



PARA HILLS MODBURY CATHOLIC PARISH

PARISH TEAM

FR KYM SPURLING
(PARISH PRIEST)

SINDI KINLOCH
(PARISH ASSISTANT)

PAULINE LAI
(FINANCE OFFICER)

PARISH ADMIN OFFICE

50 RESERVOIR RD,
HOPE VALLEY 5090
PH: 8264 7590 OR 8264 7093

EMAIL

office@paramodcath.com.au
bulletin@paramodcath.com.au

OFFICE HOURS

TUESDAY-THURSDAY: 9AM-2PM
FRIDAY: 9.00AM - 12.30PM

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

171 KESTERS ROAD,
PARA HILLS 5096

ST JOHN XXIII CHURCH

50 RESERVOIR RD,
HOPE VALLEY 5090

BAPTISMS

BOOKINGS TO BE MADE THROUGH
THE PARISH OFFICE.

MARRIAGES

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S
(PRIMARY) 8251 9500
CARIGNANE ST,
WYNN VALE 5127

GLEESON COLLEGE
(SECONDARY) 8282 6600
40-60 SURREY FARM DRIVE,
GOLDEN GROVE 5125

PARISH CHILD PROTECTION OFFICERS

THERESE MEYERS: 0421 533 761
ANGELA ZAKARIAS:
0401 205 636

22nd December 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year C – Purple
25th December (Christmas) 2024
The Nativity of the Lord - White

Bulletin Vol.21
Issue 48

**We acknowledge the Kurna people as the custodians of this region.
Let us share and learn together for reconciliation and justice.**

MASS TIMES

ST JOHN XXIII
Hope Valley

Saturday 6pm
Sunday 8am
Tuesday 9.15am
(Rosary Before Mass
commencing 8.50am)
Thursday 9.15am



HOLY TRINITY
Para Hills

Wednesday 7pm
Friday 9.15am
(Adoration Before Mass
commencing 8.30am)
Saturday 9.15am
Sunday 10am

Reconciliation (Confession)
Saturday after 9.15am Mass at Holy Trinity
and 5.30pm at St John XXIII

See page 2 for changes during December and January



May God's love fill
your heart with the
kind of perfect
peace only He can
bestow this
Christmas Season

**We wish all Parishioners
Peace and Goodwill at Christmas
& a New Year filled with
Happiness and Good Health**



Saints/Feast Days of the Month

25th Dec	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
26th	St Stephen
27th	St John, Apostle & Evangelist
28th	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
29th	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
31st	St Sylvester
1st Jan	Mary, the Holy Mother of God
2nd	St Basil & St Gregory
3rd	The Most Holy Name of Jesus
5th	The Epiphany of the Lord
7th	St Raymond of Penyafort
12th	The Baptism of the Lord
13th	St Hilary
17th	St Anthony, Abbot
20th	St Fabian and St Sebastian
21st	St Agnes
22nd	St Vincent
24th	St Francis de Sales
25th	The Conversion of St Paul
27th	Ss Timothy & Titus, St Angela Merici
28th	St Thomas Aquinas
31st	St John Bosco

Our Community's Prayer Petitions

BULLETIN PRAYER LIST: Please note that names can only be added to this list by immediate family, or the ill person themselves (for privacy reasons).

Please Remember in your Prayers

Those who are sick, especially:

Catherine Kerslake, Phyllis Truman, Teresa McBride, Margaret Dunn, Clarence Rodericks, Sue Rodericks, Margaret Penny, Theresa Camilleri, Corrie Bowman, Martha Fernandes, Carmel Adams, Vesna Zagar, Kim Pope, Anne Hughes, David Truman, Bruce Tilley, Anne Valentine, Ken Randell, Mary Rose Probst, Emelia Pudelek, Maria Trotta, Joan Walmsley, Lil Buckley, Pat Collins, Margaret Pitt, Anne Van Der Arend, Patricia Kopf, Darcy Ridley, Jayden Lee, Maria Hand, Asher Caudle, Emma Gammon, David North, Elijah Neri, Marg Dolman, Sean Molloy, Antoinette Pascale, Reta Lockyer, John MacGrath, Mary Redmond, Marlen Piineda, Rosa Maria Santos, Betty Roper, Imperia De Ionno, Julie Reimann, Gerry Canavan, Kay Kennedy, Gary Lockyer, Rita Robinson, Yvonne Summers

