

# THE PAULINE AND OLIVERIAN

## COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

2nd Sunday of Advent Year B

10th December 2023

### PARISH PRIEST:

Fr. James Puppady

### Secretary:

Mrs Loretta Meilak

### Pastoral Associate:

Leanne Pereira



### St Oliver Plunkett's Pascoe Vale

Landells Rd, PO Box 567, Pascoe Vale

Ph: 7036-9330

E: pascoevale@cam.org.au

Office: Tue, Thur, Fri 9—4pm

W: [northmelbournecatholic.org.au](http://northmelbournecatholic.org.au)

School Principal: Delfina Pieri

Landells Rd, PO Box 667, Pascoe Vale

Ph: 9354-5130

### MASS TIMES

Tuesday & Thursday 10.00am

Saturday 5:00pm (Vigil)

Sunday 8:45am & 10:30am

FAMILY MASS – 1<sup>ST</sup> WEEKEND EACH MONTH

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 10.00am to 10.30am



### St Paul's Parish Coburg

562 Sydney Road, Coburg

Ph: 9354-1564

E: coburg@cam.org.au

Office: Mon—Fri 9.30am—3pm

W: [northmelbournecatholic.org.au](http://northmelbournecatholic.org.au)

School Principal: Maria Mercuri

Ph: 9354-8970

### MASS TIMES

Wednesday & Friday 10:00am

Saturday: 6:30pm (Vigil)

8:00pm (Neocatechumenal way)

Sunday 9am (English)

10:30am (Italian)

FAMILY MASS – 2<sup>ND</sup> WEEKEND EACH MONTH

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 7:15pm

FACEBOOK PAGE:

PASCOE VALE & COBURG



[facebook.com/pascoevalecoburg](https://facebook.com/pascoevalecoburg)

## SACRED SPACE

John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus to come into our lives. The First Reading speaks about filling in valleys, smoothing out mountains and hills, transforming cliffs into plains, and ridges into valleys. In other words, removing all the obstacles that get in the way of our meeting with Jesus, because: *Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.* That is also our role as Christians. It is only through what we say and do that others can come to know Jesus. So many people we know face many obstacles in getting to know the real Jesus (and, to be honest, sometimes we ourselves are those obstacles). Why do so many young people stop going to church and give up the practice of their faith? Where did they get the ideas of Christianity which they have – or don't have? Who is responsible? I don't think we have to look very far to answer these questions. It is a fact that the negligence of Christians undermines faith in Christ far more effectively than the most savage persecution of the sworn enemies of Christ. The Church never thrives so vigorously as under persecution from outsiders. *It is the betrayal of those who are inside which does the real damage.* If we were to be sincere in our reflection of this rather harsh statement, we need to ask ourselves where have I myself persecuted the other at Church? Is there a particular community I judge as an outsider? Is there a person I don't affiliate with in my parish that I have pre-conceived ideas about? To "make straight the path" in our own lives during this time of Advent, it is our hearts that God calls us to circumcise, it is our spirit that is called to be contrite not the exterior that needs to be sacrificed, "For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings" (Hosea 6:6) – (living/sacred space) God's future comes through the wilderness into the broken city and inspires a broken-hearted people. The contrite heart is a broken heart, an emptied-out heart, a hope-filled heart. It is a heart that is unencumbered by the past and that lives currently in the passing of time and the fragility of being alive. The contrite, broken heart can be filled only by what is promised in the future. This is the paradox of Advent. In the middle of the wilderness, God works the impossible in those whose hearts are ready for the surprise of hope. (Dianne Bergant CSA)



### ST OLIVER'S CHRISTMAS EVE MASS SUN 24 DEC

From this the children of St Oliver's can find inspiration for their own enactment of the Nativity at the Christmas Eve Mass.

It's still not too late to take part: contact Ruth on 0419 81 221

Email: [ruthroblemsmccoll@gmail.com](mailto:ruthroblemsmccoll@gmail.com). Flyers with all details on

both events can be found at the back of each Church.

Rehearsal: Tue 19 Dec 5pm & Fri 22 Dec 4pm – Approx 1hr

**HEALING MASS: COB: Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Dec, P.V Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Dec: 10am**

We encourage all parishioners of Coburg & Pascoe Vale to join each Church as ONE PARISH in their Nativity celebrations. On the 16<sup>th</sup> December is the live nativity at St Paul's where the humble beginnings of Christ Our Saviour becomes a living reality, with live animals and carols. It is a FREE event, awe-inspiring for young and old alike, whereby God's love is made manifest.

