



PARA HILLS MODBURY CATHOLIC PARISH

Parish Team

FR MANU KUMBIDIYAMACKAL MSFS
(PARISH PRIEST)

JEN SHERLOCK
(Pastoral Associate)

SINDI KINLOCH
(Parish Assistant)

PAULINE LAI
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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

15th December 2019

3rd Sunday of Advent YEAR A - Violet/Rose

Bulletin Vol.16
Issue 47

**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



**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

Tue	17th Dec	Prayer Reflection	11am-12noon	St John XXIII
Tue	17th Dec	Legion of Mary	12.30pm	Holy Trinity
Tue	17th Dec	2nd Rite of Reconciliation,	7pm	Pius X, Dernancourt
Thur	19th Dec	Legion of Mary Mother of Christ Praesidium (6 Metcalfe Ave Modbury Heights)	7.30pm	

OFFICE CLOSURE

**Please Note that the Parish Office will close
on Friday 20th December 2019
and reopen Tuesday 21st January 2020**

Are You the One



It's a puzzling, even surprising question. After all, if anyone ought to know who Jesus is, if anyone ought to know that Jesus is the Messiah, surely, it's John the Baptist. According to the gospel of Luke, John and Jesus are cousins, nearly the same age, John is six months older than Jesus. So, like any good cousins, they had to have played together as children. Then, of course, he baptized Jesus, and according to the Gospel of Matthew, identified him as the Messiah. So how is it that after all of that, John still wonders whether

Jesus is the one who is to come and asks the question, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" He sends this question across to Jesus from the prison.

This little episode, hardly noticeable in the gospel accounts is very revealing. John was in real trouble in his life. He was imprisoned, life under threat, and so in spite

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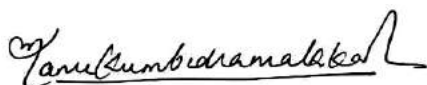
of everything John the Baptist knows, he retains some uncertainty. And in spite of everything John the Baptist should know, Jesus addresses John's questions directly. He does not ridicule his uncertainty; he does not respond as he so often responds to those who misunderstand him or misinterpret him. He does not say, "Oh ye of little faith!" No, he answers the question directly: "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them."

When doubts obsessed John, when loneliness had overtaken him, when darkness surrounded him, when hope seemed to fail, the only solution before John was to send a question to Jesus. We also experience such moments in our lives. There are moments when we have to face trials. There are moments when we are pressed down with illness. There are moments when we have to face persecution. There are moments when we are betrayed by our best friends. There are moments when we are disowned by those who have been the beneficiaries of our benevolence. There are moments when our own weakness overtakes us. No matter what our sufferings are, no matter what trial we go through, no matter what disappointments we have, we can send our message to Jesus as John did. Are you the One, Jesus? Can you speak to us behind our thick prison walls this Christmas? Can you give strength to our feet? sight to our eyes? hope to our hearts? wholeness to our brokenness? life to our death? Jesus knows that John will understand his message. He will recognise the prophecy of Isaiah about the Messiah, the chosen one of God. He will therefore understand who Jesus really is and be reassured and strengthened.

There's a lot in our world to be worried and frightened about. There are plenty of problems to occupy our minds. Perhaps we also wonder if we've got it wrong about God, love, hope and new life. Maybe like John we'd like to ask "is our God really God?" or "were we right to believe and trust in him?" Faith has many questions, most of which can't be answered through pure reasoning. Always remember the heart has its reasons which reason does not know.

Perhaps Jesus would give us the same sort of answer he sent to John. Look around you and see what's happening. Wherever people are reaching out to each other in peace, God is at work. Wherever the weak and vulnerable are cared for, God is there; when hope is offered to those in despair and goodwill is shown to enemies, God is there and his kingdom is breaking into our world. Now we can in a way reverse this question. Jesus is asking: "Are YOU the one? My body in today's world, through whom I can touch people's hearts, bring wholeness to their brokenness, and set them free to love. With your hands I can reach out to the lonely. With your words I can comfort the grieving. With your voice I can proclaim good news to the poor."

Jesus asks you today, "Are you the one, or am I to wait for another?" Let us answer through our words, deeds and thoughts, let us become the Jesus to the world.



