

St Martin de Porres Parish

158 Military Rd, Avondale Heights Vic 3034

🌐 www.melbcatholic.org/avondaleheights

Parish Priest: Fr. Nhân Le

Secretary: Paula McKernan

Office Hours: 9:30am to 5pm

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

Pastoral Assoc: Sr. Cres Villas, asjm

Sr. Connie Mamo, asjm (Vol)

Phone: 9337 6016

Fax: 9337 1943

E-mail: avondaleheights@cam.org.au

St Martin de Porres School

Principal: Stefanie Harvey

Secretaries: Mary Carmuciano

Maria Aloe

Phone: 9331 9000

E-mail:

principal@smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

🌐 www.smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am

Vietnamese 11:00am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Friday 9:15am

Benediction Wednesday after Mass

Reconciliation Wednesday 10.00am

Saturday 5:30pm

The Augustinian Sisters

Convent: 2 Venice Court,
Avondale Heights

Phone: 9337 4595

E-mail: spinelli@bigpond.net.au

Website: www.asjmoz.org

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility.

The Parish of St Martin de Porres and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. Child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of everyone.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sick:

Nancy Apostolidis; Nancy Green; Helen Borg; Charlie Coxhead; Phyllis Xerri; Frank Logha; Silvia & Thomas Galic; Patrick & Norma Moore; Milvia Cutajar; Mary Jones; Alexander, Felipe, Anne; Phillip; Elena and Lorenzo.

Recently Deceased:

Janet Dunne; Joseph Giliberto; Maria Ferraro; Concetta La Pila; Marija Gorscak; Giuseppina Cuce; Helen Healy (Ireland); Carmela Pisanelli; Maria Lourdes Castro; Teresa Molluso; Brian Webster; Josephine Robottom; Rosa Busa.

Anniversaries & Remembrances

Annunzia & Fantino Avignone; Diana Gomez; Desmond Dunne; Tonina Darmanin; Victor Micallef; Dominic Cumbo; Charlie Galea; Francis, Bernarda, Joseph & Maria Consiglia Grima; Emmanuel, Teresa, Filomena Sammut; Charlie Sciberras; Carmelo & Rita Debono; Emmanuel & Nazzarena Farrugia; Victor Apap.

COLLECTIONS

Parish Support Programme:

Pledge: \$2,588 Received: \$2,174

Shortfall: \$414 Loose: \$840

Presbytery: \$1,599

No Cash For The Collections

Go ahead and use our QR Code



St Martin's Prep Enrolments 2025



Applications Closing This Week

Please apply at the School Office or phone 9331 9000.

The Augustinian Sisters Latest Newsletter



Read about Sr Lorraine's journey to Vietnam, and see photos of the generosity of people in helping to set up the mission in Go Vap.

www.asjmoz.org/mission-news-november-2024.html

End of School Year Mass

All St Martin's students and staff will attend Mass on Wednesday.

Christmas Activities



Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve - Tuesday 24th December

Family Mass 6:00pm

Vietnamese Mass 9:00pm

Carols & Midnight Mass 11:30pm

Christmas Day - Wednesday 25th December

English 8:00am & 9:30am

Vietnamese 11:00am



Advent Prayer Sessions with

Sr Connie & Sr Mayla

Wednesdays 10am in the

Pastoral Centre. Everyone welcome.

Christmas Rosters

Are in the foyer of the church – Please indicate where you can help out at Masses.

Delivery of Christmas Cards

Please take a bundle and deliver to streets listed in the letter.

Christmas Items Available in the Foyer

Majellan cards 10 pk/\$9

2025 Columban Calendars \$10

The Sanctuary Display by Sr Connie

The trees under the cross represent the Garden of Eden. The 'tree of life' is directly underneath the cross. When God asked Adam and Eve not to eat from the tree they disobeyed him and were sent out of the garden and he promised to send out a saviour. Jesus was born of Mary and that's what we are celebrating. As you know Jesus grew up and people didn't accept his teachings and he was crucified. Jesus is the tree of life and his flesh was put on a tree and from that tree we are nourished through the Eucharist. The tree in the middle represents the coming of a saviour on Christmas Day and the redeeming Christ on the cross.

Ref: Genesis: Chapter 2; Revelations: 22:1-2

*Thank you, Vietnamese Community,
for creating and setting up the display.*

Advent Prayer of Praise

O redeemer, creator of the stars,
you reign in everlasting light.
Your people look to you in hope
for your promise is our reward.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

You have set your people free
for you came among us
and redeemed your people.

We watch and wait for your coming again
when all will be judged in fairness and truth.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Save us by your everlasting power
hear your servants when we call.

Light our lamps, open our eyes,
make us ready to meet you face to face.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

No longer a people in darkness,
your glory reaches to the ends of the earth.

Let the paths be straight
and the mountains laid low.
Exult in the Lord, all you just.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Amen.

Liturgy Help



St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal *good works*



Gifts for the needy under the Christmas Tree

Thank you to everyone who
responded with generosity
with gifts under the tree.
They will be distributed
early this week.

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you and ask that you make yourself known to us by completing the New Parishioners Form in Documents and Forms under Recommended Links on our website and return it to the Parish Office. Thank you.

Gospel Luke 3:10-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

What, then, must we do?

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

We are at the midpoint of Advent. Today we celebrate Gaudete Sunday. The principal theme of the day is joy. According to Paul, joy is one of the fruits of the Spirit (cf. Gal 5:22). Such joy is a religious sentiment, not emotional happiness. Along with gratitude, it is the heart's response to God's goodness. Zion is told to shout for joy because it has been saved by God from its enemies and because God is in the midst of the people. The psalm response proclaims the same message; the reading from Philippians announces that the is near. This is cause for joy.

Advent is a time for joy, not primarily because we are anticipating the anniversary of the birth of Christ, but because God is already in our midst (Immanuel). The readings for this Sunday assure us that God is with us, not as a judge but as a Saviour. We rejoice over the saving acts of God that make us confident of God's care and unafraid of whatever may cross our paths. We rejoice in the peace of God that surpasses all understanding. Advent joy is like the delight that fills a woman who has just given birth, even if it occurred in the throes of birthpangs. Advent joy springs from the realisation that the presence of God in our midst can so transform our lives that the promises of peace and security will be fulfilled. Advent joy is the way we live in the tension between already and not yet.

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ST MARTIN DE PORRES

Catholic Parish

Avondale Heights

Today's Celebration is on pages:

Old Missal: 658 New Missal: 744



3rd Sunday of Advent, Year C

15 December 2024

First Reading Zephaniah 3:14-18

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,
Israel, shout aloud!

Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter
of Jerusalem!

The Lord has repealed your sentence;
he has driven your enemies away.

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;
you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will come to
Jerusalem:

Zion, have no fear,

do not let your hands fall limp.

The Lord your God is in your midst,
a victorious warrior.

He will exult with a joy over you,

he will renew you by his love;

he will dance with shouts of joy for you
as on a day of festival.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Is 12:2-6 R. v.6

**(R.) Cry out with joy and gladness:
for among you is the great and
Holy One of Israel.**

1. Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. (R.)

2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to
his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the
peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name. (R.)
3. Sing a psalm to the Lord
for he has done glorious deeds,
make them known to all the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One
of Israel. (R.)

Second Reading Philippians 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

The Lord is near.

I want you to be happy, always happy in
the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your
happiness. Let your tolerance be evident
to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is
no need to worry; but if there is anything
you need, pray for it, asking God for it with
prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of
God, which is so much greater than we can
understand, will guard your hearts and
your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

**The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News
to the poor.**

Alleluia!