



# PARA HILLS MODBURY CATHOLIC PARISH

## PARISH TEAM

FR MANU KUMBIDIYAMACKAL  
MSFS  
(PARISH PRIEST)

TASH SOUTER  
(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  
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## 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  
10AM MASS

## 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 OFFICER

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

25th December (Christmas) 2021

The Nativity of the Lord - White

Bulletin Vol.18  
Issue 49

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



*We wish You All  
A Very Happy Christmas  
&  
A Bright and Prosperous  
New Year.*

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

## Have a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year



Dear Parishioners,  
For the four weeks of Advent, our hopeful voices sang, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel", and at last, at the glorious birth of our Lord and Saviour, we joyfully proclaim, "Emmanuel, God is With Us! We have all been surrounded with the joy and light which the birth of Jesus brings into the world! It is the feeling of hope in our lives. It is the promise of peace in the world. It is the blessing of God in our hearts. Wish you all a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year 2022. Christmas is a great time for coming together; families, friends and communities and there's a good reason for that. It's not just that coming together is more important than ever in a time of pandemic, when isolation and separation have hit us all hard. It's also because Christmas celebrates the overcoming of the most fundamental separation of all: the separation of heaven and earth; of God and humanity. Once God becomes one of us, heaven and earth come together forever. The overcoming of that separation means that there is no separation that can't be overcome; no chasm that can't be bridged. In a world of ever deepening polarisations, such a vision isn't an optional extra, it is absolutely essential. And so too is Christmas. Christmas began long ago as a celebration of the triumph of light over darkness in the Northern world, but it has become a celebration of the triumph of togetherness over separation in every part of the world, including ours; one which is celebrated in every community and in every heart.

At this great time of joy and thanksgiving, I would like to send my personal gratitude to each of you and your families for being a part of our faith-filled and dynamic community here at Para Hills Modbury. May the beauty, peace and joy of this most blessed season envelop you all with the infinite love of God, and the wonder of the birth of His only Son, our Saviour, Jesus.

In this year, which has been so marked by the experience of the COVID 19 pandemic, many of us may not have found it easy, and perhaps still struggle, to discover the presence of God in our lives. Even though, here at Adelaide we were not so badly affected, we have spent the year with a lot of uncertainties and as the reopening happened, though we hoped for greater flexibilities at this Christmas time, we are facing yet another surge in COVID 19 cases. Even our preparations for Christmas, both from a family point of view and from a religious point of view, are somewhat complicated and uncertain. Will the pandemic prohibit many people from travelling interstate to be with their families once again? Social distancing requirements mean that numbers will be restricted in our churches for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses. Will the financial pressures created due to the forced situations mean that we cannot celebrate Christmas as we would normally like to? Whatever Christmas looks like this year one thing remains constant. At the heart of Christmas is a celebration of the birth of Christ. As long as we remember this and focus on this, Christmas 2021 will be as significant and as joyful as it always is; and perhaps even more so because we might find ourselves less distracted by the superficial things of Christmas and more free to concentrate on the extraordinary love of God for us which Christmas reveals.

## Readings for next Sunday, 2nd Jan 2022

1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Is	60:1-6
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Eph	3:2-3. 5-6
Gospel	Mt	2:1-12

Let me, at this time of the year, thank all who give generously of their time and talents in making this Parish such an energetic, faith-filled community that it is at present. There have been so many blessings that I thank God for this past year. Thank you very much for the prayers, support, financial contributions, genuine love and concern of so many of you faithful parishioners. Special thanks to Fr Peter and Fr Jack. Thanks to Tash, Sindi and Pauline our excellent team in the parish office. I need to thank the Parish Pastoral Council, Parish Finance Council the Liturgy Committee for their excellent leadership, commitment and planning of everything that happened in the parish during the past year. Your hard work has helped the parish to be what it is at the moment.

Christianity is never a "spectator sport" in which we simply sit back, watch and cheer.

Rather, it involves active participation and a life commitment, which I have experienced in the way all our volunteers get involved in the various activities of the parish. Thanks to all of you who volunteer to perform various ministries in the parish.