Readings for next Sunday, 22nd Dec 2019

1st Reading	Is	7:10-14
2nd Reading	Rom	1:1-7
Gospel	Mat	1:18-24

Saints/Feast Days Of the Week

23rd Dec	St John of Kanty
25th	The Nativity of the Lord
26th	St Stephen, The First Martyr
27th	St John, Apostle & Evangelist
28th	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
29th	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

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:**

Anne Van Der Arend, 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.

CLUSTER RECONCILIATION

2nd Rite of Reconciliation
Tuesday 17th December
St Pius X Church 7pm
17 Avoca St Dernancourt SA 5075

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve
Tuesday 24th December
Holy Trinity Church - 6.30pm Family Mass
St John XXIII Church - 8.30pm
St John XXIII Church - Midnight Mass

Christmas Day
Wednesday 25th December
Holy Trinity Church - 9am Mass
St John XXIII Church - 9am Mass

Please Note

**There will be no Mass celebrated
at Modbury Hospital until
Thursday 13th February 2020**

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

HQ: 1300 729 202 from 9.00am — 1.00pm
or 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.*

Thank-you, thank-you, thank-you!

This weekend is the last to return your card and
donated item to the Giving Tree.

We pack the hampers on Friday 20th
for collection on the Saturday morning.

The requests for Christmas hampers currently
stands at 28, but is expected to grow in the
next week – we'll draw the line at about 36,
but take requests until December 18th.

Your generosity and food appeals at
St Francis Xavier's, Golden Grove PS,
Wynn Vale Kindergarten,
and Modbury Community Children's centre
has put some of our hamper items into surplus
and we should require minimal shopping.
In addition we've collected our allocation of toys
and gifts arising from the MRA Toy Run.

After the hamper activity we suspend assistance
calls until after Australia Day.

Your support has enabled us to respond
to over 210 calls for assistance this year.



DEVELOPMENT FUND 2019

Congratulations Pauline Lai
No. 8

Drawn by Margaret Robinson

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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DECEMBER BABIES

16th Dec Carmel Lineage
18th Dec Michael Reilly



**Extraordinary Ministers
of Holy Communion**

As a result of some long-standing ministry members
having to retire, the parish is in urgent need of people
to assist with visiting and taking Holy Communion to
parishioners who are sick and or housebound.

The need is especially great at
the Holy Trinity end of the parish.

If you are able to assist with this ministry
we ask that you contact
Jen Sherlock in the parish office on 8264 7590.

We thank all of those who have been fulfilling this
ministry and wish all those who have been visiting the
sick and housebound a happy and holy Christmas.

Notice to all Parish Groups

**Thank you to all the groups who have
sent their diary dates in so far.
If you have not already done so please
send your dates in as soon as possible.**

**Parish Groups who do not send in their
dates for 2020 will NOT be booked
in the 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

Parish Facilities

Please note that the fridges/freezers
at both Mass Centres will be cleaned out
over the summer break
and ALL food items will be disposed of.
If you or your Parish Group have any food items
stored in the fridges/freezers
please remove them before Christmas.

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation.
Parish Office



CHILDREN'S PRAYER



May Christ our Savior bring light
into the darkness of this world,
and to us, as we wait for his coming. Amen

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!**

Thank You For Your Prayers For Our Pilgrims



All 16 of our pilgrims are back in Australia now, It was an inspiring pilgrimage. The Holy Spirit was evident on our journey to the Holy Land. Thank you for your prayers.

Fr Jack

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.



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.

JOY OF THE GOSPEL

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

THE SOUTHERN CROSS

The December edition of the Southern Cross is now available. Free for December Please Support Your Catholic Newspaper

Parish Bulletin

Our last Parish Bulletin for this year will be printed this coming Thursday 19th December. If you have not already done so please send in any articles/notices before 9am Wednesday 18th December.

There will be no further Bulletins until the 25th/26th January 2020 Please send in any notices that need to be placed in this first bulletin by Tuesday 21st January 2020.

Thank You

PRAYER REFLECTION GROUP

Prayers in the Chapel at St John XXIII on Tuesday 17th December from 11am - 12noon All Welcome to come and pray and reflect.

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

SECURITY

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE
ANY VALUABLE ITEMS
VISIBLE IN YOUR CAR WHILE
ATTENDING MASS AT EITHER
MASS CENTRE.



SAFETY FIRST

Please remember the carpark are shared zones and for safety the speed limit is 10kph (walking pace).