**Courage! The Lord awaits us!**



# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of  
good will. We praise you, we bless  
you, we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great  
glory, Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten  
Son, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of  
the Father, have mercy on us.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

## FIRST READING

*Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11*

*A Reading from the prophet Isaiah*

‘Console my people, console them’ says  
your God. ‘Speak to the heart of  
Jerusalem and call to her that her time  
of service is ended, that her sin is  
atoned for, that she has received from  
the hand of the Lord double  
punishment for all her crimes.’ A voice  
cries, ‘Prepare in the wilderness a way  
for the Lord. Make a straight highway  
for our God across the desert. Let every  
valley be filled in, every mountain and  
hill be laid low. Let every cliff become a  
plain, and the ridges a valley; then the  
glory of the Lord shall be revealed and  
all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of  
the Lord has spoken.’ Go up on a high  
mountain, joyful messenger to Zion.  
Shout with a loud voice, joyful  
messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without  
fear, say to the towns of Judah, ‘Here is  
your God.’ Here is the Lord coming with  
power, his arm subduing all things to  
him. The prize of his victory is with him,  
his trophies all go before him. He is like  
a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering  
lambs in his arms, holding them against  
his breast and leading to their rest the  
mother ewes.  
The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Psalm 84:9-14*

**R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and  
grant us your salvation.**

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to  
say, a voice that speaks of peace,  
peace for his people. His help is  
near for those who fear him and  
his glory will dwell in our land. R.
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
justice and peace have embraced.  
Faithfulness shall spring from the  
earth and justice look down from  
heaven. R.
3. The Lord will make us prosper and  
our earth shall yield its fruit.  
Justice shall march before him and  
peace shall follow his steps. R

## SECOND READING *2Peter 3:8-14*

*A reading from the second letter of St  
Peter.*

There is one thing, my friends, that you  
must never forget: that with the Lord, ‘a  
day’ can mean a thousand years, and a  
thousand years is like a day. The Lord is  
not being slow to carry out his promises,  
as anybody else might be called slow;  
but he is being patient with you all,  
wanting nobody to be lost and  
everybody to be brought to change his  
ways. The Day of the Lord will come like  
a thief, and then with a roar the sky will  
vanish, the elements will catch fire and  
fall apart, the earth and all that it  
contains will be burnt up. Since  
everything is coming to an end like this,  
you should be living holy and saintly  
lives while you wait and long for the Day  
of God to come, when the sky will  
dissolve in flames and the elements  
melt in the heat. What we are waiting  
for is what he promised: the new  
heavens and new earth, the place  
where righteousness will be at home. So  
then, my friends, while you are waiting,  
do your best to live lives without spot or  
stain so that he will find you at peace.  
The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Luke 3:4,6*

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

## GOSPEL

*Mark 1:1-8*

*A reading from the holy Gospel according  
to Mark.*

The beginning of the Good News about  
Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written  
in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look,  
I am going to send my messenger before  
you; he will prepare your way. A voice  
cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way  
for the Lord, make his paths straight,  
and so it was that John the Baptist  
appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming  
a baptism of repentance for the  
forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the  
people of Jerusalem made their way to  
him, and as they were baptised by him  
in the river Jordan they confessed their  
sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin,  
and he lived on locusts and wild honey.  
In the course of his preaching he said,  
‘Someone is following me, someone  
who is more powerful than I am, and I  
am not fit to kneel down and undo the  
strap of his sandals. I have baptised you  
with water, but he will baptise you with  
the Holy Spirit.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

## CREED

I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son,  
our Lord,  
(*All bow during these two lines*)  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again  
from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God  
the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting.  
Amen.