A word of thanks to all for the greetings, gifts, prayers and support that was so personal for me as I celebrate this Christmas once again in Australia, away from home and my homeland. Thank you for helping me along the journey. As our parish stands in need of more help in the coming years, maybe the Christmas message this year is a challenge for all of us to become more involved. It is not only a question of giving more; it is also a question of giving more of ourselves. Yes, that's what God was doing when he got involved with us and our world at Christmas. Christmas belongs to believers, to those who believe that Jesus Christ, Son of God, was born of the Virgin Mary to reconcile us to one another and to the Father. This is why he came. God will fill us with his peace if there is room in our lives for him.

May you be blessed with peace and joy at this Christmas and may you enjoy a bright and prosperous New Year. As we adore the Christ Child in the manger at Christmas, may we be moved by the great love and humility that God showed to us in the birth of His Son! Be assured of my daily prayers and Masses for all of you.

*Janakumbudramalakel*

## PARISH BULLETIN

The next parish bulletin will be published on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2021

Messages for publication in that bulletin must be received at the Parish Office by 2.00pm Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January.





# Vinnies

good works



Merry Christmas everyone  
Calls tapered off a bit, only three in the final week, as our companions moved their thinking to Christmas hampers which include toys for children (via the Vinnies Warehouse from the MRA Toy Run) and Vinnies Gift Cards for the

adults and a Drakes gift card to enable some purchasing of perishables. Hamper packing and distribution is our last activity for this year. Home assistance visits will recommence after Australia Day.

Our pantry and hamper situation was greatly boosted with a generous food donation from St Francis Xavier's School at Wynn Vale this week. And we have ongoing support from Baker's Delight who allow us to collect surplus bakery products fortnightly.

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

Our expectation is that there will be nearly 30 hampers collected, and our home visit request will approach 170. Last year with the COVID interruption, it was 131.

Our fund raising this year has again been limited, but our deficit has been met by funds generated by the Vinnies stores, the CEO Sleepout (\$930,000) and the Principals' Sleepout. Our Christmas Appeal hasn't been tallied yet – more news on that in the New Year – but thanks to all who were able to contribute. Don't forget the opportunity to help through the Peoples' Choice Credit Union raffle.

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

Here's hoping all have a healthy and joyous Christmas

**Michael Bone**

**Conference President**



## Message from Fr Peter

*Many thanks for your prayers and good wishes over the past two years.*

*I'm making slow but nevertheless positive progress.*

*I'm grateful to God and you.*

*Thanks to Fr Manu for his support.*

*Bless you all*



## The St Vincent de Paul Para Hills Conference

Para Hills conference wishes to thank those parishioners who recently contributed so generously to the Christmas Giving Tree. Your donations will make a great difference to those most in need, both individuals and families unable to provide adequately for themselves and their children during this time of celebration.

Members of the Para Hills conference wish each of you the blessings of the season and pray for your good health throughout the coming year.

**Helen Zmarek,**

**Conference President**

## Saints/Feast Days Of the Month

25th Dec	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
26th	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
27th	St John, Apostle & Evangelist
28th	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
29th	St Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr
31st	St Sylvester I, Pope
1st Jan	Mary the Holy Mother of God
2nd	The Epiphany of the Lord
3rd	The Most Holy Name of Jesus
7th	St Raymond of Penyafort
9th	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
26th	The Conversion of St Paul

## Friendship Bowls



The members of the Friendship Bowls Club wish all parishioners a very happy and healthy Christmas!

We will be returning on Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and would welcome new members who would like to join us..

**Judy Dalwood**  
**Coordinator**



**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! A virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us. Alleluia!**



## Sacramental Program

At Mass services celebrated during the first two weekends in June at both St John XXIII and Holy Trinity churches 14 of our young children received Jesus for the first time at their First Holy Communion. Each child was dressed in their finest and at each Mass it was great to see their extended family come celebrate this very special occasion with them. As usual Fr Manu celebrated each Mass with his usual attention to detail, making each one memorable for the children.

At the Rite of Confirmation celebrated a few days earlier, Archbishop Patrick O'Regan taught a very simple but powerful prayer; Come Jesus, come. The Archbishop reminded us to find out the date of our Baptism since it is the day we joined God's family, and encouraged us to celebrate it as we do our birthday celebrations.