Recently Deceased

Fr James Thomson



DIVINE MERCY AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

The next Divine Mercy Devotion will be on Sunday, 29th December at 2.30pm at Holy Trinity Church, 171 Kesters Rd, Para Hills

MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve

Tuesday 24th December

Holy Trinity Church – 6.30pm

St John XXIII Church – 7.30pm

St John XXIII Church – 10.00pm

*There will **NOT** be a **9.15am Mass** at St John XXIII on 24th December*

Christmas Day

Wednesday 25th December

Holy Trinity Church – 9.00am

Please note:

There will **NOT** be a **Midnight Mass** celebrated in the parish this Christmas

There will be **no Masses** on

Thursday 26th December

Friday 27th December

New Year's Eve

Tuesday 31st December

St John XXIII – 6.00pm

*There will **NOT** be a **9.15am Mass** at St John XXIII on 31st December*

New Year's Day

Wednesday 1st January

St John XXIII – 10.00am

*There will **NOT** be a **7.00pm Mass** at Holy Trinity on 1st January*

There will be **no Masses** on

Thursday 2nd January

Friday 3rd January

Masses return to regular times from Saturday 4th January

OFFICE CLOSURE

Please Note: the Parish Office is currently closed

and will reopen on

Tuesday 21st January 2025

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

A Christmas Message from our Parish Priest



Have you heard about the little boy who loved going to church? He enjoyed the music, the stained-glass windows, the homily and the sense of community. The only part about going to church that the little boy didn't like, was those long personal prayers which the priest added to the Universal Prayers!

Now when Christmas came around, the little boy's parents invited the priest home for lunch, and would you believe it, his Mum asked the priest to pray grace before the meal. "Oh, no," thought the little boy. "We will never get to eat. I'm starving and he'll pray on forever." But to his surprise, the priest's prayer was brief and to the point. He simply said, "Oh Lord, bless this home. Bless this food, and use us in your service, in Jesus' name. Amen."

Well, the little boy was so astonished by the priest's short prayer that he couldn't help himself. He looked at the priest and blurted out what he was thinking: "Man, you don't mess around when you're hungry!"

Well, I don't want to "mess around" on this Christmas morning because I know that whether we realise it or not ... we are hungry. We are all hungry for God. We are all hungry for our Saviour. We are all hungry for Christmas ... because, you see, this is precisely what Christmas is all about. We need a Saviour, we are starved for a Saviour, and that Saviour is given to us in Jesus. In fact, the name "Jesus" means literally "The Lord is Salvation," or Saviour.

So, my prayer is that you may experience the saving power of God this Christmas.

A Blessed Christmas Season to you all.

Fr Kym Spurling

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in Heaven,
May the faith You have given us in
Your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled in
our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the Blessed Hope
for the coming of Your kingdom.

May Your grace transform us into tireless
cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation of a new heaven
and a new earth, when, with the powers of evil
vanquished, Your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, **Pilgrims of Hope**,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of Our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To You our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.



**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, Alleluia! Good News and great joy to all the world:
today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!**



From the Pastoral Team

This year, Therese Meyers and Aggie Marziale led Family Faith Formation to prepare children for the Sacraments of Initiation. Children and their families took part in Sunday Masses, taking on roles such as reading and commentating. Archbishop Patrick O'Regan came to Holy Trinity Church and joined Fr Kym Spurling to celebrate Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

The parish has continued to be active within the deanery. We contributed to shared activities, like hosting the cluster's Second Rite of Reconciliation during Advent.

The parish's first progressive lunch in many years was held in December. The lunch started at Holy Trinity and finished at St John XXIII. Volunteers were celebrated on the same weekend.