## ST OLIVER PLUNKETT'S PARISH NEWS

Please remember in your prayers the following:

**Anniversaries:** John Viola, Teresa Pati, Antonio Ambesi, Nora Matthews

**Those who are ill:** Maria Troise, Marjorie Del Rosario, Mary Mobbs, John Busuttill, Tina Guido, Genevieve Stannard, Anthony Xavier, Dean Ross, Windsor Jones, John Moore, Marie Virag, Dalmiro Bellio, Lamberto Cruz, Pasquale Buonomo, Sofia Ruggiero, Francesco Varone, Marta Tamayo

READERS:	9/10 December	16/17 December
Sat 5.00pm	L.Teoh(L), T. Ryan(R)	N. Farrell(L), C. Rowland(R)
Sun 8.45am	M. Ziccone (L), L. Di Nicola(R)	M. Ziconne(L), C.Di Orazio(R)
10.30am	E. Monaco(L), B. Watts(R)	S. Bernardo(L), R. Polastri(R)

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Sat 5.00pm	A. Taglieri	A. Giacotta
Sun 8.45am	B. Messina	M. Carabott
10.30am	C. Steere	B. Watts

## ST PAUL'S PARISH NEWS

**WE PRAY FOR:**

**Those who have died:** Salvatore Frazzetta, Lucia Iacono

**Anniversaries:** Francesco Denobile, Santa, Vito, Rocco & Bruno Montesano, Christina, Vito Lorenzo

READERS:	This Week	Next Week
Sat 6.30pm	Alfred Meilak	Judy O'Meara
Sun 9.00am	Pam & Trevor Atkinson	Alfred Meilak
10.30am	Anna D'Amato & G Navigero	Sam Stagliano & T/M Costanzo

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Sat 6.30pm	Mary De Marco	Alfred Meilak
Sun 9.00am	Alfred Meilak	Mary Carnovale
10.30am	Laura Scherma	Maria D'Angelo

### ST OLIVER'S CHRISTMAS MASSES

**Advent:** Morning PRAYER 5.45am Weekdays (St Pauls)

**NB: Saturday Vigil Mass as usual, however due to Christmas Vigil Mass falling on Sunday, THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE SUNDAY MORNING MASS 24/12 AT EACH CHURCH. 8.45am PASCOE VALE & 10.30am (ITALIAN) COBURG.**

**2023 Sunday** Christmas Eve Vigil 5.00 pm Carols  
5.30 pm Family Mass

Sunday Christmas Mass 9.30 pm Carols  
10.00 pm Mass

Monday Christmas Day 8.45 am & 10.30 am

**2023** Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Dec (NO MASS)

**2024**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Jan New Year's Day 10am (Pascoe Vale)

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**2023 Sunday** Christmas Eve Vigil 7.00 pm

Sunday Christmas Mass 11.40 pm Carols  
12.00 am Midnight Mass

Monday Christmas Day 9.00 am (English)  
10.30 am (Italian)

**2023** Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Dec (NO MASS)

**2024**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Jan New Year's Day 10am (Pascoe Vale)

### Parish Picnic Prosperity



The heavens poured down blessings on our Parish Picnic last Saturday with one rainfall after another.



Fr James was in good spirits, rounding up the adults, encouraging participation.

All who attended were in good spirits amidst the game-playing, face-painting, food-sharing and social-chatting.



The blessings were felt as all games and activities went ahead indoors and participation was plentiful.



A big **THANK YOU** to all who bought, brought and baked for the event to make it the success that it was.



### GIVING TREE



Thanks to the overwhelming generosity of everyone, baskets full of necessities AND Goodies are sorted and ready to be placed into beautiful hampers. No doubt that the many families who have reached out for help this year will benefit immensely. This is the Spirit of Christmas that we all hope and pray for each year, and you have all made it possible. CONGRATULATIONS!

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal online donations can be made to: Account: St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria Gift Fund BSB: 063-000 Account No: 1060 7556 Reference: X23 + your conferenceID. For receipt, please email [donation@svdp-vic.org.au](mailto:donation@svdp-vic.org.au) If you are interested in joining the St Vincent De Paul Society at Pascoe Vale contact 9354-1564. Thank you to all Donors!