As we come to a conclusion of this year we ask for your continued thoughts and prayers for the children of our parish, especially: Haleigh Abraham, Domenic Agostinelli, Patrick Boehm, Marcus Damiani, Kyla Doecke, Paul Gabarda, Angelo Hortelano, Brea Jijo, Lara Kendall, Albella Mathew & Owen Morris as they prepare to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion in 2022.

Our next Sacramental workshop will be on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2022 from 3.30pm to 5.00pm.

### Feedback from children and parents

*"The program helped prepare me well for my Confirmation and First Holy Eucharist. I felt very lucky to have Archbishop Patrick anoint me with the Holy Spirit."*

**Carlo Vorassi**

"On a personal note we as a family felt privileged to have had Archbishop Patrick preside over the Confirmation and anoint Carlo with the Holy Spirit. The night was very well organised, the focus was all on the children from beginning to end and I felt the whole congregation was able to see and be a part of witnessing all the children receive this Sacrament."

**Grace Vorassi**

## SECURITY

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

"Marcus would just like to say thanks to all the facilitators for the support and guidance throughout the sessions."

**Luigi and Laura Damiani**

*"I've enjoyed playing the getting to know each other games & learning about the history of baptism."*

**Patrick Boehm**

"Consilia really enjoyed making the banner and researching about her chosen saint."

**Vincenzo & Diana Loprete**



## 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 reasons of privacy).

### Please Remember in your Prayers THOSE WHO ARE SICK, especially:

Anne Hughes, David Truman, Paul Barry, Bruce Tilley, Allan Searle, Anne Valentine, Ken Randell, Mary Rose Probst, Molly Holmes, Maria Trotta, Joan Walmsley, Ursula Moore, Lil Buckley, Jason Mittiga, Pat Collins, Ruby Brokensha, Anne Van Der Arend, Margaret Pitt, Patricia Kopf, Darcy Ridley, Jayden Lee, Father Peter Milburn, Maria Hand, Emma Gammon, Asher Caudle, David North, Elijah Neri, Wayne Collins, Marg Dolman, Sean Molloy, Antoinette Pascale, Charlotte Fussell, Reta Lockyer, John MacGrath, Ken Robinson, Mary Redmond, Graham Speed, Marlen Piineda, Rosa Maria Santos, Betty Roper, Imperia De Ionno, Julie Reimann, Gerry Canavan, Kay Kennedy, Marie Boulton, Gary Lockyer, Yvonne Summers, Rita Robinson, Sr. Marleen Dewar OLSH, Emelia Pudelek

### Recently Deceased

Fr Stanislaus Joseph Barry CM (Stan),  
Tom McDonald, Teodulo Molabola Giban,







**ST FRANCIS  
XAVIER'S**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The St Francis Xavier's Catholic School community would like to wish everyone in the Para Hills Modbury Parish many blessings this Christmas season.

We sincerely thank everyone in the parish who work continually in partnership with our school and welcome us into the community.

May your days be merry and bright with the light of God's love.

**Rosanna Samarzia**



We welcome to our community,  
Zyler Mack Osing Hunt

Who was baptised in December. Please remember him in your prayers.



### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY DECEMBER BABIES**

- 24th** Gail Martin
- 25th** Ursula Moore
- 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
- 5th** Anthony Knowles
- 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



## **MODBURY COMMUNITY & CRAFT GROUP**



We have had a very good year with only two weeks of shutdown due to Covid-19. The Group has been able to hold all of the events we organise each year, Mother's Day and Father's Day Raffles, Australia's Biggest Morning Tea, A Soup Day, and our Christmas breakup party.

All of the events raise money to send to various charities, Cancer Council, Family Day Care Centre, Women's Crisis Centre and Vinnies. Blankets, Beanies and scarves were donated through Fred's Van in parishes and this year our knitters made 138 squares for the Aboriginal Palliative Care Project. These squares will be made into blankets to comfort people in their last days. We also continue to support Sr. Sally in her work at the Holy Family Orphanage in Africa.

