

Our Vision

We are a Catholic Community who profess, celebrate and witness that Jesus lives, and to whom the Father sends His Spirit. We express that belief by living out and spreading the message of the Gospel

Advent

A Season of Preparation

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 21ST AND 22ND DECEMBER 2019
SS PETER AND PAUL'S CATHOLIC PARISH

Thank you from SSPP St Vincent de Paul Conference

The Parish Conference wishes to thank our wonderful parishioners for their overwhelming response to our Christmas appeal for groceries, toys and monetary donations to assist the needy. Overflowing hampers and really lovely toys have been delivered within our area and this has occurred through your generous and compassionate hearts. We also received a tremendous amount of toys and goods from Whitefriars College who have assisted us for many years now with great gifts and our thanks go out to Marie Cameron for her efforts in co-ordinating the collection and on-forwarding of these gifts to our Parish. Our school community has provided us with Christmas goods to top up our hampers and this was a wonderful effort also. Because of all this help, we have been able to assist another Parish which was in very short supply of goods for their Christmas distribution.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to you all for your superb efforts and wish you a holy and happy Christmas and a wonderful 2020.



Parish Office— Fr Jerald, The Parish Council, Parish Finance Committee and Office Staff would like to wish our community a very Happy Christmas and New Year. The parish office will be closed from the 23rd of December to the 27th of Dec inc. The office will reopen on Monday the 30th of Dec.

Church Events

- **Dec 24th - Christmas Eve—Carols at 6.30pm , 7.00pm Vigil Mass**
- **Dec 24th - Carols at 11.30pm and 12.00pm Midnight Mass**
- **Dec 25th -Christmas Day– 10.00am**

Acknowledgement of Country

In a Spirit of reconciliation, St Peter and Paul's Parish acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians, of the land we all now share. For thousands of years they raised their families, maintained their culture and sustainably managed this sacred land. We pay our respects to their elders past, present and emerging.



**A time of Hope... A message from
Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne—Christmas 2019**

Hello friends, I love Christmas. It is such a beautiful time of hope. Behind the tinsel, the advertising, the stress and frantic energy of the season, we encounter a profound simplicity in the story of God's arrival. We just need to think about Mary and Joseph. They weren't welcomed into any warm hotel or inn; they weren't able to put themselves down by the fireplace in someone's home. They had come from far away and arrived in a place they did not know.

They could be like us after a long journey when nobody welcomes or acknowledges you. You can become quite despondent: no family around you; far from home; and in Mary and Joseph's case, a child on the way.

It can seem like a story of Isolation. And yet, in the midst of a simple stable, a home for working animals, this most precious gift is given to us—a little boy, who against all the odds and in a place of somewhat hopelessness, becomes not merely a symbol of hope but who is hope itself.

A hope for us. He is a real baby, flesh and blood, with all the tears and the smiles of any little baby, and yet he is also the Son of God. Emmanuel. God among us. In the distance, the angels were singing their hymns of hope, and shepherds were learning something about how this hope was coming into their lives.

These shepherds—traditionally considered the 'lowly' in society—gifted with Hope itself. So, when we look upon this child, we can sense the stirrings of hope within ourselves—hope for new life, new beginnings, and the promise of peace.

He has brought unimaginable joy—joy into his own family who loved him, but also a joy that the whole world needs.

This is not just a story that we might tell each year at Christmas time. It is not just something of the past. Jesus lives now. Jesus lives in us, and Jesus lives for us today.

In today's world of change and uncertainty, we long for God to step gently into our lives, lovingly and tenderly reaching out to each one of us. So, as we busily prepare our homes for the arrival perhaps of family and friends at Christmas time, I invite you to take the time to prepare your hearts to welcome Him who offers himself to us.

May I wish you a beautiful, joyful and hope-filled Christmas.

Helped Needed

We need 3 volunteers to help put up Christmas banners and decorations in the church on Sun 22nd Dec at 4pm. If you can assist, please contact the parish office.

Communion

Ministers roster for Jan to June 2020

Communion Ministers are invited to pick up their roster for the January to June 2020 period in the Narthex.