### HAPPY 52<sup>nd</sup> ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY TO FR FRANK BUHAGIAR

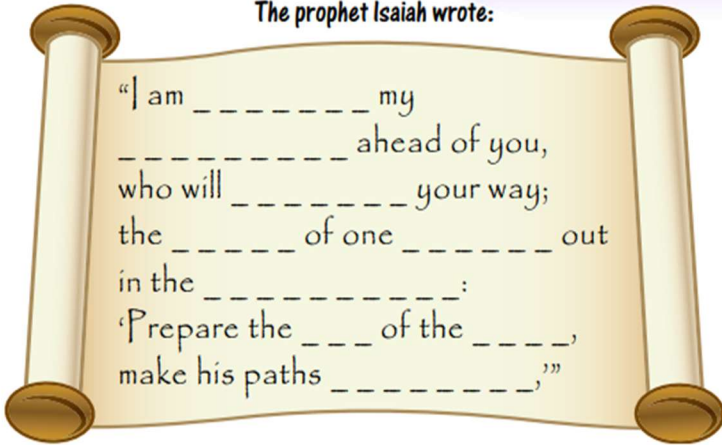
We celebrate Fr Frank Buhagiar's 52<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood this week! May God Bless him!

# Make a straight path for the Lord



2nd Sunday of Advent, Year B

The prophet Isaiah wrote:



crying  
 straight  
 way  
 voice  
 sending  
 prepare  
 wilderness  
 messenger  
 Lord



John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus by telling people to turn back to God and baptising them. He wore clothes made from camel's hair and wore a leather strap around his waist. For food he ate grasshoppers and wild honey. Draw a picture of John baptising someone in the Jordan River.

What are three things you can do to be ready for Jesus during this second week of Advent?

**CASHLESS PAYMENTS** St Oliver's  
 CDFPay for Parish:  
<https://bit.ly/CDFpayPascoeVale>  
**OR DIRECT DEPOSIT:**  
 St Olivers Church A/C:  
**BSB: 083-347 ACC: 55158 7979**  
 Presbytery A/C:  
**BSB: 083-347 ACC: 53102 0158**

**LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION:**  
**Collection** Thanksgiving \$ 1,201.30  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection** Presbytery \$ 458.05

**Safety of Children & all Vulnerable People.** We hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people, as a central and fundamental responsibility, of our parishes. The Parish Statement of Commitment and the Reporting Process, are on display in all churches, and all Parish Policies are available, on the website: [cam.org.au/Coburg](http://cam.org.au/Coburg)

**CASHLESS PAYMENTS** St Paul's  
 CDFPay Online Payments:  
<https://bit.ly/CDFpayCoburg>  
**OR DIRECT DEPOSIT:**  
 St Paul's Church A/C Presbytery A/C  
 BSB: 083-347 BSB: 083-347  
 Acc.: 67541 0884 Acc: 5310 20158

**LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION:**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Collection** Sacrificial \$ 705.00  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection** Presbytery \$ 323.00  
 We are very grateful for your support.

## PROGRAMS

### ST PAULS PARISH

#### ADORATION:

First Fri of month: 10.30am-12pm

#### BAPTISMS:

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday's of the Month at 12pm

#### COMMUNION TO SICK:

Thursdays & Fridays

#### ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

2 times a year (Lent & Advent).

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Sundays 10am

**ITALIAN PRAYER GROUP:** Wed 10.30 am

#### Legion of Mary:

Monday mornings at 10.30 am.

#### ANNUAL ITALIAN FEASTS: 2023/24

St Lucy Feast Day 10 Dec 2023 2pm

St Joesph Feast Day 17 Mar 2024 2pm

### ST OLIVER PLUNKETT'S PARISH

#### BAPTISMS:

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday's of the Month at 12pm

(By Appointment)

#### MARRIAGES:

By appointment with at least

6 months notice

#### CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

1<sup>st</sup> Sundays of the month during the 10.30am Mass (except during school holidays)

#### PARISH ACTIVITIES:

##### MONDAY:

**Christian Mediation- Chris Rowland**

7-8pm Parish Centre – 0411 440 746

##### TUESDAY:

**Italian Ladies Prayer Group**

10am Meeting Room

**St Vincent de Paul**

5.00pm Parish Centre

(last Tuesday of the month)

**Charismatic Prayer Group**

7.30pm Parish Centre

##### WEDNESDAY:

**Drop-In Centre**

1-3pm Church/Parish Centre

#### A WARM WELCOME TO NEW PARISIONERS

Please let us know that you have joined our community and if there is anything we can do for you. Are you new to our Parish? \_\_\_\_\_

Need Thanksgiving envelopes? \_\_\_\_\_

Would like a home visit and house blessing? \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete the details below and place in the collection plate at Mass or send to the Parish office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

To existing parishioners: if you would like to contribute on a regular basis using the envelopes, please complete the above. Thank you.