I'd like to thank the Craft Group Committee and all members of the Craft Group for their ongoing support, their efforts in obeying the Covid rules in place to keep everyone safe and the happy friendly atmosphere created by all members.

Wishing you all a Happy and Blessed Christmas

**Mary Bryant**  
**Coordinator**

### **EAST TIMOR COMMITTEE**

The East Timor Committee would like to thank all parishioners and friends who have supported our fundraising efforts during the pandemic. We are now able to send approx \$2400 to them to fund two projects. One being a 9 x 12m chapel in Railuli and a water tank at the St Joseph Chapel at Cova. East Timor has had its fair share of problems as well, due to weather impacting crops and the University Scholarship scheme to Australia having been substantially reduced to name a few. It has been a privilege to be able to support them in a very small way.

We wish you all a very safe, happy and holy Christmas and blessings for 2022.

Looking forward to your continued support in the future.

Regards from Anne, Leonie, Marie, Marg, Merle and Pauline.



### **Two Hearts Prayer Group Holy Trinity Church**



Friday 7th January, at  
Holy Trinity Church.  
Rosary at 8pm  
followed by Mass at 9pm  
and finishes with Mass at 3am on  
Saturday morning.









*We thank God for a year filled with Prayer, Fun and Activities*





## PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL REPORT CHRISTMAS 2020

At the beginning of the year, we started off with a deficit budget of \$17000. However, as the year progressed income started to gradually pick up as parishioners began returning and together with limiting expenditure and maintenance to only critical and essential items and costs, we are likely to finish the year with a balanced budget which is a fairly good result under the circumstances.

Our main focus earlier this year was to progress and seek approval from the Archbishop for the sale of a portion of land at St John XXIII. There was quite a bit of correspondence over several months between the Parish and the Diocese Property office in preparing and submitting the business case.

In September we finally received approval from the Archbishop to subdivide and sell the land in accordance with the plan that has been displayed in both church centres. We are now in the planning approval process.

During the year, we have also undertaken numerous maintenance jobs to keep both our church properties functioning properly. These included items such as: plumbing and hot water system repairs at Holy Trinity, Security light replacements at both centres, storm water drainage near the Holy Trinity hall, repairs to the meeting room air conditioner at St John XXIII and upgraded speakers in the carpet area at St John XXIII.

Council required drainage works at Holy Trinity to run storm water to Kesters Road. To minimise the cost, we used the pavers donated to the Parish and located at the St John XXXIII property. These needed cleaning and sorting and took several months. A long and tedious job by some very dedicated volunteers. The paving was completed by a contractor mid-November and it is now a very good area that can be used in conjunction with hall activities. There has also been on-going external toilet door repairs and painting at Holy Trinity to prevent permanent deterioration and other minor works all undertaken by dedicated volunteers.

It has been a "steady as you go" year but we have come through it reasonably well.

I would like to thank the Parish Finance Council members and all the volunteers who have helped in one way or another to keep our Parish running smoothly throughout the year to allow us to have a well-earned break over the Christmas and New Year period.

I wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

John Jarrad  
Chair, Parish Finance Council



## Ministry of the Sick

The ministry of prayer and communion for the sick, elderly or infirm who cannot come to Mass any more is available in our Para Hills Modbury Parish.



I have been fortunate and privileged to be part of this ministry for over twenty years. It is indeed an honour to be invited to share prayer and communion in people's homes or nursing homes. If someone in your family would like a personal visit for prayer and communion, don't hesitate to give the office a call, and if you would like to join our dedicated team of Ministers of the Sick, please give Tash a call on 8264 7590.

Christmas greetings and a blessed 2022

**Jos Hensing**

## My Journey as an Altar Server

My name is Alana Benny, I am 11 Years old and live with my parents and two older brothers.



I started altar serving in my parish at the age of 11 years after my First Holy Communion. My family is so close to the church and I attended church every Sunday. To stand in the altar was my dream for so long and I was inspired by my siblings, and other young children in the community. I love being able to be an altar server as I strongly believe that it is an opportunity for me to be closer with God. I do believe that I receive special protection from God in my everyday life even when away from church.

