



St Damian's Catholic Church

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

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

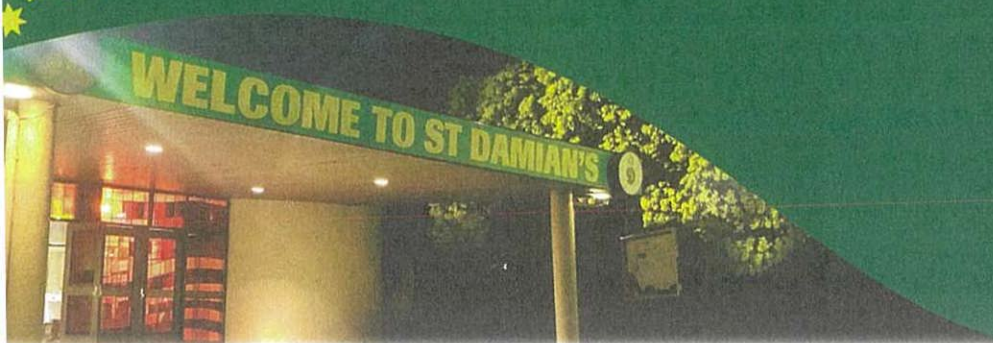
Fr Joseph Dong Tran PP
Dianne Stubbs

Parish Secretary

Telephone: 9467 2797

f /Damian church

Email: bundoora@cam.org.au



WEEKENDS

Saturday Evening: 5.30pm

Sunday Morning: 8am & 10am

WEEKDAYS

Monday: no Mass

Tuesday: 9.15am

Wednesday: 9.15am

Thursday: 9.15am

Friday: 9.15am

First Saturday: 9.15am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5pm and during monthly Holy Hour

BAPTISMS

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

Preparation 1st Wednesday each month at 5.30pm in the Dunlop Room. Parents should 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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 23rd MARCH, 2025

THIS WEEKEND

Ex 3:1-8, 13-15;

1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12;

Lk 13:1-9.

NEXT WEEK

Joshua 5:9-12;

2 Cor 5:17-21;

Lk 15:1-3, 11-32.

PSALM.

The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love
and compassion.

The Lord does deeds of justice, gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses and his deeds to Israel's sons.

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love
for those who fear him.

The Lord is kind and merciful

FEAST DAYS DURING THE WEEK

Tues 25th March:

The Annunciation of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord
Jesus Christ!

Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of
heaven is at hand.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord
Jesus Christ!

Recent Deaths: Galina Plisko

Anniversaries: Marcolina Lucci, Emmanuel Borg (10th Year Anniversary) Joseph Orfali,

Sr Estelita Manabo (Pastorelle sister) (2nd Anniversary)

Sick: Elizabeth San Martin, Manuel Paneda, Lottie Constantino, Helen Mc Kinnery, Peter Coffey

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.

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we stand, the WURRUNDJERI People. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully upon the land.

Reflection for the 3rd Sunday of Lent "The God Who Sees, Warns, and Waits."

This Sunday's readings present a powerful invitation to self-reflection, repentance, and renewal.



1. The God Who Sees and Calls (Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15)

In the first reading, we encounter God revealing Himself to Moses through the burning bush. God's words are deeply moving: "I have seen the misery of my people... I have heard their cry... I know well what they are suffering."

These words remind us that God is not indifferent to our pain. He is *present*, attentive, and personally involved. He doesn't just observe; He calls Moses to act, to lead the people to freedom.

For our lives:

God still sees *our* struggles, our hidden fears, the burdens we carry, the injustices we face. But He also calls us, perhaps not to lead a nation, but to make a difference in our families, workplaces, or communities. Are we listening for His voice in the "burning bushes" of daily life those unexpected moments where God speaks?

2. Beware of False Security (1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12)

St. Paul gives us a sober reminder: even though the Israelites experienced God's miracles, passing through the sea, eating manna they still fell. Why? Because they became complacent, allowing disobedience and ingratitude to take root.

Paul's warning is clear: "Whoever thinks he is standing secure should take care not to fall."

For our lives:

Lent is a time to check: Am I growing spiritually, or coasting along on past blessings? It's easy to let routine dull our relationship with God—prayer becomes mechanical, charity becomes duty. Paul urges us to stay awake, humble, and aware of our need for constant renewal.

3. The God of Patience and Urgency (Luke 13:1-9)

In the Gospel, Jesus challenges the crowd's assumptions about suffering. Instead of explaining why tragedies happen, He emphasizes the need for personal conversion. He tells the parable of the barren fig tree - symbolizing a life that receives God's care but bears no fruit.

The message is twofold:

- God is patient: He gives us more time, more chances. But time is not unlimited: eventually, we must respond.

For our lives:

Where might our lives be like the fig tree - receiving blessings, but lacking fruit?
Are there areas where we need to repent - habits, attitudes, relationships left unattended?