Christmas Eve Family Mass Choir practices

Practice for the Christmas Eve family mass will be held on Sun 22nd December at 2.30pm in the church. Please come down for practice if you're interested in participating in the choir or as a musician.

Parish Groups

VISITATION GROUP

The next Visitation Group meeting is scheduled for Friday, 3rd January at 10.15am in the Parish Centre. New members are always welcome.

Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle –

Side Chapel Every Tuesday commencing 9.30am

Contact Mary Lim—0423 047 563

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 7th of January at 9.30am. New members always welcome.

1 in a 100 Appeal

The next collection is due on Sunday the 31st of December 2019 for the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion Jerusalem and the Palestinians.

MEN'S COFFEE CLUB

Men of the parish who are shift workers or have retired, on holidays or simply have time on their hands, are invited to meet for a Men's Coffee Club Gathering. camaraderie! Meetings are held every Tuesday at 9.30am in the Drop In Centre.

Tel: Kevin on 9848 7858.

SUPPORT GROUP-

for widows, widowers and separated

The next Yarra Deanery Parish Support Group Gathering will take place in the Narthex of our Church at 7.30pm on Tuesday 3rd of January. For enquiries, please contact Peter - 0413 015 061 or 9840 6248 or padess53@gmail.com

DROP-IN CENTRE

Open every Monday morning from 11.00am - 2.30pm except during school holidays.

Knights of the Southern Cross

Meet every second Tuesday of the month in the Drop in Centre from 7.30 – 9.30pm. New members always welcome.

Young Amazing People

All youth aged 10 to 16 years are invited to join in our youth group gathering every 2nd Sunday of the month 12.15pm in the parish hall for fun and fellowship, and physical and spiritual nourishment. Email Cheryl.tay@cam.org.au for more information. Upcoming gathering dates: 9th Feb

LAST WEEKENDS COLLECTION— 14TH AND 15TH OF DECEMBER

	Stewardship	Presbytery
Direct Debit	\$85.00 (Average over 4 weeks)	\$15 .00
Credit Cards	\$130.00	\$23.75 (Average over 4 weeks)
Cash	\$383.05	\$383.05
Envelopes	\$987.40	\$367.95
Weekly Total	\$1,585.45	\$751.00

Communion Minister Roster for Christmas Masses

We need 7 communion ministers for each of our masses on Christmas eve and Christmas day. If you are able to assist, please put your name down on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Thank you.

Update on Parish Needs Survey

Parish Needs Survey

The parish extends its thanks to all parishioners who provided their inputs in the parish needs survey. The responses have since been collated, and the Parish Pastoral Council will be deliberating over the responses and forming a pastoral plan in the coming months. An analysis of the responses received has been included in this weekend's newsletter. A copy has also been pinned on the notice board in the narthex, along with the collated responses. Please contact the parish office if you'd like to receive a copy of the collated responses.

Vinnies Food Bank

Our food bank is short of the following items – Breakfast Cereal, Coffee, Flour, Laundry detergent, Oil, Pasta and pasta sauce, Rice, Sugar, Tea, Toiletries, Toilet paper, and Tuna. Any assistance you can give would be of invaluable assistance to the Society.

Ladies Luncheon

Our final luncheon of the year was held at the Cherry Hill Tavern where twenty one ladies enjoyed the Christmas Morning Melodies. Our lovely volunteer Bernadette was chosen to join the performers and gave a rousing rendition of Christmas tunes on the maracas. Well done Bernadette!! The group has been excellent for forming friendship, having fun and sharing jokes during 2019.

We will commence the New Year by returning to the Painted Lantern Chinese Restaurant, a venue which everyone enjoyed, on Wednesday 5 February. This is also our planning meeting for the year. Everyone most welcome to join us. A holy and happy Christmas and New Year to all. See you all in 2020.

