

ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC PARISH DERNANCOURT

In the Pastoral Care of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate (OMI)

📍 1 Avoca Street Dernancourt, SA, 5075

☎ 8261 2428



www.stpiusxdernancourt.com.au

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A

22nd March 2026

Parish Priest

Fr John Sebastian OMI
parishpriest@stpiusxdernancourt.com.au

Parish Secretary

Ms Tanya Batty
secretary@stpiusxdernancourt.com.au

Office Hours

Thursday - Friday 9am-2pm

Safeguarding Officers

Judith Mohanaraj, Grace Rayappu,
Malcolm Davies & Dennis Rodrigues

Finance Committee

Jean Canil (Chair), Peter Roberts,
James Lloyd, Charlie Baldacchino &
Nicholas Perera.

Mass Times

Weekend Masses

Saturday (Vigil Mass) 6:30pm
Sunday 9:30am & 5:30pm

Weekday Masses

Tuesday - Friday 9:15am

Rosary

Tuesday - Friday 8:55am

Adoration

Friday 9:45am-11am
(during school terms)

Reconciliation

Saturday 11:30-12 noon

Parish Sunday School

Sunday 4:30pm-5:15pm
(during school terms)

Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals

Please call the Parish Office to arrange

Parish Prayer Network

All you need to do is call:
Marie S 0427 601 068 or
Marie T 8266 2223

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.



The gospel readings of the previous two Sundays focussed on water (Jn 4) and light (Jn 9). Today our focus is on life (Jn 11). The elements of water, light and life, simply point us to Christ, who is the source of all. When everything goes well in life there is no problem in expressing our belief in God, but when things are different to what we expect then there come crises in one's faith journey. The raising of Lazarus from death brings out clearly how Jesus invited both Martha and Mary to believe in Him as the source of their lives.

Today's Gospel also reminds us that we all need friends, even Jesus needed one. In the village of Bethany Jesus had three very special friends namely Martha, Mary, and their brother Lazarus. Their house always remained open to him. When we go deeper into this story of raising Lazarus from death, we can clearly see how Martha, Mary and Lazarus appreciated their friendship with Jesus and vice versa. Their request to come and pay a visit to his ill brother Lazarus tells us clearly how close they were to Jesus.

When Lazarus got sick, they sent an urgent message to him saying, "Lord the man you love is ill." Their hope was that he would drop everything and come and cure him. But surprisingly Jesus did not drop everything and rush to the bedside of his dying friend. Instead, he stayed on where he was for two whole days. We don't know why. His delay in coming must have been heartbroken for the sisters. Right in front of their eyes their brother's life was ebbing away and the one they believed could do something about it wasn't there.

The Gospel shows us how Martha and Mary were deeply saddened by the death of their beloved brother. Of the two, Mary seems to have been the worst affected. She wouldn't even leave the house. While they had sympathetic people around them, the one they most wanted to be with them was not there, that is Jesus their friend.

I am sure all of us would have gone through the experience of Martha and Mary, when something bad happened in our lives, especially to the one whom we loved most, we feel that God has abandoned us.

So, what can we do? We must imitate Martha. The story presents her as a model of faith. In her hour of grief, she ran to the Lord and poured out her sorrow to him. And when Jesus challenged her to believe, she made a wonderful profession of faith: "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into the world." When we suffer it seems as though God is absent. But when we pray, we come to realize that God is not absent, but is present in our suffering.

Fr. John Sebastian OMI, Parish Priest



St Pius X Primary School

8 Windsor Grove,
Windsor Gardens
Ph: 8266 9400



Catholic Schools in our Parish

Kildare College

96 Valiant Road,
Holden Hill
Ph: 8369 9999



St Paul's College

792 Grand Junction Road,
Gilles Plains
Ph: 8266 0622



PARISH, OBLATE & ARCHDIOCESE NEWS

St Vincent de Paul News

Our Parish Foodbank

We continue to need the specials: baked beans, canned tomatoes and canned spaghetti and we'd love the usual non-perishables such as long-life milk, tuna and cereal. The donations of long grain white rice last week were appreciated and have already been donated. BTW last week we took some of the cup noodles you give to a bedside carer in hospital who had no means to get food.

Wool

Donations of wool are appreciated. They can be left in the Church foyer. Special thanks for the donation last week

Bread Collection and Meeting dates

Next pick up: **Monday March 30:** Dot, Louis, Joe and Jessie Caruana

Next meeting date: **Monday April 13** at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

Want to get involved?