Altar serving is a service to the church and community. For children like me it is a great start to our spiritual journey. Through this I learn more about God and different steps of the Mass, being blessed on the Altar while praying and listening, and being able to assist the priest when he needs to be served. I sometimes make mistakes when I altar serve but that's okay as I know I can learn from my mistakes and do better next time. I love to get to church on time and do the prayer before Mass.

Altar serving brings me great joy and satisfaction. In addition to all the spiritual development I am glad that my parish community is also indirectly allowing me to develop values such as punctuality, sharing, caring, having compassion, and also to develop my leadership skill as I have now started helping new altar servers.

I thank Fr.Manu and the parish pastoral care team for allowing me to be part of this great community and for your ongoing support in my spiritual development.

**Alana Benny**





## DEVELOPMENT FUND CHRISTMAS DRAW 2022

The Development Fund was established many years ago to raise money to purchase items for the parish.

Members of the Development Fund pay \$1 per week and are allocated a 'lotto' number which gives them the opportunity to win \$50 in the weekly draw.

Joining the Development Fund not only gives you an opportunity to win, it is also a way to support your parish.

This year the Development Fund has spent \$5000 towards the building of the retaining wall, fencing and maintenance of the Church car parks at Holy Trinity. The fund has also donated \$400 to each of St John XXIII and Holy Trinity for the purchase of Christmas and Easter flowers.

New members are always most welcome to join the Development Fund. If you would like to join please contact me, Barbara Mathews on 8258 8806.

The following are the Development Fund winners for the period over Christmas and New Year:

Congratulations to:

Christmas Draw	No 90, Barbara Sorrell
	Drawn by Marie Haydon
26 <sup>th</sup> December	No 82, Jo Treadwell
	Drawn by Sindi Kinloch for Grace Healey
2 <sup>nd</sup> January	No 60 Alex Balayance
	Drawn by Brenda Whitehead for Jo Treadwell



## Multi-Cultural Melodies

As a group we have been together for 6 Years.

The choir first began practicing at John G Tilley Centre in Surrey Downs.

We have been practicing in the church at St John XXIII, Hope Valley for over 2 years.

Most of the people in the choir have been with us from our beginnings.

We have been invited to sing to clients of Nursing Homes, at Schools and to younger children on request, and of course, at the last Parish Carols Night in 2019. Recently we sang at an Indian Concert in Golden Grove Arts Centre, when, after much practice we sang "VANDE MATARAM" a national song in an Indian language.

We were sad to have to perform at a farewell funeral service for one of our most popular and long serving members, PAUL HOLMES, in recent times.

Due to COVID 19 we are currently restricted to practice only, but look forward to when we can sing again in public.

A Merry Christmas to all from our choir group.

## Seniors Social Group



Another year has gone and how fast they go the older we get. Our Seniors group has been busy this year with regular weekly meetings held in the Hall at Holy Trinity on Wednesday afternoons. Our group averages about 14 people each week and we are involved in conversation, card games and also make good use of the pool table.

The year was once again interrupted by a COVID lockdown in July. On returning in September we managed an outing to Kapunda in October. This was a great experience, and we were blessed with a tour guide who showed us around some of the early Catholic places in Kapunda and Mary MacKillop's girl's home.

Our group started 50 years ago as the Over40's and we have now become Seniors and so it is becoming more difficult for some of our Seniors to get to meetings. Transport and mobility as well as health issues have meant a drop in numbers.

We hope the break over Christmas and January will give us all time to recover. Our group now takes a break until February 2<sup>nd</sup>. We would welcome new members who may be interested in connecting with a like-minded group.

We wish all everyone a Blessed and Happy Christmas.



## Christmas Day Appeal for the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry

We will again be conducting the annual Christmas Day Appeal collection for the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry (ACM) with special collections to be taken up at all Christmas Masses.

This Christmas Day Appeal for the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry has been an important tradition in this archdiocese, and a vital source of support for our ministry to Aboriginal people through the Other way Centre and its services. For over 25 years ACM has offered a welcome and a growing range of programs and services from its base at the Otherway Centre located at 80 Payneham Road, Stepney.

We ask that you continue to support this appeal generously, and that you remember the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry in your prayers and celebrations this Christmas. Your support is essential for the continued outreach of the Otherway Centre to Aboriginal people in the Archdiocese of Adelaide.







