20.00 and \$50.00**

ST DOMINIC'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



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PARISH PRIEST: Fr Octavian Masao, CSSp; Email: Octavian.Masao@cam.org.au

ASSISTING PRIEST: Fr Rogasian Msami CSSp;

PARISH SECRETARY: Ana Miriam Guardado

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 8.00am-2.00pm

ST DOMINIC'S SCHOOL—PRINCIPAL: Katie Broadbent, Phone: 03 9309 4146



PARISH MASS TIMES

Sundays: 6.00pm Vigil Mass (Saturday evening)
9.00am 1st & 3rd Sundays: Vietnamese Mass
9.00am 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays: English Mass
11.00am: English Mass
1.00pm: Spanish Mass

Weekdays: Tuesday to Saturday 9.00am Mass
Morning Prayer of the Church: Tuesday to Saturday at 8.25am

Rosary: Tuesday to Sunday before Mass.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Every Wednesday from 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Benediction: Every Friday following the 9.00am Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Tuesday to Saturday before or after Mass.

Baptism Information/Preparation: Every First Sunday of the month at 3.00pm.

Anointing of the Sick: Every Third Wednesday of the Month at 9.00am Mass.



First Sunday of Advent —Year A

30th November 2025

First Reading: Isaiah 2: 1-5

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 121: 1-2. 4-5. 6-9.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Second Reading: Romans 13: 11-14

The time has come, our salvation is near.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Gospel: Matthew 24: 37-44
Stay awake, you must be ready.

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS: Isaiah 11: 1-10; Romans 15: 4-9; Matthew 3: 1-12



REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

The first Sunday of Advent sees the commencement of the new liturgical year. This new liturgical cycle is referred to as Year A and features the gospel of Matthew. (Year B features the gospel of Mark and Year C, that we have just completed, features the gospel of Luke.) Advent comes from the Latin word *Adventus* which literally means 'coming'; it is also reflected in the Greek word *Parousia*, which is used to describe the second coming of Jesus. So Advent is a time of preparation and anticipation of the coming of Christ into the world that is celebrated in the Nativity at Christmas. The gospel passage chosen for today's reading richly expresses that anticipation and need for preparation.

The need for readiness and alertness that Jesus speaks about in relation to the coming of the Kingdom is equally suitable for a modern audience when preparing to celebrate once again the coming of Jesus into the world. Jesus is the best expression of the Kingdom that we have yet experienced and so rather than seeing the choice of this passage as a confusion, we should recognise the alignment that exists between the anticipation of the Kingdom and the anticipation of the Nativity.

The two great feasts of Christianity – the Nativity and Easter – are each preceded by a period of preparation: Advent and Lent. The emphasis of these seasons is on the mental and spiritual preparation to fully enter into one of the great mysteries of faith. In the Nativity, we celebrate God become human; God present in the world in a physical way. Advent is a time to remember the many and varied ways that God continues to be present in the world.

Gospel Focus – Get Ready!

Jesus draws a parallel between the people in Noah's time and the people of his own time. What it reflects is a complacency that periodically overtook the Jewish people. When the people bound themselves to God in covenant their lives gradually became better. Inevitably, their lives improved to such a state that they forgot God was responsible for their blessings. They ignored their relationship with God and became complacent about their good fortune. Ultimately, their comfort was brought to an end and they recognised once again their need for God. Jesus calls the people to get ready because the pattern is repeating itself.

Scriptural context – Burglars in the night

The teachings and sayings of Jesus reveal him to be a clever public speaker and story teller. His use of imagery and language captivated the imagination of his audience. However, we have tended to endow his every word with awesome significance and layers of meaning. Today's reading is an example where Jesus used a confronting image simply to gain his audience's attention. He does not intend to suggest that God sneaks up on us like a burglar and is seeking to catch us out. The image conveys the need to prepare for what might happen unexpectedly.

Historical Context – The Advent Wreath

One of the major symbols of the Advent season is the wreath. The encircling wreath is symbolic of God without beginning or end and the green foliage represents our hope in God. There are usually five candles in the wreath, a central white candle representing the light of Christ that came into the world and then four outside candles that are usually purple and rose coloured. The first candle is generally symbolic of Hope and Expectation. The third candle – the rose or pink candle – celebrates the Joy that is anticipated in the coming of Christ. The progressive lighting of the candles marks the journey towards the Nativity.

St Dominic's Parish—Solemn Eucharistic Celebration

Sunday 14th December at 11.00am.

For the Installation of Fr Octavian Masao, CSSp
as a Parish Priest of St Dominic's.

To be led by Most Rev Rene Ramirez RCJ.

Also, we will be celebrating the Thanksgiving Mass
for all volunteers in the parish. We are grateful for your
willingness to give your time, energy and talents.

After Mass we will gather in the School Hall for this great
Celebration. Please bring a plate to share.

There is a form at the entrance of the Church to write your name or
community who will be providing food and drinks.



Congregation of the Holy Ghost Fathers (Spiritans Mission)

The Congregation would like to express their gratitude to Broadmeadows Community for the great support towards the Seminarians in PNG. Your donation helps the Seminarians on their path to ministry and strengthens their faith through prayer, study, and service for our future priest.

Next Sunday—Baptism Information Preparation
At 3.00pm in the Church for Parents, Carers & Godparents.
Please call the office to confirm your attendance.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY 4TH DEC AT 6.00PM IN THE MEETING ROOM.

Choir Practice

Thursday 11th & Friday 12th December at 7.00pm.
All Choirs are invited to participate.



REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

Pope Leo wants us to rediscover the urgency of the Church's vocation to care for the poor and fight against all forms of poverty. We have a duty, the Pope says, to 'stand at their side and work actively for their integral development.' In short, it is not enough to give to the poor. We have to lift them up. 'Charity has the power to change reality', he affirms, adding that 'it is a genuine force for change in history.'

This aspect of the Christian life cannot be postponed. As the Pope says, 'the dignity of every human person must be respected today, not tomorrow.'

Moreover, he continues, 'the extreme poverty of all those to whom this dignity is denied should constantly weigh upon our consciences.' There is no room in authentic Christian discipleship for 'theoretical excuses' that become obstacles to action 'to resolve the concrete problems of those who suffer.' ...