What Can We Learn & Prepare for This Week:

1. Listen for God's call. He speaks through the ordinary and the unexpected. Be attentive to where He might be calling you to act whether in kindness, forgiveness, or courage.
2. Guard against complacency. Faith is not static. Keep your heart soft, humble, and responsive to God's grace. Make room for spiritual practices that nourish you.
3. Repent while there's still time. God's patience is immense, but Lent reminds us to not delay. Take concrete steps toward change whether through reconciliation, acts of charity, or renewing your prayer life.

Dear Friends, the God we meet today is not only the One who sees us and *calls* us, but also the One who lovingly warns and patiently waits. This Lent, may we not waste the time and grace we've been given. Amen!

Fr Joe Dong Tran P.P

Rosters 29th & 30th March

TIME	READERS	Eucharist / Welcome	Counters	Readers & Eucharistic Welcomers
5.30pm	A. Groom M. Joyce	Chung Ho Sr Felicity P. Cosgrove	W. Fernando M. Thompson	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.
8.00am	J. North C. Fitzgerald	M. Sweetman S. Aldridge Sr Nelia	Supervisor	
10.00am	K. Mangubat J. Capuana	L. Careri P. Del Popolo N. Cardamone	M. Jones	



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...)*

2025 LENTEN TIMETABLE

***LENTEN REFLECTION MEETINGS WITH THE FAITH ENRICHMENT GROUP -**

"Walking with Mary to Jerusalem."

Location: St Damian's Dunlop Room

Every Thursday at 7:30 PM - Dates: March 27, and April 3, followed by a light cuppa. Everyone is welcome.

***LENTEN RETREAT WITH ARCHDIOCESE**

PROCLAIM TEAM – Saturday 5th April from 9:15am Mass, Reflection Sessions, Exposition, Benediction, & Reconciliation, concluding around 3:30 PM.

***STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Every Friday morning after 9:15am Mass. Followed by individual confession.

***GOOD FRIDAY: 18th April**

Passion of the Lord at 3.00pm Bishop Rene Ramirez RCJ – Auxiliary Bishop for the Northern Region.

***SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

1ST & 2ND RITE: Friday 11th April at 7:30pm

Lenten Retreat with the Melbourne Archdiocese Proclaim Team

Dear Friends in Christ,

On behalf of the Proclaim Team, as parish priest, I warmly invite you to a day of spiritual reflection through a Lenten Retreat as we prepare to enter the holy season of Lent.

This special retreat will take place at **St. Damian's Church** on **Saturday, 5th April**, beginning with **9:15 AM Morning Mass**, followed by **sessions, Exposition, Benediction, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation**. We anticipate concluding around **3:30 PM**.

Please note: A **light Morning Tea and Lunch** will be provided in the Dunlop Room, so there is no need to bring your own. If you can please contact the Parish office to confirm your attendance and for catering purposes on 9467 2797.

We encourage you to bring along family and friends and take this opportunity to set aside time for prayer, reflection, and renewal.

We look forward to sharing this sacred journey with you. Blessings,

Fr. Joe Dong & the Proclaim Team

Updating News From Vietnam

Dear Parishioners,

Once again, I hope and pray that you are all doing well. I am keeping well here in Vietnam. Please continue to pray for my mum and my second eldest brother, Long. Due to her old age and sickness, Mum is not improving much, but my brother is getting better day by day.

I just wanted to let you know that everything is okay with me, and I hope to return to the parish as soon as my mum's situation allows. I miss you all and keep you in my prayers.

With love and blessings,

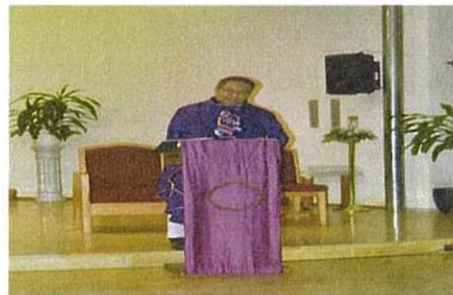
Fr. Joe Dong P.P

A Special Thanks to the Team

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Parish Pastoral Council team, the Choirs: Couples for Christ and the Youth Choir, Dianne Stubbs, our Parish Secretary, and the Sacristans, who all worked so hard to offer a warm welcome and refreshments for Bishop Rene during his Episcopal Visit last Sunday. I am truly grateful for your dedication and efforts, especially in my absence, to ensure that everything ran smoothly and that Bishop Rene felt welcomed as part of our St Damian's Parish family.

As always, we have demonstrated how well we work together as a team at St Damian's Parish. Once again, many thanks to you all. God bless,

Fr. Joe Dong P.P



WELCOME FROM THE RCIA TEAM

The RCIA team would like to introduce our Candidates Evie and Kobe who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist this Easter. Please welcome and pray for them during this very exciting and special time. Thank you.

OPEN DAY LOYOLA COLLEGE WATSONIA

SUNDAY, 18TH MAY 2025: 1.00PM to 4.00pm

BOOK NOW VIA

LOYOLA.VIC.EDU.AU/BOOKATOUR

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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