## Parish Pastoral Council Report

For a year when it feels like we have not been able to do much, 2021 has flown by.

As in 2020, many of our parish activities have again been affected by COVID 19. The PPC, joining hands with the PFC, has worked on realizing some of the major works undertaken during the past year in the parish. We have also assisted with the organisation of major celebrations such as Confirmation, First Holy Communion and the celebration of our volunteers. While the pandemic has meant that we have had less parish events, we have managed to share 'cuppas' again after Mass on a few occasions. And while these have been different, it does continue to be a joy to meet with parishioners again in a social atmosphere following Mass.

Highlights of our work this year have been the growth in the use of our Parish Prayer, the contributions of parishioners to the discussions in preparation for the Diocesan Assembly, our parish representation at the Diocesan Assembly, and the inauguration of the Parishioner of Inspiration Awards. It has also been very pleasing to see the growth and development in our connection with our two parish schools. We thank the principals of the schools, Jason Mittiga (St Francis Xavier's) and Joe Corbo (Gleeson) for supporting and encouraging that connection. Parishioners were particularly pleased to welcome students, parents and staff of SFX to the family Mass held at St John XXIII on Saturday 23rd October. We look forward to continuing our connection with the schools in 2022.

I would like to thank all members of the Parish Pastoral Council for their willingness to give their time to serve God as they serve the parish. I strongly encourage all parishioners to think about how you can use your gifts and talents to meet the needs of our parish.

The PPC wishes all parishioners a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Carolyn Ost**

**PPC Chairperson**

### End of an era.

Fr Stan Barry died recently and was buried on Friday Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> in Sydney. He was 95 and was the eldest of 4 brothers – all priests (Vincentians). His younger brothers passed away some years ago.

All four had an active association with the previous Modbury parish from its inception almost 50 years ago – Stan worked in the parish from very early days with Fr John Halloran, its first P.P. His brother Rom was Rector of the Seminary at Rostrevor - and the staff and students played an active role at Modbury in those first few years. His other brothers, Xavier and John contributed significantly to a vibrant community, celebrating Mass when they visited us from interstate.



## Family Music Ministry

21 Years on and the Family Music Ministry (FMM) is still going strong at your service!!! FMM is a choir group originally formed in April 2000 to bring life to church services at Holy Trinity Church in Para Hills through live music. The group is comprised of Filipino Families who share the same passion and love of music and service.

Since its inception, the group has been singing at Holy Trinity during Sunday Masses and St John XXIII and on special occasions. The group also serves at various other churches and community groups when called on to sing. FMM stands by its motto – service is fun and so we strive to serve with a smile anytime and every time. ♥

**Arnold Callado**

## OFFICE CLOSURE

Please Note the Parish Office is currently closed and will reopen on Tuesday 18th January 2021

### REACH OUT 2021

As we prepare for Christmas and reflect over the past year, I thank God for His many Blessings and for keeping us all safe.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, REACH OUT has been meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at the Modbury Salvation Army Oasis Café for morning tea after the 9.15am Mass at St John XXIII.

We had our Christmas lunch at the Oasis Café attended by 24 members on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022 to discuss our Reach Out program for the New Year 2022.

An invitation is extended to anyone who would like to join us as it is a way to catch up and meet other parishioners. You are all very welcome.

I thank all Reach Out Members who have embraced the challenging restrictions of Covid-19. As a group we modified our meeting structure and that allowed us to keep in touch and continue to support each other.

May God continue to Bless you all and your families.

May the Love and Peace of Christmas be with you and protect you throughout the coming New Year.

God Bless,

**Maureen Kenny**  
**President**





## A Christmas Message from Gleeson College



Christmas reminds us of the importance of Joseph's role in the birth and life of Jesus Christ. He accepted Mary and events unconditionally, even those he did not understand, setting aside his own ideas and reconciling himself with his own history. Faith gives meaning to every event, however happy or sad, therefore Joseph did not look for shortcuts, but confronted reality with open eyes and accepted personal responsibility for it.

