

THE PAULINE AND OLIVERIAN

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

3rd Sunday of Advent, Year C

12th December 2021

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr. James Puppady

Secretary:

Mrs Loretta Meilak

Pastoral Associate:

Marthese Temming



St Oliver Plunkett's Pascoe Vale

Landells Rd, PO Box 567, Pascoe Vale

Ph: 7036-9330

E: pascoeale@cam.org.au

Office: Tue—Thurs 9-5pm

Website: www.stolivers.org.au

School Principal: Delfina Pieri

Landells Rd, PO Box 667, Pascoe Vale

Ph: 9354-5130

MASS TIMES

Tuesday- Friday 9:15am

(unknown vaccination status)

Saturday 5:00pm (Vigil)

Sunday 8:45am & 10:30am

(fully vaccinated)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 10-10:30am



St Paul's Parish Coburg

562 Sydney Road, Coburg

Ph: 9354-1564

E: coburg@cam.org.au

Office: Mon—Fri 9.30am—3pm

Website: cam.org.au/coburg

School Principal: Maria Mercuri

Ph: 9354-8970

MASS TIMES

Tuesday- Friday 10:15am

Saturday: 6:30pm (Vigil)

(unknown vaccination status)

8:00pm (Neocatechumenal way)

Sunday 9am (English)

10:30am (Italian)

(fully vaccinated)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 7:15pm

PASCOE VALE & COBURG

FACEBOOK PAGE:



facebook.com/pascoealecoburg

SACRED SPACE

THE ADVENT SEASON is basically a penitential period. It is a time when we are invited through fasting or some other form of self-denial to prepare ourselves to celebrate Christmas by a genuine experience of repentance and renewal. However, in Advent as in Lent, the Church cannot refrain from “jumping the gun”, so to speak, by anticipating, if only briefly, the coming mood of celebration.

This Sunday is often referred to as “Gaudete Sunday”, Gaudete (“Rejoice!”). And indeed today’s Mass text is suffused with expressions of joy and jubilation.

Today’s Gospel speaks of the expected coming of Jesus. This coming is being proclaimed by John the Baptist as he preaches by the waters of the River Jordan. After having heard what John had to say, his hearers asked a very sensible question: “What must we do, then?” It is a question we might well ask ourselves as we prepare for the coming of Jesus this Christmas. Repentance calls for a change in behaviour and not just regret for the past.

Luke describes three kinds of people who are listening to John the Baptist: the crowd in general; tax collectors; and soldiers. John answers each of them according to their way of life. To the ordinary people, he tells them to share what they have – their clothes and food – with those who are in need. If they are really sorry for their sins, that is, if they really want to change their lives, they will become brothers and sisters to others – even total strangers. We might consider what we could share with others this Christmas.

Tax collectors had a rather bad reputation in Jesus’ time. The Romans used to farm out the right to collect taxes to private individuals. These would pay a lump sum to the government and were then left to their own devices to get back that money – and make a profit besides. Needless to say, such a system led to a good deal of extortion. There were no anti-corruption agencies in those days! John tells them to be just in what they collected.

Soldiers, too, were not very popular. The advice John gives sounds just as relevant today as then: “No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your official pay!”

After hearing such wise and sensible teaching, the people were beginning to wonder if John was not actually the Messiah himself. John, however, immediately disabuses them. He is certainly not the Messiah, the Saviour King that is to come. The real Messiah will be much greater. John will not even be worthy to untie the laces of his sandals – the work of a slave for his master.

John only baptises with water but the Messiah will baptise with the Holy Spirit and fire. That fire purifies what is good and destroys what is evil. It is a sign of God’s power and God’s loving presence.

And our role is not unlike that of John the Baptist. For it is also our task as Christians – whether lay persons, religious or priests – to bring people to genuine conversion, a conversion that brings them face to face with Jesus and God and also a conversion that brings a real joy and happiness into their lives.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Pope Francis described in St Luke’s Gospel, the Blessed Virgin Mary’s encounter with the Angel Gabriel: “The angel calls her ‘full of grace.’ If she is full of grace, it means the Madonna is void of evil: she is without sin, Immaculate.”

Pope Pius IX promulgated a decree defining the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Mary in 1854. In the decree, *Ineffabilis Deus*, he wrote: “We declare, pronounce, and define that the doctrine which holds that the most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instance of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin, is a doctrine revealed by God and therefore to be believed firmly and constantly by all the faithful.”

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 3:14-18

A Reading from the Prophet Zephaniah.

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 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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Isa 12:2-6.

**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

Phil 4:4-7

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to
the Philippians.*

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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Isaiah 61:1 (Luke 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

GOSPEL

Luke 3:10-18

*A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Luke.*

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 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.

CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son,
our Lord,

(All bow during these two lines)

who was conceived by the Holy
Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from
the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of
God the Father almighty; from there
he will come to judge the living and
the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.

PARISH PRAYER

God our Father, bless this parish so
that we may love you more. Bless us
in ways that you know best and
form us into a true community of
worship and love. Deepen our
understanding of your message
today. Give us especially your spirit
of love, so that it may touch all
people with whom we come into
contact.

Encircle our families with your
loving care and assist parents in
their role as leaders in faith. To the
sick grant health, to the aged bring
serenity and peace, and to those in
sadness joy. May we grow stronger
in faith and our love for one
another become deeper in our daily
living. Amen.

ST OLIVER PLUNKETT'S PARISH NEWS

Please remember in your prayers the following:

Those who have died: Giovanni Viola

Anniversaries: Giuseppe Schifitto

Those who are ill: Felix Alessi, Josephina Varghese, Jenna Jenson, Marie Virag, Kath Layden, Amelie Gutierrez, Frances Tamayo, Ocean Goldsmith, Dalmiro Bellio, Lamberto Cruz, Karen Hardy Monica Wickerson, Pasquale Buonomo, Sofia Ruggiero

READERS: 11/12 December

Sat 5.00pm C.Rowland(L), M.Lynch(R)

Sun 8.45am M.Carabott(L), F.Minutolo(R)

10.30am E.Monaco(L), S.Harrison(R)

18/19 December

N. Farrell(L), V.Pertile(R)

M.Temming(L), M.Carabott

S.Bennardo(L), R.Polastri(R)

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Sat 5.00pm P.Saliba

Sun 8.45am V.Ricevuto

10.30am S.Bennardo

L. Bellio

M. Bolitho

M. Dwyer

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

Please contact Ruth Robles McColl:

ruthroblesmccoll@gmail.com or

phone 0419 871 221 if your child would like to participate in the re-enact the very special Gospel telling of Jesus Christ.



HOME VISIT/BLESSING

Please fill in form at bottom back page for a home visit/blessing from Fr James and place in collection plate.

ADVENT PRAYER

Vespers (Evening Pray) will be held each Thursday at 7pm in the Church (Chapel). (*Unknown Status*)

ADVENT GIVING TREE

A big **thankyou** to all who have so generously contributed towards the Advent Giving Tree. Thankyou to St Oliver's School and 5/6ML class from St Paul's School for your generous contribution. If anyone finds themselves or knows of someone in the position of not having the means for Christmas please let us know – we would be happy to provide a hamper.

BETHLEHEM OLIVE WOODS

A family-owned and operated business based in the city of Bethlehem, specializing in the production of olivewood handicrafts will be available before and after weekend mass next week 18/19 December.

NEW THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

For collection at front of church.

CASHLESS PAYMENTS

CDFPay for Parish: <https://bit.ly/CDFpayPascoeVale>

St Olivers Church A/C: **BSB: 083-347 ACC: 55158 7979**

Presbytery A/C: **BSB: 083-347 ACC: 53102 0158**

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION:

1st Collection Thanksgiving Offering \$1067.00

2nd Collection Presbytery \$ 631.25

We are very grateful for your support at this time.

ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS

WE PRAY FOR:

Those who are Sick: Virginia Efthimiou

Anniversaries: Francesca & Giovanni Palmeri (1st Year Anniversary)

READERS:

This Week

Sat 6.30pm Virginia Efthimiou

Sun 9am Alfred Meilak & Michael King

Sun 10.30 Anna D'Amato & Giovanna Navagero

Next Week

Sat 6.30pm Judy O'Meara

Sun 9am Grace Baviera & Tess Pugliano

Sun 10.30 Sam Stagliano & T/M Costanzo

SPECIAL MINISTERS:

This Week

Sat 6.30pm Jim & Lourdes Galea

Sun 9am Alfred Meilak

Sun 10.30 Maria D'Angelo

Next Week

Mary De Marco

Mary Carnovale

Carmelo Ruggero

FR JAMES IS DOING HOUSE VISITS AND BLESSING OF THE HOMES. If you would like your home blessed and a visit from Fr James, please call the parish office on 9354-1564 to arrange or fill in the form at the bottom of the bulletin and place in the collection plate.

Christmas Day Mass: there is one Christmas Mass for unknown vaccination status at St Oliver's on 11.30am. Full mass timetable on back page.



CASHLESS PAYMENTS

CDFPay for Parishes online payment portal.

<https://bit.ly/CDFpayCoburg>

OR DIRECT DEPOSIT:

St Paul's Church A/C

BSB: 083-347

Account No.: 67541 0884

Presbytery A/C

BSB: 083-347

Account No. 5310 20158

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION:

1st Collection Sacrificial Offering \$ 732.00

2nd Collection Presbytery \$ 390.30

Many thanks to all our contributors.

