



# HOLY FAMILY

## DOVETON

*The only thing that counts is faith working through love. (Galatians 5:6)*

### THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD – Year A 25<sup>th</sup> December 2022

#### SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

The Gospel contrasts the birth of a child lying in the dire poverty of a manger to the grandeur of the Emperor Caesar Augustus who orders the census of the whole world.

We are brought to Bethlehem in a manger bereft of worldly grandeur – a poor child wrapped in swaddling clothes with shepherds standing by. God in the words of the Holy See “does not rise up in grandeur, but lowers himself into littleness. Littleness is the path he chose to draw near to us, to touch our hearts, to save us and bring us back to what really matters”. God, tenderness incarnate, the creator of the universe has no home. “Today, all is turned upside down: God comes into the world in littleness. His grandeur appears in littleness.”

Can we accept God’s ways of doing things? God makes himself little in the eyes of the world; we continue to seek grandeur. He lowers himself and we try to become great. Jesus is born to serve and we spend a lifetime pursuing success. “God does not seek power and might; he asks for tender love and interior littleness.”

We should ask God for “the grace of littleness” to teach us to love littleness and to help us to understand that littleness is the way to authentic greatness. He wants to inhabit our daily lives, the things we do each day at home, in our families, at school and in our workplaces, His is a message of immense hope. If he is present in the little things in our life what more do we need? Let us stop pursuing grandeur and the greed that never satisfies.

Acceptance of littleness means embracing Jesus in the little ones of today. Loving him in the least of our brothers and sisters, serving Him in the poor through whom He makes himself known. On this night of love may we have only one fear: that of offending God’s love, hurting him by despising the poor and needy with our indifference. Do I serve? Do I value the human dignity in my fellowman?

**Parish Priest:**  
Fr. Prince Joseph VC  
(John Prince)

**Parish Secretary:**  
Maureen Goonewardena

**Parish Manager:**  
Danny McCormick

**Acting Principal:**  
Pauline Moran

**Parish Bulletin:**  
David Naidoo  
Anthony Wong

**Child Safety Officer:**  
Bernadette Saubolle

**Sunday Masses:**  
Saturday Vigil .... 6.30pm  
Sunday..... 9.30am  
..... 11.00am  
Healing Mass .... 7.00pm

**Spanish Mass:**  
Saturday 4.00pm

**Weekday Masses:**  
Everyday 9.15am

**Reconciliation:**  
Tuesday 9.45am - 10.15am  
Saturday 9.45am - 10.15am

**Novena to Our Lady:**  
Saturday 9.00am

**Baptisms:** Second Sunday

**Divine Kids Bible Class:**  
Sunday 10.30am

**Parish Prayer Group:**  
Tuesday 7pm-8pm in the  
Big Hall

**Parish Halls:**  
Available for hire –  
Contact Parish Office

## HOLY FAMILY PARISH CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR LITURGIES – 2022

Date	Time
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	
Saturday 24 December	11.30 PM – Christmas Carols 12.00 AM – Midnight Mass
<b>Christmas Day</b>	
Sunday 25 December	10.00 AM
<b>Holy Family Parish Feast Day</b>	
Friday 30 December	9.15 am Mass followed by a cuppa in the Small Hall
<b>New Year Eve</b>	
Saturday 31 December	9.15 AM
Saturday 31 December	4.00 PM – Spanish Mass 11.00 PM – Thanksgiving Adoration
	12.00 AM – Midnight Mass
<b>New Year Day</b>	
Sunday 1 January	10.00 AM

### **Please Note:**

No Vigil Mass At 6.30 PM on Saturday –31 December,  
No Healing Mass At 7.00 PM on Sunday – 25 December  
and 1 January

Parishioners are reminded that for all Masses -  
especially the Christmas and NY liturgies, entrance will  
be via Power Road and **exiting the church will be via  
Pittosporum Grove to avoid traffic congestion.**