Our Prayers are asked for those who died recently: especially Ann Tobin **and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Antonio Gaias, Eugenia Gostkowska, Peter Scoleri, Lucy D'Souza, Jandyra Bonccorso, Angelino Taliana, Frank Pellegrini, John Kennedy, Maureen Brann, Alfred Ossterweghel, Maria and Gino Borsato, Antonio Chioddo, Santo Constanzo, Charless Gatt,

For those who are sick: Paul O'Connor, Emily Patrikis, Madeline Gilmore, Dan McMahon, Teresita Leung, June Webster, Joel Pemberton, Angela Selva, Anthoula Miras, Danny and Alice Zanon, Margaret Jansen, Teresa Talia, Mary Ritus, Lois Norton Old, Salaka Hewamaduma, Priyanthi Perera, Josh Davis, Maree Spinks, Joyce Foo, Peter Wilkinson, Anthony Calcagno, Audrey O'Connor, Tai Thomas, Pat Carty, Khek Hong Tan, Choi Yeng Chew, Marie and Graham Simpson, Catherine Poon, Ann Weerappah, Bronwyn Burke, Filomena Fusco, Carmenza Cruz, Alicia Nivia, Frank Prendergast, Marcella Silvestri, Joan O'Hanrahan, Pauline Smit, Remi Vulich, Mary Tancredi, Maree Bodin

Mass Times for the Partnered Parishes of St Peter and Paul's Church and Our Lady of the Pines Church, Donvale

	OLOP	SSPP
Mon	-	9.00am CS
Tues	Carols at 6.30pm Vigil Mass at 7.00pm	9.00am Mass -- Carols at 6.30pm Vigil Mass at 7.00pm Carols at 11.30pm Midnight Mass at 12.00pm
Wed	Carols at 9.15am Christmas Day Mass at 9.30am	Christmas Day Mass at 10.00am
Thurs	9.00am CS	9.00am Mass St Stephen
Fri	9.00am Mass St John	9.00am CS
Sat	5.00pm Vigil	9.00am Mass The Holy Innocents 6.00pm Vigil
Sunday	9.30am Mass	8.00am and 11.15am Mass

Rosters for the 28th and 29th of December 2019— The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph		
Next Weeks Readings	Sirach 3:2-6,12-14 Colossians 3:12-21	Projector Operator
6.00pm—Reader Commentator	Boris Dias Josie Lim	Nick Soo
8.00am—Reader Commentator	Wendy Davis Muriel O'Gorman	Greg Sleeth
11.15am— Reader Commentator	Otylia Jasinka-Walisz Carmel Nigro	Jordan Lim
Altar Servers 6.00pm 11.15am	Ashley Dominic	
Money Counters	Group 7 and 8 Varna Carter, Joy Cormac, Tony Nigro and Estelle Pratt	Noel Spinks, Lucia Dorissa, Loraine Lednar, Muriel O'Gorman
Children's Liturgy	On the 1st and 3rd Sunday's at the 11.15am Mass	Children's Liturgy does not operate during school holidays.

Communion Ministers Roster		
Sat 6.00pm	Sun 8.00am	Sun 11.15am
Kenneth Ting, Loraine Lednar, Dhruva Dias	Communion Minister for the Sick* Paul O'Hanlon, Wendy Davis	Anna Fabris, Verna Carter, Nicole Morabito, Barbara Baldock Volunteer Please X2

Catholic Parish of SS Peter and Paul's

Contact us :

23 Leeds Street, Doncaster East, Vic 3109
Tel: 0 3 9842 1480

SUPPORTING MINISTRIES

Parish Priest: Fr Jerald Mariadas
Email : jerald.mariadas@cam.org.au

Chairman of Parish Pastoral Council:
David Ng: lipmian_ng@hotmail.com

Parish Primary School:
16 Beverley Street Doncaster East 3109—
t: 9842 2056

e: principal@sppdcstr.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Mrs Patricia Vandekolk

Pastoral Worker:
Cheryl Tay: Cheryl.tay@cam.org.au

Rosary: Monday to Saturday after Mass/Communion Service

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Fridays after morning Mass until 10.30am

Reconciliation: Saturdays 9.30am and 5.30pm and any weekday after Mass

Baptisms: On 2nd and 3rd Sundays of every month at 12.30pm by appointment

Weddings: By appointment

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION

The next Divine Mercy Devotion will be held in our Church on Friday 3rd of January from 7.30-8.30pm. There will be Exposition, Divine Mercy Chaplet and Reconciliation.