If you, or perhaps a friend, would like information about us, please contact our members (phone details are available from the Parish Office) or email: dcourtvinnies@outlook.com

For people in need, please phone Vinnies 1300 729 202

Regional Second Rite of Reconciliation

(DERNANCOURT-TEA TREE GULLY-MOGBURY-PARA HILLS)

To celebrate the joy of Easter, it is important to prepare spiritually. On **Tuesday 24 March at 7pm**, the *Second Rite of Reconciliation* will be held at St Pius X Parish. Please take advantage of this opportunity to prepare well for, and fully share in, the joy of Easter.

Stations of the Cross During Lent

Stations of the Cross are held in our Parish every Friday during Lent until Good Friday, at 6.30pm. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament commences at 6.00pm prior to the Stations. Please take the opportunity to share in this great spiritual tradition of the Church during Lent.

Lenten Reflection Group

Lent is a sacred time of prayer, reflection, and renewal. The Church invites us to reflect daily on our lives in the light of the Gospel. Our Parish Lenten Reflection is held each Tuesday during Lent, immediately after the 9:15 am Mass, through to Holy Week. All are warmly invited.

Annual Archdiocesan Chrism Mass

Most Reverend Archbishop O'Regan invites all parishioners to the Annual Archdiocesan Chrism Mass on Monday of Holy Week, 30 March 2026, at St Francis Xavier's Cathedral at 6:00 pm. A wonderful opportunity to pray for our Archbishop and clergy.

Altar Servers Training

All altar servers are kindly invited to attend a training session in preparation for Holy Week.

Date: Tuesday, 31 March

Time: 5:00 pm

Your presence is greatly appreciated as we prepare for the upcoming Holy Week liturgies.

Oblate Youth SA

All youth aged 16-30 are welcome to join Oblate Youth in South Australia. For more information regarding upcoming youth events, please refer to the noticeboard in the Church foyer.

De Mazenod Family

St Pius X Catholic Parish Dernancourt contact person: Jos Hensing (m) 0452 300 063

For more information please visit <https://demazenodfamily.com.au/>

Marian Procession

Each year the Archdiocese hosts the annual Marian Procession in honour of Our Lady. This year on **Sunday 17th May 2026 at 2.00pm**, the event will celebrate 77 years and continues to be the longest standing consecutive event in the Australian Catholic Church. Please place this date in your calendars. Further details to follow.

Marist Brothers Alberton – 100th Anniversary

The Marist Brothers are celebrating 100 years since their move from Port Adelaide to Alberton. 1926 – 2026: A century of faith, education and community spirit. Friends and Old Scholars are invited to join us.

The invitation is also extended in a particular way to Old Scholars of Mount Carmel Girls School, whose shared history and close association forms an important part of this story.

Details: **12pm Tuesday 2 June 2026** at Alberton Hotel (124 Port Road, Alberton)

Morning Reflection with Fr Tom

“Dying and Rising with Christ – Praying the Triduum”

Join us for our next Morning Reflection with Fr Tom McDounough CP on March 28th at the Monastery. As the title suggests, we immerse ourselves in the attitudes, prayers and joys of being totally alive in Christ. We remember that Easter is not a weekend, but seven weeks of celebration and the beginning of Heaven on Earth.

Doors open at 9:00am. Morning tea will be provided. Participants are welcome to bring a packed lunch to enjoy in The Monastery Gardens. Bookings are essential. Please contact the Monastery office (ph) 8338 8700 or (e) conference@themonastery.net.au

Good Friday Night Walk

Young people and families are warmly invited to join an evening pilgrimage walk through the heart of the city. As we journey together into the stillness of the night, we will pause to reflect on the significance of this sacred day and create space for hope, even in moments of darkness.

Details: Friday 3 April 2026 - 7:30pm start until late (approx. 11:30pm) beginning at Mary MacKillop Plaza (next to St Francis Xavier Cathedral) and concluding at St Francis Xavier Cathedral. Walking distance approximately 6–6.5km. There will be 3 moments of contemporary prayer, reflection, and worship - at the beginning, midpoint and end of the pilgrimage.

Hosted by the Catholic Office for Youth and Young Adults (COYYA), this all-ages pilgrimage weaves together prayer, scripture, music and reflective moments inspired by the faith and leadership of young people across the Archdiocese. We invite everyone - young people, families, and the wider community - to step into this shared journey. Together, we will honour the solemn beauty of Good Friday, lift up the voices and presence of our young people, and deepen our reflection on the mystery and hope of Easter.

Registration <https://www.trybooking.com/DIYHL>

Life FM's Greece: In the Footsteps of Paul, Tour October 2026

Join Liam from Life FM's breakfast show, *Bec and Liam*, for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to visit the very sites St Paul walked during his ministry, including Corinth, Mars Hill, Philippi and Thessaloniki. You'll also cruise into Ephesus and visit the home where the Virgin Mary lived her final years, as well as cruise to Patmos, where you'll visit the Cave of the Apocalypse and be able to stand where St John stood. You'll also make stops in Santorini and Mykanos.