### **ERRATUM!!!!!!**

Last week's bulletin (printed version) contained a  
typographical error in that it referred to the  
ASSUMPTION of our lady as "Ascension".  
The fourth dogma should read: "**ASSUMPTION  
Mother Mary is assumed body and soul into heaven  
upon her earthly passing. She becomes our mediatrix  
to her Son.**"

## READINGS

### SUNDAY

#### **The Nativity of The Lord**

Is 62:11-12

Ps 96:1,6,11-12

Ti 3:4-7

Lk 2:15-20

### MONDAY

Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59

Ps 30:3-4,6,8,16-17

Mt10:17-22

### TUESDAY

1 Jn 1:1-4

Ps 96:1-2,5-6,11-12

Jn 20:2-8

### WEDNESDAY

1 Jn 1:5-2:2

Ps 123:2-5, 7-8

Mt 2:13-18

### THURSDAY

1 Jn 2:3-11

Ps 95:1-3,5-6

Lk 2:22-35

### FRIDAY

#### **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

Sir 3:2-6,12-14

Ps 127:1-5

Mt 2:13-15,19-23

### SATURDAY

1 Jn 2:18-21

Ps 95:1-2,11-13

Jn 1:1-18

## HOLY FAMILY PARISH FEAST DAY

On 30 December at 9.15 am Mass will be celebrated followed by a cuppa after Mass. All parishioners are invited to celebrate the Feast Day of our parish.

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### THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

After the annual celebration of the Paschal Mystery, the Church has no more ancient custom than celebrating the memorial of the Nativity of the Lord and of his first manifestations. This takes place at CHRISTMAS TIME.

Christmas Time runs from First Vespers (Evening Prayer I) of the Nativity of the Lord up to and including the Sunday after Epiphany.

Separately, the Nativity of the Lord has its own Octave i.e. eight-day feast. The Octave of Christmas includes feasts that were celebrated in the most ancient liturgical calendars and which have been associated with Christmas through tradition. These feasts include the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, St Stephen, St John, Holy Innocents.

The Octave Day (8<sup>th</sup> day) of the Nativity of the Lord is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God – 1<sup>st</sup> January.

The Octave of Christmas begins with the Nativity of our Lord and ends with The Solemnity of our Lady on 1<sup>st</sup> January.

*“Christmas is built upon a beautiful and intentional paradox; that the birth of the homeless should be celebrated in every home.”*

*G.K.  
CHESTERTON*

## MASS OF THANKSGIVING

A Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated on Tuesday 27 December at 6.30 pm, for volunteers; those who will be newly appointed and outgoing volunteers who have served in the parish (Leadership Team, Parish Pastoral Council, Finance Council, Choirs, Lectors, Eucharistic ministers, Altar Servers, Sacristans, Parish Secretary, Counters, Bus Drivers, Florist, Live streaming coordinators, leaders of Associations). Mass will be followed by fellowship and supper in the large hall.

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## WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023

The Archdiocese of Melbourne is offering **four pilgrimage options** to young people to attend **WORLD YOUTH DAY in Lisbon Portugal from 1-6 August 2023**.

All 18-35 year-old are invited and encouraged to participate in one of the world's most important events for youth.

For further information on all pilgrimages refer:

<https://udisciple.melbournecatholic.org/wyd>

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## CHRISTMAS TIME

Christmas inaugurates a new age in which life is not planned but given; in which one lives not for oneself, on the basis of one's own tastes but for God, and with God, because from Christmas onward God is God-with-us, Who lives with us, Who walks with us... Christmas is the victory of humility over arrogance, of simplicity over abundance, of silence over hubbub, of prayer over "my time", of God over "I".

Do I live the spirit of Christmas?

### Parish Office Hours

Monday .....9am-11am

Wednesday ...9am-12 pm

Friday .....9am-12pm

### Telephones

Presbytery 97924317

School 97911853

Child Safety Email ...

### Parish Website/Email

[holyfamilydoveton.org.au](http://holyfamilydoveton.org.au)

[doveton@cam.org.au](mailto:doveton@cam.org.au)

[holyfamilycso@cam.org.au](mailto:holyfamilycso@cam.org.au)

***Let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, and all the more as you see the day approaching. (Hebrews 10:25)***