



# PARA HILLS MODBURY CATHOLIC PARISH

## Parish Team

FR MANU KUMBIDIYAMACKAL MSFS  
(PARISH PRIEST)

JEN SHERLOCK  
(Pastoral Associate)

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-Friday: 9am-2pm

## Holy Trinity Church

171 Kesters Road, Para Hills 5096

## St John XXIII Church

50 Reservoir Rd, Hope Valley 5090

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY  
CELEBRATED AT 6PM &  
10AM MASSES.**

## BAPTISMS

Celebrated EITHER during the  
6pm, 8am & 10 am Masses on  
the 2nd Sun of the month OR  
11.30am at Holy Trinity  
12noon at St John XXIII  
(Alternately on 4th Sun)  
Bookings to be made through  
the Parish Office, OR  
ON OUR WEBSITE

## 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 Officer

Therese Meyers 0421 533 761  
Tash Souter 0422 270 655

8th December 2019

2nd Sunday of Advent YEAR A - Violet

Bulletin Vol.16  
Issue 46

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

**ST JOHN XXIII**  
**Hope Valley**

Monday 9.15am  
Tuesday 9.15am  
Saturday 6pm  
Sunday 8am

***MASS TIMES***



**MODBURY HOSPITAL**  
Thursday Mass 11am

**HOLY TRINITY**  
**Para Hills**

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

**Reconciliation (Confession) Saturdays after 9.15am Mass at Holy Trinity  
And 5.30pm at St John XXIII**

## *PRAYER MEETINGS AND DEVOTIONS*

Mon	9th Dec	Religious Education for Children	5pm - 6pm	Holy Trinity
Tue	10th Dec	Anointing Of The Sick	9.15am	St John XXIII
Tue	10th Dec	Legion of Mary	12.30pm	Holy Trinity
Wed	11th Dec	Anointing Of The Sick	7pm	Holy Trinity
Thur	12th Dec	Legion of Mary	7.30pm	
		Mother of Christ Praesidium (6 Metcalfe Ave Modbury Heights)		
Sun	15th Dec	Legion of Mary (N.E. Curia, Cry Room)	2pm	Holy Trinity

## *OTHER ACTIVITIES DURING THE WEEK*

Tue	10th Dec	Parish Pastoral Council	6.30pm	Holy Trinity
Wed	11th Dec	Senior Social Club	1pm	Holy Trinity
Fri	13th Dec	Carols Night	6.30pm	St John XXIII
Sat	14th Dec	Treasure Market	8am-12noon	St John XXIII
Sat	14th Dec	Garden Group	9am-12noon	St John XXIII
Sun	15th Dec	DVD Library	11am	Holy Trinity

## **'Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is Close at Hand'**

On the one hand, salvation is God's doing, and we cannot earn His blessings. We are saved by His grace. On the other hand, we must cooperate with God's grace because God cannot force his bounty upon us. That is why John the Baptist in today's Gospel summons us to play our essential part by leading lives of repentance, conversion, and renewal, thus preparing the way for the Lord's second coming. We start this process by spiritually preparing for the annual celebration of Christmas, the Lord's first coming, as we reform and renew our lives by repentance and works of charity.

The first reading from the book of Prophet Isaiah describes how God will reform the lives of His Chosen People by sending the Messiah. Because of the bad example of the unfaithful successors of King David, the Chosen People were wavering in their loyalty to Yahweh. Hence, in the first reading, the Lord God, through His prophet, Isaiah, tries to dispel their fears and to stir up hope among His people with His promise of a new Davidic King (a son of Jesse), who will establish peace and a glorious Kingdom of justice on earth. In today's Responsorial Psalm, the Psalmist pictures the Messiah as one who will show compassion to the poor, the lowly,

Cont....

and the afflicted. In the second reading, Paul is praying for the reformation of the Jewish Christians of Rome and instructing them to draw endurance and encouragement from the Old Testament books. They are to live in harmony with Gentile Christians, accepting them as equal, brothers and sisters, while they wait together for the second coming of Jesus. In today's Gospel, John the Baptist urges the Pharisees and Sadducees to give evidence that they mean to reform their lives so as to recognize and be ready to meet and accept the promised Messiah. He challenges them to repentance, conversion and renewal. He tells the common people, who expect the Messiah to come soon, to act with justice and charity, letting their lives reflect the transformation that will occur when the Messiah enters their lives. In the same way, as we prepare to welcome Christ at Christmas, John advises us to "prepare the way of the Lord."

We need to prepare for Christ's coming by allowing him to be reborn daily in our lives. Advent is the time for us to make this preparation by repenting of our sins and renewing our lives through prayer, penance, and the sharing of our blessings with others. Let us remember the often-repeated words of Alexander Pope:

"What does it profit me if Jesus is reborn in thousands of cribs all over the world and not reborn in my heart?"

