



# HOLY FAMILY

## DOVETON

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

**Christ the King**  
**26<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

### **POPE ON HOPE**

One of the temptations people face in the modern world, for a variety of reasons, is the temptation towards despair. With the experience of war, conflict and other hardships creating immense pressures, many people ‘feel as if they are in a dark prison, where the light of the sun cannot enter ... We may say to ourselves, with Job: “Where then is my hope? Who will see my hope?” (Job 17:15). One of the consequences of despair is that we think ‘it is useless to do good, since it would not be appreciated or acknowledged by anyone. But hope is ‘essential’ for human beings to flourish. ‘Think for a moment. How can we live without hope? What would our days be like? Hope is the salt of our daily lives. Christian hope is no facile optimism, no placebo for the credulous: it is the certainty, rooted in love and faith, that God never abandons us and remains faithful to his promise: “Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me” (Psalm 23:4).

Christian hope is not a denial of sorrow and death; it is the celebration of the love of the risen Christ, who is always at our side, even when he seems far from us. After the flame of hope is kindled in us, there can be times when its risks being extinguished by the worries, fears and pressures of daily life. A flame needs oxygen to keep burning, in order to grow into a great bonfire of hope. The gentle breeze of the Holy Spirit nurtures our hope, and there are

several ways that we cooperate in this. The best way for people to nurture hope is through prayer. Prayer preserves and renews hope ... Praying is like climbing to a mountaintop: from the ground, the sun can be hidden by clouds, but once we climb beyond them, its light and warmth envelop us. We see once more that the sun is always there, even when everything around us seems dark and dreary.



## HOLY FAMILY PARISH CAROLS

The Annual Holy Family Christmas Carols will occur on Thursday 14 December at 7 pm in the big hall. You are invited to a cuppa after the Carols. Please invite your families to participate in this annual get-together to celebrate this beautiful gift of Christmas with our community.

## HOLY FAMILY PARISH MANAGER

Expressions of interest are invited to a Holy Family Parish Manager. Please contact Fr. Prince for more details. (Wilfred D' Couto, the current Parish Manager is concluding his term of office at the end of December 2023).

## HOLY FAMILY VOLUNTEERS DAY

A Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated on Wednesday 27 December, at 7pm for Holy Family Parish's volunteers, followed by a dinner. Volunteers, please save the date.

## FLOWERS FOR THE CHRISTMAS ALTAR

Donations for **flowers for the Christmas altar** will be gratefully accepted. Please put in an envelope marked "Flowers" and hand over at Piety Stall or the Sacristan at the time. Thank you for your generosity.

## DIVINE AUSTRALIA FIRST FRIDAY SERVICE

**1<sup>st</sup> December 2023, 6.45 pm**

Praise & Worship, Holy Mass, Healing Prayer

Led by Fr Sabu Adimakiyil VC



### Parish Office Opening Hours

Tuesday to Friday  
9.30am to 1.30pm

Presbytery T: (03) 97924317 | School T: (03) 97911853  
Parish W: [holyfamilydoveton.org.au](http://holyfamilydoveton.org.au)  
Parish E: [doveton@cam.org.au](mailto:doveton@cam.org.au)  
Parish Manager E: [hfparrishmanager@gmail.com](mailto:hfparrishmanager@gmail.com)  
Child Safety E: [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)*

**HOLY FAMILY PARISH, DOVETON**  
**CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR LITURGIES – 2023**

DATE	TIME
<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>	
<b>SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER</b>	<b>9.15 AM AND 11.00 AM (FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT)</b>
<b>SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER</b>	7.00 PM - CHRISTMAS CAROLS 7.30 PM - (FAMILY MASS) <span style="float: right;">SPANISH MASS AT 4 PM</span>
<b>SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER</b>	11.30 PM - CHRISTMAS CAROLS 12.00 AM - MIDNIGHT MASS
<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	
<b>MONDAY 25 DECEMBER</b>	10.00 AM MASS
<b>WEDNESDAY 27 DECEMBER</b>	7.00 PM THANKSGIVING MASS AND DINNER FOR VOLUNTEERS VOLUNTEERS' DAY
<b>THURSDAY 28 DECEMBER</b>	9.15 AM FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS BLESSING OF LITTLE ONES
<b>NEW YEARS EVE</b>	
<b>SUNDAY 31 DECEMBER</b>	10AM HOLY MASS (FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY)
<b>SUNDAY 31 DECEMBER</b>	11.00 PM THANKSGIVING ADORATION <span style="float: right;">SPANISH MASS AT 4 PM</span> 12.00 AM – MIDNIGHT MASS
<b>NEW YEARS DAY</b>	
<b>MONDAY 1 JANUARY</b>	10.00 AM MASS

**RECONCILIATION TIMES:**

19 – 23 December      9.45 am – 10.15 am (after the morning Mass)  
 Friday 22 December      6.00 pm – 8.00 pm

**PLEASE NOTE: NO HEALING MASS AT 7.00 PM ON SUNDAYS – 24<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER AND 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER**