This tour includes air fares, a three-night cruise, transport, accommodation and most meals, and also in part supports Life FM in its fundraising to grow in its mission to positively influence listeners across Adelaide through the Gospel.

Readings: Fifth Sunday of Lent (A)

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

The Lord promises to raise his people from the dead.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 129. R. v.7

(R.) With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11

The Spirit of God dwells in us.

Gospel Acclamation: John 11:25. 26

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: John 11:1-45

Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead.

Next Week's Readings:

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Year A

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7
Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11
Gospel: Matthew 27:11-54

Ministry Roster

Weekend 28 & 29 March

Saturday 6:30pm Vigil

Commentator: Anna Szczepanik

Readers: Hughette Riganese and Nicholas Perera

Gospel: (N) Jean Canil (O/C) Rod Hern

EMHC: Marie Smith and Roman Szczepanik

Music: James Lloyd

Sunday 9:30am

Commentator: Jos Hensing

Readers: Sarah Alford and Grace Rayappu

Gospel: (N) Bernadette Davies (O/C) Rebecca Wood

EMHC: Malcolm Davies and Doris Taylor

Music: Vietnamese Group

Sunday 5:30pm

Commentator: Van Bonita

Readers: Tessa Murena and Nicole Abeywickrema

Gospel: (N) Mark McCarthy (O/C) Susan Timpani

EMHC: Tony Gagliardi and Sanjula Perera

Music: Filipino Choir

Altar Linen: Elizabeth

Counters: Hans and Dianne

Church Cleaners: (Dusting) Wynne and Surani
(Team G) Van Vu; Tuyen; Judith; Ravi

Morning Tea: (5th April - EASTER)

Please note there is NO morning tea.

Upcoming Events

Every Tuesday during Lent

Lenten Reflection Group (after 9.15am Mass)

Every Friday during Lent

Adoration (6.00pm) Stations of the Cross (6.30pm)

Tuesday 24th March

Regional Second Rite of Reconciliation (7pm)
at St Pius X Parish, Dernancourt

Sunday 29th March

Palm Sunday

Tuesday 31st March

Altar Servers Training for Holy Week (5pm)

Saint of the Week: St. Cyril of Alexandria

Cyril is a Bishop and Doctor of the Church and was born in 376 in Alexandria, Egypt. Cyril received a classical and theological education and was ordained by the Patriarch and later succeeded him. In 430 Cyril became embroiled with Nestorius, Patriarch of Constantinople, who was preaching that Mary was not the Mother of God since he taught that Christ was two persons, Divine and human, and consequently Mary should not have the word theotokos (God-bearer) applied to her. Cyril persuaded Pope Celestine I to convoke a synod at Rome, which condemned Nestorius and affirmed the Nicene Creed that there is one person the Lord Jesus Christ with a human and divine nature.

In 431 Cyril presided over the third General Council at Ephesus which condemned all the tenets of Nestorius and his followers. Emperor Theodosius II arrested Cyril but released him on the arrival of Papal Legates who confirmed the council's actions against Nestorius and declared Cyril was correct. During the rest of his life, Cyril wrote treatises that clarified the doctrines of the Trinity.

Planned Giving

The Planned Giving Programme is an important part of the Parish and assists us to maintain all aspects of the Church and Priests. Please consider joining the Planned Giving Programme.

For more information contact the Parish Finance Officer on finance@stpiousxdernancourt.com.au

EFT First Collection Details

NAME: TRUSTEES OF MOMI

BSB: 083 347

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 1134 904 72

REFERENCE: 1st Collection and your name

*The First Collection supports the
Oblate Fathers and Brothers.*

EFT Second Collection Details

BANK: CBA

NAME: CATHOLIC PARISH DERNANCOURT

BSB: 066 782

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 100 000 048

REFERENCE: 2nd Collection and your name

The Second Collection supports the Parish

We Pray ...that the sick will be healed by Christ

Trudy Thain, John McManus, Des O'Reilley, Anna Feircloagh, Carmela Vello, Chad Oliver, Frank Habets, Heather Hier, Anne Halman, Virginia Lampe, Garnet Gamet, May Green, Louise Rhodes, Anna Cicharello, Viv & John, Barbara Stirling, Kay Morrison, Alison Hellams, Tom Trainor, John, Barry Whitford, Brenton Powell, Tracy Mifsud, Michael, Cynthia Edwards, Peter Comas, George Marshall, Jim Corkill, Lisa Johnstone, Margaret Musolino, Scott, John Jordan, Colleen Wallace, Matt Basedow, Helen Starr, Darryl Ferguson, Anne & Don Brown, Denzil Simmons, Peter Hensing, Amelia Stone.

RIP:

Please ring the parish office and let us know, whose names you would like listed for prayer.