



HOLY FAMILY

DOVETON

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

2nd Sunday of Advent
10th December 2023

LOOK OUT FOR OTHERS, POPE FRANCIS

In his catechesis for the first Sunday of Advent, Pope Francis focused on the theme of vigilance.

He was referring to this Sunday's Gospel passage, in which Jesus issued a simple exhortation three times: 'Keep watch'.

The Holy Father noted that we sometimes think of this virtue as an attitude motivated by the fear of imminent punishment, but quickly assured the faithful that “this is certainly not the meaning of a Christian vigilance”.

Vigilance means keeping the heart ready

Jesus illustrates this with a parable, in which servants eagerly wait for their master's return. These servants have a close, affectionate relationship with the master and are not fearful, but eagerly anticipate his return out of love. They prepare diligently, wanting to welcome him warmly and joyfully when he comes back, like a happy family awaiting a special reunion.

Reflecting on this parable, Pope Francis noted that “*it is with this affection-filled expectation that we also want to prepare ourselves to welcome Jesus at Christmas*”.

So, Pope Francis continued, in the weeks leading up to special day, “Let us carefully prepare the house of the heart, so that it may be orderly and hospitable”.

Vigilance, he explained, means keeping the heart ready.



Parish Priest:

Fr. Prince Joseph VC
(John Prince)

Priest-In Residence:

Fr Sebastian Mappilaparambil
VC

Parish Secretary:

Caroline Allen

Parish Manager:

Wilfred D’Couto

Principal:

Paul Sharp

Child Safety Officer:

Florida Nugara

Catechists:

Christina D’Couto

Bulletin:

A & A Wong

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 6.30pm
Sunday..... 9.15am
..... 11.00am
Healing Mass 7.00pm

Spanish Mass:

Saturday 4.00pm

Weekday Masses:

Monday to Saturday 9.15am
Wednesday 7.00pm

Reconciliation:

Tuesday 9.45am - 10.15am
Saturday 9.45am - 10.15am

Novena to Our Lady:

Saturday 9.00am
Wednesday 7.00pm

Baptisms: Second Sunday

Divine Kids Bible Class:

Sunday 10.15am

Parish Prayer Group:

Tuesday 7.00pm-8.00pm

Parish Halls:

Available for hire –
Contact Parish Office

Share what you can

The Holy Father then invited the faithful to plan to use Advent to share with their brothers and sisters in need, giving listening, time, concrete help.

Dear friends, the Pope concluded, let us cultivate His expectation without being distracted by so many useless things “and without complaining all the time, but keeping our hearts alert, that is, eager for Him, awake and ready, impatient to meet Him”.

Source: Francesco Merlo, [Vatican News](#)

ARCHBISHOP’S ADVENT APPEAL FOR UKRAINE

In response to the continued conflict in Ukraine, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli has launched a special Advent appeal, the proceeds of which will go towards providing aid and practical assistance to those who have been displaced and are without basic supplies, especially as winter approaches.

‘There are no winners in war, only families torn apart. Sadly, this is the painful reality facing so many at this time,’ Archbishop Comensoli reflected. ‘I’m inviting the faithful of Melbourne to offer whatever they can at this time. And I pray that, together, we can be a sign of God’s nearness to those who need it most.’

All parishes have been sent cards and envelopes for the Advent Appeal, which we encourage you to distribute to your parishioners throughout the Season of Advent. Donations can be made using the envelopes or [QR code](#).



For more information and resources, please visit

<https://melbournecatholic.org/adventappeal>

READINGS

SUNDAY

Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11
Psalm 85:9-14
2 Peter 3:8-14
Mark 1:1-8

MONDAY

Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 85:9-14
Luke 5:17-26

TUESDAY

Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm 96:1-3,10-13
Matthew 18:12-14

WEDNESDAY

Saint Lucy
Isaiah 40:25-31
Psalm 103:1-4,8,10
Matthew 11:28-30

THURSDAY

Saint John of the Cross
Isaiah 41:13-20
Psalm 145:1,9-13
Matthew 11:11-15

FRIDAY

Isaiah 48:17-19
Psalm 1:1-4,6
Matthew 11:16-19

SATURDAY

Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11
Psalm 80:2-3,15-16,18-19
Matthew 17:9,10-13

SECOND COLLECTION

This weekend – 9/10 December – there will be a second collection for the Melbourne Overseas Mission which is a humanitarian organisation to provide assistance to developing countries as an outreach of the Catholic Church community in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Please donate generously.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION CLASSES

Classes for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

will commence on 15 February 2024.

Parents of children who wish to receive

First Holy Communion

in 2024 are kindly requested to register early at the Parish Office.



In the twilight of life, God will not judge us on our earthly possessions and human success, but rather on how much we have loved.

SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS

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.

WORKING BEE

Saturday 16 December – WORKING BEE – A working bee has been organised to clean parish church and surrounds. Please meet near Grotto immediately after the Saturday 9.15 am Mass till around 12 noon. With grateful thanks for your generosity in giving your time to cleaning the church and ground in preparation for Christmas.

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

Parish E: doveton@cam.org.au

Parish Manager E: hfparrishmanager@gmail.com

Child Safety E: 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)