



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
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
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 OFFICERS

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

12th December 2021
3rd Sunday of Advent, Year C - Rose

Bulletin Vol.18
Issue 47

**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**

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



**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**

Parishioner of Inspiration Awards 2021

Last weekend we announced the inaugural winners
of our Parishioner of Inspiration Awards.

In the Senior section the award winner was Phyllis Truman



Phyllis has been a parishioner of long standing who primarily attends Holy Trinity. Phyllis has been a member of Legion of Mary for many years and is current Conference head. For many years now Phyllis has invited First Communicants to join our parish altar servers. She welcomes them, provides them with training, negotiates with their families about the roster and maintains their robes. Phyllis also helps with the maintenance of our altar linen. She has been a Reader and has visited the sick and housebound. She can be found on weekdays working in the gardens at Holy Trinity.

When Phyllis was asked if she would be willing to accept the nomination her very humble response was "I am no more worthy than many other parishioners who do so much. I will accept on condition that I can accept on behalf of all of the wonderful volunteers in our parish".

In the Junior section the winner was Kimberlyn Selvan.

Kimberlyn, has been a very active volunteer in the parish for several years now. Kimberlyn serves as an Altar Server, as a Reader, as a member of the Mission Choir and has been involved with the Youth Group and was a Junior Legionnaire with the Legion of Mary. During the discussion groups for the Plenary Council she actively participated with the youth. In those days when we were permitted to have our Craft Market, Kimberlyn volunteered, with other youngsters, on the Drinks and Ice Cream stall. Kimberlyn has in the past been an active member of the Parish Youth Group She helps out with the children at parish events and is quick to ask if there is anything she can do to assist.



As a parish we have been blessed by the inspirational work of both Phyllis and Kimberlyn just as we have by the service provided by all of our volunteers

Rejoice in the Lord: Are We Ready?

The third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday which literally means rejoice. We are called to rejoice at the expectation that we have because of the advent of the Lord. In the Gospel today, John the Baptist explains the secret of Christian joy as wholehearted commitment to God's way lived out by doing His will. A sad Christian is a contradiction in terms. According to John the Baptist, happiness comes from doing our duties faithfully, doing good for others and sharing our blessings with others in need. John challenges people to generosity and sense of fairness, so that others may have reason to rejoice. John's call to repentance is a call to joy and restoration. Repentance means a change in the purpose and direction of our lives. Filled with joyful expectation that the Messiah was near, the people ask John, "What should we do?" He tells them to act with justice, charity and honesty, letting their lives reflect their transformation. For us, that transformation occurs when Christ enters our lives, and it is to be reflected in our living in the ways John suggested. In other words, John reminds us that membership in the Church, knowing the teaching of the Church and the Bible, being baptized and going to Mass on Sundays are not enough. We must care for others and share our blessings with others.

Even though John's preaching was characterized by scathing criticism, his call for reform is still described by Luke as "the Good News," because the arrival of the Messiah will initiate a new reign of forgiveness, healing and salvation. The repentance which John preached called for a change in behaviour and not just regret for the past. According to Scott Hahn "Repentance" translates a Greek word, metanoia (literally, "change of mind"). It means a radical life-change involving a two-fold "turning": away from sin (see Ezekiel 3:19; 18:30) and toward God (see Sirach 17:20-21; Hosea 6:1). It requires "good fruits as evidence of our repentance" (see Luke 3:8). That's why John told the crowds, soldiers and tax collectors they must prove their Faith through works of charity, honesty and social justice. John demanded that people should share their goods with one another, emphasizing the principle of social justice that God will never absolve the person who is content to have too much while others have too little. John also insisted that a person should not leave his job to work out one's own salvation. Instead, a person should do his or her job as it should be done. He called people to fidelity in the very circumstances of their lives. Let the tax-collector be a good tax-collector and let the soldier be a good soldier. In other words, it was a person's duty to serve God where God had set him. "Bloom where you are planted," St. Francis De Sales used to say. We are expected to become transformational agents where we are. But if the work

cont.....

environment is such that we are unable to deal honestly and fairly with other people, we should probably find a new job. No wonder, John's stirring message created a restless yearning for God in the hearts of the crowd, prompting them to ask the eager question, "What should we do?" People from every walk of life thronged to him. While some, no doubt, came out of curiosity, others were clearly motivated by religious fervour, and sought John's advice about the direction their lives should take. So, he had a message for each group of listeners.

Some of us serve in places where everyone is struggling to make ends meet. You may be struggling yourself. In this modern world where the joy of others is not given any importance at all we see people who live in dangerous communities governed by gangs or corrupt local governments or prejudicial law enforcement agencies. We may meet people who live in parts of the country or world where there are no jobs, and for whom obtaining food, water, and safe housing is a daily battle. There may be many of you who visit people for whom the primary source of comfort in a difficult and broken world is drugs and alcohol. It is to these people; the oppressed, the broken-hearted, the imprisoned, those held in captivity by discriminatory, unjust, prejudicial systems, be they corrupt governments, unscrupulous business practices, a dysfunctional family, or devastating personal circumstances, that these words from the prophet Isaiah speak most profoundly. It is to the people of this world who are broken in heart, spirit, mind and body that Isaiah announces the good news of God's deliverance for all of God's people who have been unjustly treated. Yes of course, we are called to a change of life. First, we should examine our relationships with others. We must mend ruptures and frictions, face family responsibilities, work honestly and treat employees justly. Our domestic and social lives must be put in order. We must abandon our selfish thirst for consumption and, instead, be filled with the expectation of Jesus' coming. Then the joy of Christmas will be there for all and we need to take it to all. Are we ready?