Thank you to all those who took on various roles to support the Parish Team. Particularly during leave absences, parish activities continued almost seamlessly. We trust that parishioners have enjoyed the smooth administration throughout the year.

After waiting with expectant hearts during Advent, please be pastoral with all those you encounter during the Christmas season.

We look forward to the gifts and challenges God has in store for us during 2025.

Blessings!

PARISH BULLETIN

The next parish bulletin will be published on 26th January 2025.

Messages for publication in that bulletin must be received at the Parish Office by **2.00pm Tuesday 22nd January**.

If you would like to receive the bulletin via email please contact us at bulletin@paramodcath.com.au

Crossroads

Crossroads Music Group would like to wish everyone a

Happy and Holy Christmas and New Year, and a safe 2025

Thanks for your support during 2024

Love and Best Wishes from Carmel, Michael and Patrick



Vinnies

good works

Merry Christmas everyone!

The calls keep coming – people are still needing assistance with food, clothing and bill assistance. We provide help through home visits and by assisting at the "Pooraka Hub" at the Holy Trinity hall. In the home visit area, we've hit 230 calls for the year to date.

This year, we packed Christmas hampers which included toys for children (via the Vinnies Warehouse from the MRA Toy Run), Vinnies Gift Cards for the adults and a Drakes gift card to enable some purchasing of perishables.

Our pantry and hamper situation was greatly boosted with a generous food donation from St Francis Xavier's School at Wynn Vale. We also have ongoing support from Baker's Delight and Pathway, which have allowed us to collect surplus bakery products fortnightly. The Vinnies Shop at Valley View has also been a valued contributor to our efforts.

Without your support, Vinnies wouldn't be able to cover the needs in our Conference area for either the hampers or home visits. The Vinnies volunteers are all happy to represent the Parish in their home visiting and other duties knowing they have your support.

Your support of the concert, the poor box, and the winter and Christmas appeals has bolstered our limited budget.

All being well, we'll resume home visiting to provide assistance after Australia Day.

The St Vincent de Paul Society wishes you a healthy and joyous Christmas.

Michael Bone
Conference President, Modbury



Christmas Day Appeal for Catholic Charities

A collection will be taken up at Christmas Masses for **Catholic Charities**, which provides much-needed funds to **Hutt St Centre, Centacare Catholic Family Services, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, and Our Lady of La Vang and St Patrick's Special Schools**. These agencies play a significant role in bringing hope to people in need here in South Australia.

Your donations, regardless of their size, will make a profound difference in the lives of those who rely on the support of Catholic Charities.



Youth Group Chaperones



Terry on his mower



Merry Christmas

Thank you
to all of our
wonderful
volunteers!
These are just a few



Paul providing
tech support



Kathleen and
Anne-Michelle with
the collections



Catherine and Kathryn
raising funds



Michael and Patrick from Crossroads
leading the singing

The Craft Lady – Linda Schilcher

Linda died at the end of 2023, aged 85. In January 2024, she would have been 86. Before she died, Linda said, "Kathryn, I have known you for 34 years".



Kathryn met Linda at St John XXIII Treasure Market where she had a stall under the kitchen veranda. Pat met her at Friday Craft at St John XXIII where she sold items on the craft table, with the money being sent to Catherine Kerslake's sister, Sister Sally.

After Linda died, her grandchildren, Eli and Codi, asked whether the Friday Craft would like all her craft things. We said "yes". There were Christmas items, wedding charms, fabric, lace, buttons, small ornaments, etc. With their permission, we sold the items and raised \$1,500 to be given to Sister Sally's Orphanage in Africa.

Linda was a very good friend and was always very helpful. We will miss her and her butterscotch lollies.

Rest in Peace, Linda

Kathryn Hudson and Pat White



DEVELOPMENT FUND



The Development Fund is a weekly "lotto" which helps to raise money to purchase items for the parish.

A number in the draw costs just \$1 per week and a winner is drawn every week.

New members are always welcome!

If you would like to join the Development Fund and be in the draw each week to win \$40, please contact Barbara Mathews on 8258 8806.

