



# 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

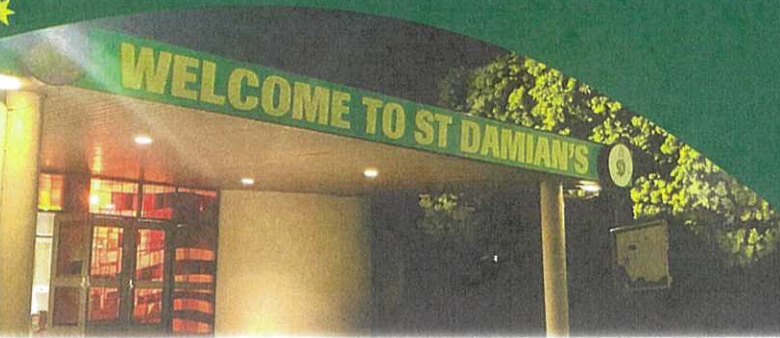
Dianne Stubbs

Parish Secretary

Telephone: 9467 2797

f /Damian church

Email: [bundoora@cam.org.au](mailto: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](mailto: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

# Second Sunday of Advent 8th December 2024

### THIS WEEKEND

*Zeph 3:14-18*

*Phil 4:4-7;*

*Lk 3:10-18.*

### NEXT WEEK

*Micah 5:1-4*

*Heb 10:5-10;*

*Lk 1:39-44.*



### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

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

**Alleluia!**

### PSALM.

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

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.

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!  
Declare the greatness of his name.

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.

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

**Recent Deaths:** Paolo Dominici, Georgia Cachia

**Anniversaries:** Andrea Faustina, Joven Mercado, James Lewis, Concetto Giaccotto, Vincenza Giacotto, Orfali Family Shiel & Frank Collins, Antonietta & Mario Venturini, Vito Garra, Sonia Taouk & Khoury, Elias Taouk, Shoukri Succar

**Sick:** Judy Cousins, Jon Walker, Teresita Calma

**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 (1 years and younger) if they need to leave the church for any reason (eg: going to toilet or car, etc...)*

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.

VIEW OUR NEWSLETTER EACH WEEK ON OUR WEBSITE: [WWW.MELBCATHOLIC.ORG/S/BUNDOORA](http://WWW.MELBCATHOLIC.ORG/S/BUNDOORA).

### REFLECTION FOR THE 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

On this Third Sunday of Advent, we light the pink candle, symbolizing JOY. St. Paul tells us in today's second reading: *"Rejoice always in the Lord, because He is near."* The first reading from the Book of Zephaniah reminds us: *"The Lord, the King of Israel, is in your midst."*

Christmas is a season of Joy - a time of love, family gatherings, and celebration. It is also a time to reflect on the greatest gift of all: God's love for the world, shown through the gift of His only Son, Jesus Christ, who came to live among us as Emmanuel - *God is with us*.

To truly receive this gift of love and grace, I warmly encourage you to join me in celebrating the Solemnity of Christmas at our parish. Here are the Christmas Mass times:

#### 24TH DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS EVE

- 7:00 PM - Christmas Carols
- 7:30 PM - Family Mass
- 9:30 PM - Christmas Carols
- 10:00 PM - Christmas Eve Mass



#### 25TH DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS DAY

- 8:00 AM - Christmas Mass
- 10:00 AM - Christmas Mass

As we approach Christmas, let us wait with joyful anticipation, reflecting on God's generosity and love. May this holy season remind us that God is always with us, giving us the strength to soar during challenges and the rest we need when life feels heavy.

Let's take the spirit of faith, hope, and love into our celebrations, our families, and the new year ahead.

I wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and safe travels if you are taking a holiday. May God bless you and your families abundantly, and may this season fill your hearts with peace and joy.

Warm regards and blessings,

Fr. Joe Dong Tran P.P

| Roster: 21st & 22nd December 2024 |                              |                                           |               |                                                                                       |                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mass Time                         | Reader / Responder           | Eucharist / Welcome                       | Piety         | Counters                                                                              | Readers & Eucharistic Welcomers                                              |
| 5.30pm                            | P. Cosgrove<br>P. Bezzina    | J. Mercado<br>E. Taylor<br>M. Spitieri    | M. Thompson   | G & R<br>MEES                                                                         | Please gather together in the Church about 5 minutes before Mass.            |
| 8.00am                            | T. Shebual<br>C. Love        | S. Aldridge<br>M. Beverley<br>J. Fellowes | G. Cappadona  | Supervisor                                                                            | Eucharistic Ministers Please remember                                        |
| 10.00am                           | Sr S Barker<br>J.. Venturini | R. Sacco<br>W. Mc Eleney<br>C. Manabat    | K.Vandenhoven | G. Spitieri                                                                           | you are also welcoming parishioners & visitors & handing out the newsletter. |
|                                   |                              |                                           |               |  |                                                                              |

### UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

#### **ADVENT: SEASON OF HOPE & EXPECTATION**

@. ANNOINTING MASS FOR ALL

**Wednesday 18th December at 9.15am,**

followed by morning tea.

@. SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Rites**

@. CHRISTMAS CAROLS PRAYER SERVICE

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December @ 7:00pm to 8.00pm**

**NOTICE:** This Christmas Eve, we warmly invite you to our Family/Children's Mass at 7:30 PM, with carols starting at 7:00 PM.

To make this celebration even more joyful, I encourage all children to dress up as their favourite Nativity characters: Mary, Joseph, Angels, Shepherds, Donkey, Sheep, Wise Men, and more.

Let's bring the Nativity story to life through their participation and joy. Thank you for your support in making this a special and memorable evening for our parish community.

### Word of Thanks from Parish Priest

Dear Parishioners,

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Sr. Sue Parker for leading three wonderful sessions for our **Advent program**. Your wisdom, time, and effort have been a true blessing to our community. The sessions were a great success, and your guidance, along with the teamwork of Ellen MacManus and Maria-Han, made it a truly enriching experience for everyone involved.

Additionally, I want to express my gratitude to all who joined the **Working Bees** on Saturday. Your dedication in preparing our church, both inside and outside, is deeply appreciated. Your hard work and commitment to our parish community are a beautiful testament to the spirit of service and love we share.

Thank you all for your generosity and dedication. May God bless each of you abundantly as we journey together through this Advent season and prepare to celebrate the joy of Christmas.

### ST VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL:

For our Christmas offering we are requesting any of the following. The school children of St Damian's have been generous that we have enough presents for small children. We would love to receive Retail Store Gift Vouchers for teenagers, this would be much appreciated. Donations by cash & credit card would also be greatly appreciated. All donations can be delivered to the container beside the Christmas tree in the Church. The gifts will be distributed among the needy in the Parish whose parents cannot afford to buy gifts. There are many families doing it tough at present, so we will appreciate the help.

### SACRAMENTS ENROLMENT

Children who are in Year 3 and above are welcome to enrol. Whether your child is preparing for their Reconciliation, First Eucharist or Confirmation, we are here to support their faith journey.

Please visit the parish office and complete the enrolment form. If your child is enrolling in the Reconciliation class, remember to bring a copy of their baptismal certificate. Classes are held every Thursday, 4:00-5pm. The Reconciliation class starts on February 6, 2025. If you have any questions or need assistance, don't hesitate to contact the parish office:

03 9467 2797

### COMBINED CATHOLIC RAFFLE WINNER

Congratulations to Dao Nguyen from St Damian's Parish who has won third Prize a \$3,000.00 Coles/ Myer Voucher. Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets this year.

### MINISTERS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

Dear Volunteers,

I warmly invite you to participate in the Christmas Masses as **Readers, Special Ministers, and Altar Servers**. Your service helps make our liturgies meaningful and spiritually enriching for all. If you are available to assist, please kindly write your name(s) on the **Christmas Mass Ministers Sheets** located on the Church Noticeboard in the Foyer. Your help and dedication are greatly appreciated. Thank you, and may God bless you abundantly this Christmas season!

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND READERS

Thank you for all your service throughout 2024. The new roster will be prepared during January and will be emailed to you, or available for collection in the church, from Saturday January 18th. This roster will be effective from 1/2/2025 until 29/6/2025. As usual volunteers are not rostered for January. Could you please see Father Joe, or the sacristan, before mass if you wish to volunteer as a Reader or Eucharistic Minister at January masses?

Volunteers will need to let me know before Christmas if their availability has changed or if they wish to be removed from the roster. New volunteers are always welcome, especially for 8:00am mass on Sunday which only has a small list. Please contact me, or the Parish Office, if you are considering volunteering and I can talk to you about the roles and training (if required). As mandated by the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, volunteers need to have a current Working With Children Check or have an application pending, to be included on the roster. Please email me by December 24th or contact Dianne at the Parish Office.

**Carmel FitzGerald (Roster Co-ordinator)**

### THANKYOU FROM THE PASTORELLE SISTERS

Pastorelle Sisters wish to express our deep gratitude to Fr Dong for his gracious hospitality on the day of Sr Letizia's funeral and for his spiritual support over the many years that Sr Letizia has been sick. Our sincere thanks also to St Damian's choir and the Thursday Cathedral singers who led us so beautifully in the singing, to the priests who concelebrated, and to all the parishioners and friends who joined us in praying for the repose of the soul of our dear sister. In response to our request to, in place of flowers, donate towards our Pastorelle mission overseas, we have received the generous sum of \$2600. The money will be shared among three of our poorer missions in Africa, South America, and the Philippines. Thank you! Grazie! Salamat po!

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Vinnies Shop at 256 Settlement Road Thomas-town. Requires volunteers to help sorting and pricing items. Days and Hours are flexible. It is a friendly atmosphere and you will be warmly welcomed.

Please phone Sue( The Manager) 81994233

## 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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