Januambudramalakol

RECONCILIATION



SECOND FORM:
Thursday 16th December
7pm,
St John XXIII,
50 Reservoir Road,
Hope Valley

Several priests will be available after communal prayer and preparation.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Cry out with joy and gladness:
for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.**

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

HQ: 1300 729 202 from 9.00am — 1.00pm
or www.vinnies.org.au



**St Vincent de Paul
Modbury Conference**

We're nearly there for the year!

This weekend of Dec 11/12th is the last to return your card and donated item to the Giving Tree.

We pack the hampers on Friday 18th for collection on the Saturday morning.

The requests for Christmas hampers currently stands at 20, but is expected to grow in the next week.

We'll draw the line at about 30, but take requests until December 13th.

The collection of the St Francis Xavier Christmas Appeal will have taken place on December 8th and we're very grateful for the school's assistance

After Dec 13th we go into recess as far as home visits are concerned and resume after Australia Day in 2022.

There is some emergency assistance still available through a phone based "Christmas Conference" and FoodBank packs.

If you're still able to contribute, Two Minute Noodles and Peanut Butter will be of benefit to the pantry

Readings for next Sunday, 19th December 2021

1st Reading	Mi	5:1 - 4
2nd Reading	Heb	10:5 - 10
Gospel	Lk	1:39 - 45

Saints/Feast Days Of the Week

13th Dec	St Lucy
14th Dec	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:**

- 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

- Tom McDonald, Teodulo Molabola Giban, Darryl McManus, Abraham Karuthedathu, Henry Ozga

Christmas Bulletin

The very last Bulletin for 2021 will be published on Wednesday 22nd December

Parishioners are invited to write an article for inclusion in the parish Christmas Bulletin.

If we receive more articles than we are able to include the Editors will use their discretion in choosing which articles are published.

Items not included in the Christmas Bulletin may be published in future bulletins.

Items for inclusion in the Christmas Bulletin must be sent to the parish office (electronically if possible) before 3pm on Tuesday 14th December.

OFFICE CLOSURE

**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE
CLOSED FROM
FRIDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2021.
THE OFFICE WILL REOPEN:
TUESDAY 18TH JANUARY 2022.**

THANK YOU

Many thanks to the people who donated funds for the repair of our sound system at St John XXIII. We also thank Paul Haydon who donated his time and technical expertise to this project

Christmas Liturgies

As Christmas is almost here! The Liturgy Committee have outlined the list of duties required at our Christmas Masses. If you are kindly available to volunteer in any way at all, please add your name to the volunteer lists at the back of the Church.

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

PRAYER MEETINGS

Tue	14th Dec	Legion of Mary	12.30pm	Holy Trinity
Thur	16th Dec	2nd Rite of Reconciliation	7pm	St John XXIII

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Mon	13th Dec	Bowls Group	1pm - 3.30pm	St John XXIII
Tue	14th Dec	Parish Pastoral Council	7pm	St John XXIII
Sat	18th Dec	Working Bee	9am - 12noon	St John XXIII

DEVELOPMENT FUND 2021



Congratulations to our winner
No 75, Margaret Giebel
Drawn by Carolyn Ost
for Trish Taylor

If you would like to be included in the draw
Please contact: Barbara Mathews 8258 8806

WORKING BEES TO PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS

St John XXIII

Saturday 18th December 9am - 12noon
Our aim is to do a general clean up of both
Mass Centres and to wash the windows
in preparation for the Christmas Liturgies.
Morning tea will be provided.
If you have a window cleaning kit please
bring it along on the day.

Many hands make light work

JOY OF THE GOSPEL: DAILY REFLECTIONS FOR 2022

Joy of the Gospel Reflection Books
have arrived
and are on sale at a cost of \$12 each.

These books are very popular
and sell out quickly.

If you would like a copy
please contact the Parish Office

CHRISTMAS MASS BOOKINGS

We are currently taking bookings for
Christmas Masses and as with all Masses
everyone attending is required to provide
their full name and a contact phone number or
email address for the purpose of
contact tracing at time of booking.

Spaces will be limited and masks covering
both the nose and mouth will be mandatory
for all those over the age of twelve.

If you and your family wish to attend
a Christmas Mass you can book by contacting
the Parish office, by phone or email, or by
adding your details to the sign up sheets
at the back of the Church.

**Please make your bookings
for the following Masses
before Sunday 19th December**

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

**Christmas Day
Saturday 25th December
St John XXIII Church - 8am Mass
Holy Trinity Church - 10am Mass**

CHURCH FLOWERS

There will be no flowers during the Season of 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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DECEMBER BABIES

12th Dec	Ann-Marie Lineage, Robert Giebel
13th Dec	Margaret Giebel
14th Dec	Frank Gavini, Alice Craig
15th Dec	Michael Moss, Sue Air
16th Dec	Carmel Lineage
18th Dec	Michael Reilly



THE SOUTHERN CROSS

The December edition of The Southern Cross
is free and available from both Mass Centres
or online at www.thesoutherncross.org.au