He means that Jesus must be reborn in our hearts during this season of Advent and every day of our lives, radiating his love, kindness, mercy, forgiveness and spirit of humble service to the world through our lives. For this we need to answer the call for a change of life. John the Baptist challenges our superficial attempts at change, demanding that, while obeying the commandments faithfully, we must correct our relationships with others, mend ruptures, soothe frictions, face family responsibilities, work honestly, and treat our employees justly. Let us share our love with others as selfless and humble service. "Do small things but with great love" advised St. Theresa of Lisieux and St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa). Therefore, following John's advice, let us celebrate the memory of Jesus' first advent, prepare for Jesus' daily advent into our lives through the Sacraments and the Bible, and wait confidently for his second advent at the end of the world.

*Janakumbudramalakel*

### The Blessing of the Crib

#### *Do you have a Nativity Scene?*

If you would like to have your crib blessed please bring it along to Mass

Saturday night, 14th December or

Sunday morning, 15th December.

All families are warmly invited!



Readings for next Sunday, 15th Dec 2019

1st Reading	Is	35:1-6, 10
2nd Reading	Jas	5:7-10
Gospel	Mat	11:2-11

### **Saints/Feast Days Of the Week**

9th Dec	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
11th	St Damasus I
12th	Our Lady of Guadalupe
13th	St Lucy
14th	St John of the Cross

### **Our Community's Prayer Petitions**

***PLEASE NOTE: THE NAMES ON THE SICK LIST WILL REMAIN FOR TWO MONTHS ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED.***

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

#### **Please Remember in your Prayers**

#### **THOSE WHO ARE SICK, especially:**

Gerry McConnell, Anthony Tuanqui, Margaret Pitt, Patricia Kopf, Darcy Ridley, Paul Holmes, Dudley Dolman, Father Peter Milburn, Maria Hand, Emma Gammon, Asher Caudle, David North, Elijah Neri, Wayne Collins, Antoinette Pascale, Marg Dolman, Charlotte Fussell, Selena (Rose) Quinn, Phyllis Anthony, Reta Lockyer, John MacGrath, Ken Robinson, Graham Armstrong, Mary Redmond, Graham Speed, Marlen Piineda, David Truman, Bruce McAndie, Rosa Maria Santos, Sean Molloy, Betty Roper, Imperia De Ionno, Julie Reimann, Imelda Schulz, Maddison Calleja, Janice Forrester, Jim Marlow, Gerry Canavan, Jayden Lee, Audrey Athayde, Marie Boulton, Sr. Marleen Dewar OLSH, Kay Kennedy, Rita Robinson, Eileen Ryan, Gary Lockyer, Yvonne Summers.



### Anointing of the Sick

We will have the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick on the following dates:

**Tuesday 10th December at St John XXIII Mass at 9.15am.**

**Wednesday 11th December at Holy Trinity Church Mass at 7pm**

Parishioners, 65 years and upwards would be prime candidates but obviously younger people who may have health issues, be they physical, emotional etc., may like to present themselves also. If you are younger and there is nothing really of concern, you don't need to receive the Sacrament of Anointing at present.

***If there are people at home who require anointing but not able to attend, please call the office to arrange a visit from Fr Manu.***

### **Please Note**

**The last Mass to be celebrated at the Modbury Hospital for this year will be on Thursday 12th December This Mass will recommence mid February 2020**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL

HQ: 1300 729 202 from 9.00am — 1.00pm  
or [www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au)



### St Vincent de Paul Modbury Conference

*Lord your timeless lesson sings out in the  
voice of constant waves, in the wind through  
the trees and in the harmonies of life.*

*Wash clean our ears to hear you, make us  
listen now, for we need your great wisdom to assist us in  
our life. Amen.*

Only three home visits last week.  
It keeps our purchasing for the pantry down.

The requests for Christmas hampers currently stands  
at 22, but is expected to grow in the next two weeks –  
we'll draw the line at about 36, but take requests until  
December 13th.

St Francis Xavier has conducted a Christmas  
food appeal, and that was generously supported.  
We're also making smaller collections from the  
kindergartens at Wynn Vale and Modbury Community,  
and also Golden Grove Primary School.

**This weekend is the last to take cards  
from the Giving Tree,  
and the following weekend will be  
the final opportunity to put donations under it.  
We pack the hampers on Friday 20th  
for collection on the Saturday morning.**

Thank you very much for your ongoing support.

### REACH OUT GROUP

Tuesday 10th December 2019  
9.15am Mass at St John XXIII

Reader: Maureen Frost  
Offertory: Maureen Kenny & Pat Collins  
Communion: Jos Hensing & Margaret Emery  
Altar Server: Ian Dalwood

NB.. There will be Anointing of the Sick at Mass,  
and all are welcome to join the Reach Out group  
for a 'cuppa'

For information about Reach Out please call  
Maureen Kenny Ph: 8396 7682 or M: 0418 821 859

### DEVELOPMENT FUND 2019

Congratulations Margaret Robinson  
No. 52

Drawn by Angela Zakarias

Contact: Barbara Mathews 8258 8806  
to be included in the draw.



### CHRISTMAS MASS MINISTRY

As with all of our regular Masses we will need  
Liturgy Assistants for the Christmas Masses.  
The Rosters are now up at the back of the Church.  
If you are able to help in any of the ministries  
please add your name to the rosters.