PARISH NEWS



We pray for our Parish children at St Paul's who are making their First Holy Communion and Confirmation this week. May the Lord bless them and their families.



HEALING MASS

We are holding a Healing Mass with Anointing on Wednesday 15th December, all welcome:

St Paul's Coburg 10.15am (*unknown vaccination status*)
St Oliver's Pascoe Vale 5.00pm (*fully vaccinated*)

ST OLIVER'S CHRISTMAS MASSES

2021	Christmas Eve Vigil	5.00 pm	Carols <i>(fully vaccinated)</i>
		5.30 pm	Family Mass
	Christmas Mass	9.30 pm	Carols <i>(fully vaccinated)</i>
		10.00 pm	Mass
	Christmas Day	8.45 am & 10.30 am <i>(fully vaccinated)</i>	
	11.30am <i>(unknown vaccination status)</i>		
	Sunday 26 Dec	8.45 am & 10.30 am <i>(fully vaccinated)</i>	
2022	New Year's Mass	9.15 am	<u>St Oliver's</u> <i>(fully vaccinated)</i>
	<i>Feast of the Motherhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>		
	Vigil (Saturday 1)	5.00pm	



ST PAULS CHRISTMAS MASSES

2021	Christmas Eve Vigil	7.00 pm	<i>(fully vaccinated)</i>
	Christmas Mass	11.30 pm	Carols <i>(fully vaccinated)</i>
		12.00 am	Midnight Mass
	Christmas Day	9.00 am	(English) <i>(fully vaccinated)</i>
		10.30am	(Italian) <i>(fully vaccinated)</i>
	Sunday 26 Dec	9.00am	(English) <i>(fully vaccinated)</i>
	10.30am	(Italian) <i>(fully vaccinated)</i>	
2022	New Year's Mass	9.15 am	<u>St Oliver's</u> <i>(fully vaccinated)</i>
	<i>Feast of the Motherhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>		
	Vigil (Saturday 1)	6.30pm	<i>(unknown vaccination status)</i>

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

To help provide financial assistance to the Australians who will spend Christmas in poverty call 13 18 12 or donate online at vinnies.org.au (giving the name of the conference in the field supplied 'Pascoe Vale 963'). Bank details as follows: *Account Name:* St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria Gift Fund
Bank: Comm Bank BSB: 063 000 Account No: 106 07556
Reference: X21 + your conference ID. Receipts on request.

LATEST COVID LITURGICAL GUIDELINES - Religious Gatherings Funerals & Weddings

Fully Vaccinated 12 years + 2 months and over: no capacity limits or density limits.
Unknown Vaccination Status: One person per 4 sqm up to a maximum of 50 people.
Face coverings Recommended - worn if you can't physically distance, *Sanitiser* must continue to be used regularly throughout Liturgies. QR code required.
Community (Parish) Facilities Fully vaccinated only, no limits apply.
For further COVID Liturgical Guidelines: <https://melbournecatholic.org/covid-19-guidelines>

Safety of Children & all Vulnerable People We hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people, as a central and fundamental responsibility, of our parishes. The Parish Statement of Commitment and the Reporting Process, are on display in all churches, and all Parish Policies are available, on the website: cam.org.au/Coburg

PROGRAMS

ST PAULS PARISH

ADORATION:

First Fri of month: 10.30am-12pm

BAPTISMS:

Sundays 12.00 pm.

COMMUNION TO SICK:

Thursdays & Fridays

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

2 times a year (Lent & Advent).

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sundays 10am

ITALIAN PRAYER GROUP: Wed at 10.30 am

Legion of Mary:

Monday mornings at 10.30 am.

ANNUAL ITALIAN FEASTS: 2021

12 Dec: St Lucy at 10.30am

ST OLIVER PLUNKETT'S PARISH

BAPTISMS:

2nd Sunday of the Month
(By Appointment)

MARRIAGES:

By appointment with at least
6 months notice

PARISH ACTIVITIES:

MONDAY:

Christian Mediation
7-8pm Parish Centre

TUESDAY:

Italian Ladies Prayer Group
10am Meeting Room
Charismatic Prayer Group
7.30pm Church

WEDNESDAY:

Drop-In Centre
1-3pm Church/Parish Centre

THURSDAY:

St Vincent de Paul
5.30pm Meeting Room
(last Thursday of the month)

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS

Please let us know that you have joined our community and if there is anything we can do for you. Are you new to our Parish? ☐

Need Thanksgiving envelopes? ☐

Would like a home visit and house blessing? ☐

Please complete the details below and place in the collection plate at Mass or send to the Parish office.

Name:

Phone:

Address:

To existing parishioners: if you would like to contribute on a regular basis using the envelopes, please complete the above. Thank you.