The following are the Development Fund winners for the last two weeks of 2024.

Congratulations to:

22nd December No 45, Pat White
Drawn by Sindi Kinloch for Emma Gammon

29th December No 37, Peter Cooper
Drawn by Sindi Kinloch for Pat White

Development Fund draws will continue during January, and the winners will be published in the first bulletin for 2025 on 26th January.

Wishing you a happy and a holy Christmas.

Barbara Mathews

REACH OUT



Another year is coming to an end. The Reach Out journey for 2024 has certainly been joyfully filled with the most caring friendships, prayerful reflections, and the sharing of meaningful and informative conversations. There were also many delightful social

interactions, events and outings ... the goal always being the spiritual growth of our members and the fostering of a caring and considerate rapport with each other.

We pray that in 2025, Reach Out will welcome many new members and continue with the same mindful involvement, spiritual support and social activities.

Reach Out members meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each Month after the 9.15am Mass at St John XXIII. Anyone who is wishing to join our Reach Out group is encouraged to call me (Maureen Kenny – 0418 821 859).

On behalf of all Reach Out Members, you are all wished God's abundant blessings for this Christmas Season. May His generous Spirit fill our homes with serene joy, gratitude, harmony and love. Into the New Year, we wish peace, grace, good health and safety for us all.

Maureen Kenny
Reach Out President
0418 821 859



SATURDAY TREASURE MARKET

The Saturday Treasure Market, held on the second Saturday of each month at St John XXIII, had a reasonably good year with only two markets cancelled. One was too hot, the other too wet and all the rest were just right. We raised over \$4,500 this year for the Parish.

Thanks to all our volunteers who come along each month to set up, pack up and work throughout the morning. We also have our regular sellers who come along each month, regardless of the weather.

Thanks also to those parishioners and others who donate the goods we sell, which is what keeps the Market going.

I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Kathryn Hudson

Youth Group



This year has been an exciting one for the Para Hills Modbury Catholic Parish Youth Group! While some members moved on, we were thrilled to welcome new members – Holly, Zak, Margaret and Sandath – to the group.

We started the year with a small gathering in January, to reconnect and set the tone for the months ahead. In March, we came together to help organise the Good Friday Stations of the Cross, which was a spiritually uplifting experience for the group.

In July we had a treasure hunt, where teamwork and laughter were the highlights of the day. August marked a big milestone as we celebrated the group's one-year anniversary – a moment to reflect on how far we've come and all we've achieved together.

To finish the year on a high note, we hosted a trivia night in November, which was a great mix of friendly competition and community spirit.

The Youth Group continues to grow as a space for us to connect, have fun, and deepen our faith. We're looking forward to more exciting activities and welcoming even more members in the year ahead!

Kimberlyn Selvan



Dates for first 3 weeks in January

January

- 16th** Multicultural Melodies, 10.00am–12.00pm
St John XXIII
- 21st** Office Reopens
- 26th** Australia Day



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Once again, we come to the end of the calendar year at Para Hills Modbury Catholic Parish and now, we celebrate the beginning of the new Church year with the season of Advent. With this, we prepare to welcome the Jubilee Year as Pilgrims of Hope.

At the start of 2024, we were presented with “Drawn into the Joy of the Gospel” by the Adelaide Archdiocese, this being another step towards being a synodal Church and journeying in communion with all. The Diocesan Assembly also continued this focus. We maintain our efforts in highlighting and strengthening the collaboration between the parish and our schools, St Francis Xavier's Regional Catholic School and Gleeson College.

We also welcomed Michael Turner as a new member of the PPC. Of course, if anyone would like to join, you would be welcomed.

It was timely for the PPC to review the Parishioner of Inspiration awards by conducting a survey of parishioners' attitudes. After the results were considered, the PPC decided to discontinue the awards.

We continued to support the various community groups and it was particularly pleasing to see the re-formation of the youth group, ably led by Kimberlyn Selvan. We have candidates participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults process made available by our parish for surrounding parishes.