In practice, we are called to welcome and accept others as they are, without exception, and to show special concern for the poor, the abandoned, the victims of exclusion and adversity. Jesus showed us that serving others and humility go hand in hand.

Enjoy a safe and Merry Christmas with your loved ones.

God Bless,

**Ms Alesia Sala**



### The Legion of Mary

While we have been unable to hold our annual Retreat Day or attend the Marian Procession this year due to COVID, the

Legion of Mary continues to meet and pray together regularly. We are the Our Lady of the Holy Trinity Praesidium and we meet once a week on Tuesdays at 12.30pm for prayer, spiritual direction and to report on work done. Our main aim is the spirituality and sanctification of the members.

Our work includes: visitation of the sick and the lonely in private homes, nursing home visitation with Holy Communion, church cleaning, doing the Altar linen, training and organizing Altar servers, flower arrangement, looking after the church garden, transport, promotion of the Rosary and helping with children's liturgy.

We were sorry to lose one of our original members, Pat Cherry, as she has moved into Lourdes Valley Retirement Village. Our Spiritual Director is Fr. Manu. If you are interested in learning more about the Legion of Mary, please pick up a pack of leaflets from the back of the Church.

**Phyllis Truman**

**25**  
ANNIVERSARY

*Congratulations  
Divina and Arnold Callado  
celebrating their  
25th Wedding Anniversary.*

### NEW YEAR MASSES

**New Years Eve Friday 31st Dec 8pm at  
St John XXIII New Years Eve Vigil**

**New Years Day 1st Jan 2020  
10am at Holy Trinity**



We congratulate Fr Manu who will celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his Ordination on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> December.

We thank God for his gifts and pray that He continue to bless him with wisdom, good health and good humour.

As he continues his service of God and His people.



### THE SOUTHERN CROSS

The December edition of the Southern Cross is now available.

Free for December

Please Support Your Catholic Newspaper





## Pope Francis' Message



*Christmas is usually a noisy party:  
we could use a bit of silence,  
to hear the voice of Love.*

*Christmas is you, when you decide  
to be born again each day and  
let God into your soul.*

*The Christmas pine is you, when  
you resist vigorous winds  
and difficulties of life.*

*The Christmas decorations are you, when your virtues  
are colours that adorn your life.*

*The Christmas bell is you, when you call, gather and  
seek to unite.*

*You are also a Christmas light, when you illuminate  
with your life the path of others with kindness,  
patience, joy and generosity.*

*The Christmas angels are you, when you sing to the  
world a message of peace, justice and love.*

*The Christmas star is you, when you lead someone to  
meet the Lord.*

*You are also the wise men, when you give the best  
you have no matter who.*

*Christmas music is you when you conquer the  
harmony within you.*

*The Christmas gift is you, when you are truly friend  
and brother or sister of every human being.*

*The Christmas card is you, when kindness is written  
in your hands.*

*The Christmas greeting is you, when you forgive and  
re-establish peace, even when you suffer.*

*The Christmas dinner is you, when you sated bread  
and hope to the poor person, who is by your side.*

*You are, yes, Christmas night, when humble and  
conscious, you receive in the silence of the night the  
Saviour of the world without noise or great  
celebrations; you are a smile of trust and  
tenderness, in the inner peace of a perennial  
Christmas that establishes the Kingdom within you.*

*A very Merry Christmas for all those, who are  
Christmas.*

## Mark Your Diaries — 2022



### January

17th Office Reopens  
24th Feast of St Francis de Sales  
26th Australia Day

### February

19th Presentation of Sacramental Children St JXXIII  
20th Presentation of Sacramental Children HT

### March

2nd Ash Wednesday

### April

15th Good Friday  
17th Easter Sunday  
25th ANZAC Day

### June

2nd Confirmation at St John XXIII  
4th First Holy Communion St John XXIII  
5th First Holy Communion Holy Trinity  
12th Feast of the Most Holy Trinity

### August

15th The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

### October

11th Feast of St John XXIII

### November

1st All Saints  
2nd All Souls  
25th Memorial Mass

### December

3rd/4th Volunteers Weekend



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## TREASURE MARKET

Second Saturday of each month  
8am to 12noon

Next: 9th January 2021

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.**