## Carols Night 2019

Hosted by ParaMod Youth

Friday 13th December  
6.30pm

St John XXIII

Over 8 groups performing + Surprise Guest  
Christmas Raffle and light refreshments  
will be available on the night.  
Come join us for a free and fun filled evening



Plenary Council 2020  
Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

### Plenary Council 2020

**'Listen to what the Spirit is saying ...' Rev 2:7**

#### What's next in our parish?

We are convening our final Discernment session, where  
parishioners will be able to join a discussion group on one  
of the Listening and Discernment themes, on  
8<sup>th</sup> December at Holy Trinity following 10am Mass.  
There will be tea, coffee and finger food available.

The Discernment session is expected to result in a  
response that we can summarise and submit via the  
Plenary Council website. The Australia wide responses  
will be used to 'flesh out' the agenda for discussion at the  
Plenary Council in October 2020



### Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Celebration of the Mass for  
the Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Monday 9th December  
11am at Holy Trinity Church  
Hours of Grace from 12 noon - 1 pm

Everybody welcome.

Many Graces are given to those who will spend  
1 Hour with Our Blessed Mother to pray for Priests,  
Her Beloved Sons.

"O Mary, conceived without sin,  
pray for us who have recourse to Thee."

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY DECEMBER BABIES

10th Dec	Rosalind Lucy Bell
11th Dec	Katrina Lineage
12th Dec	Ann-Marie Lineage, Rohent Giebel
13th Dec	Margaret Giebel
14th Dec	Frank Gavini, Alice Craig
15th Dec	Michael Moss, Sue Air



**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:  
all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!**



## Christmas Is Coming

Come and be a part of The Nativity Play.  
If there are any children between the ages of 4 to 12  
who would like to be in the Nativity play  
at the Christmas Eve Family Mass  
we will be practicing on  
Friday 20th Dec 5-6pm  
Monday 23rd Dec 5-6pm

At Holy Trinity Church 171 Kesters Road, Para Hills.

Join in the fun.



### LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

- Lives of the Saints
- Papal Encyclicals & Letters
- Teachings of the Magisterium
- Insights into the Gospels of Mark, John etc.
- How to read the Bible
- Does the Church still teach that?
- The persecuted Church
- Pilgrimages
- A Catholic perspective of World News  
DVD Library every 3rd Sunday  
of the month at Holy Trinity.

The Library will be open on—15th December  
after 10AM MASS.

**WE ARE ALL CALLED TO HOLINESS  
DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE**

### JOY OF THE GOSPEL

**DAILY REFLECTIONS FOR 2020  
AVAILABLE FROM THE PARISH OFFICE  
FOR ONLY \$10**

### GARDEN GROUP

**Next gathering - Saturday 14th December at  
St John XXIII from 9am - 12 pm.**

**Please contact Jen Sherlock on: 8264 7590 or  
email: pa@paramodcath.com.au**

### End Of Year Christmas Party

For all RE Students and all Altar Servers  
Holy Trinity Hall 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019 5-6pm  
Please bring a plate of food to share.

### THE SOUTHERN CROSS

The December edition of the  
Southern Cross is now available.

Only \$2

Please Support Your Catholic Newspaper

## Notice to all Parish Groups

**Our Christmas Bulletin is well  
under way and we ask that you submit  
any notices  
or brief Christmas messages before 3pm  
Tuesday 10th December 2019.**

**Also please submit your  
Diary Dates for 2020  
as soon as possible so they  
can be placed in the Parish Diary.  
All dates must be submitted  
in writing either by email at  
bulletin@paramodcath.com.au  
snail mail or dropped off  
to the Parish Office.  
Thank you**

### *Cuppa After Mass Help Needed*

Thanks to a small group of volunteers  
we have been able to enjoy a cuppa after Masses  
at the end of every month.

Due to volunteer numbers dropping we are seeking  
more people who can help out  
particularly after the 6pm & 8am Masses.

If you would like to help out and are available to go on  
the roster for 6pm or 8am Masses please contact  
the Parish Office on 8264 7590

### PLEASE NOTE

There will be no flowers during Advent.  
All donations will go towards the  
Christmas arrangements. We take this opportunity to  
thank those who donated towards the flowers during  
the year to beautify our church.

### TREASURE MARKET

Second Saturday of each month  
8am to 12noon

Next: 14th December 2019

St John XXIII Centre

Sellers \$10—Buyers free!

**PLEASE SEND SMALLER GOODS OUR WAY,  
THEY CAN BE LEFT ON THE SHELVES IN THE  
MARKET WALKWAY**

**OR IN THE BOX AT THE BACK OF ST JOHN XXIII  
CHURCH, ALSO IN A BOX IN THE CRY ROOM  
AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH.**

**All monies raised from the Market  
are donated to the Parish.**

**WE CAN NO LONGER ACCEPT LARGE ITEMS SUCH AS TVs,  
MATTRESSES, SOFAS, LOUNGE CHAIRS &  
WARDROBES AS WE ARE NOT ABLE TO SELL THEM.**