The inaugural Parish Progressive Lunch was a fantastic community event enjoyed by over 60 parishioners across both parish centres and was a celebration of the spirit of volunteering in the parish. All the activities undertaken within the parish, be they liturgical, community, formative, social or supporting members and others within our community, would not have been possible without the ongoing support and commitment of our volunteers. It is you and everyone who celebrates Mass or contributes to the life of the parish, who are being Church!

PPC members wish everyone a blessed and safe Christmas. In celebrating the coming of Jesus, we ask that Jesus imprint his wisdom on our hearts and empower us all to live the joy of the Gospel.



*From left to right: Paul Haydon, Alesia Sala, Fr Kym, Norie Neri, Therese Meyers, Jean See and Hans Woznitza
Rosanna Samarzia and Michael Turner were absent*



PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL



Earlier this year, the PFC agreed to transfer management of the Parish Cash Book and finance processes to the Diocese Finance Office, at no cost to the Parish, to provide an upgraded reporting process in line with ATO requirements and to reduce workload on the office. This has taken a while to adjust to as we reorganise our budget lines to align with the Finance Office, which is now managing the finances for over 20 Parishes.

In general, while our planned giving amount for the year is down a bit, our expenditure to date is also lower than estimated, so we remain in the black for the time being.

In relation to the land sale, the person who bought the land from the Parish with the intention of building townhouses apparently is not able to progress those plans, so has now decided to sell the property. Therefore, it may be some time before we see any activity on the site. Irrespective of any development by the new owner, we will have some storm water drainage to address. That will occur once we know what the new owners intend to do, so we just have to wait and see.

John Jarrad
Chair Parish Finance Council

Liturgy Committee

While many people plan for the New Year to start on 1st January, the Liturgy Committee's New Year commenced with the start of Advent. The coming year is the Jubilee Year and the Year of Prayer, so the members will be even busier than usual.

Committee members are all active in ministries and bring those experiences when planning liturgical celebrations.

During 2024, besides the Sunday Masses, we were involved in preparations for Lent, Easter, Advent, the Memorial Mass and other events. The new Jesse Trees have been well received.

The Committee thanks Parish Office staff, musicians and others for the support they provide, and parishioners for showing their appreciation and giving constructive feedback.

*Members of the Liturgy Committee
wish everyone in the
Para Hills Modbury Catholic Parish community
a joyful and blessed Christmas,
and a happy New Year*



Maliana Committee

During 2024 the funds sent to Maliana provided some nuns with a fenced area to keep animals out of their veggie garden, along with 2 sewing machines to help instruct women on how to sew, and in another area farming machinery repairs to assist farmers.

This coming year will see the provision of seeds and equipment to 6 farmer groups and also the repair of canals in Maliana.

A huge thank you to all our generous supporters who helped us in any way during 2024, either with donations or attending the different fundraising events. The Parish raised \$2,980 and along with a donation from outside the parish, we are able to send them \$3,300.

The team in Maliana are very grateful for our support and wish to send the Parish many blessings and greetings.

God bless you all.

Anne, Leonie, Marg, Marie, Merle & Pauline



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

DECEMBER BABIES

- 24th** Gail Martin
- 26th** Natalie Green, David Truman (Senior)
- 27th** Ashwin Benny
- 29th** Michael Marafioti, Jamie Watkinson
- 30th** Kelly Longshaw
- 31st** Manuel Cruz

JANUARY BABIES

- 1st** Christine Rogers, Susanne Orschulok, Andrew Finch
- 2nd** David Truman (Jr), Rachel Kenny
- 4th** Julie Spencer
- 6th** Rebecca Lee, Mateusz Ball
- 7th** Denise Palmer
- 8th** Joshua Bock
- 9th** Joy Knowles
- 12th** Lawrence Grima
- 13th** Benjamin Rogers, Jane McConnell, Nicholas Viceban
- 16th** Maureen Frost
- 17th** Theresa Norris
- 21st** Kevin Burke, Christine Andrew
- 22nd** Heather Hage
- 23rd** Jason Viceban
- 25th** Paul O'Reilly