

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF GERALDTON



St Francis Xavier Cathedral

Administrator Fr Gerard Totanes VG
Assistant Priests Fr Savio Nguyen & Fr Joel Nyongesa
Nagle Chaplain Fr Bernard Balaraj
Sunday Masses **Saturday Vigil** 6pm
Sun 7:30am, 9:30am and 6pm
Weekday Masses **Mon-Fri** 7am **Fri** 12:05pm
Saturdays & Public Holidays 9am
Confessions **Fri** 11:30-11:55am
Sat 11am-12pm & 5:30-5:55pm



St John's Rangeway



St Peter's Greenough

St Lawrence's Bluff Point

Mass Times **Wednesday** 10:30am
Saturday Vigil 6:00pm **Sunday** 9:00am
Confessions **Saturday** 5:30-5:55pm or by appointment



Nazareth House

Monday-Saturday 9:30am **Sunday** 10:00am

St John's Rangeway **Sunday Mass** Currently Suspended

St Peter's Greenough **Sunday Mass** 8:00am



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

11 February 2024

VOCATION VIEW: "The Lord will bring light to all that is hidden in darkness."
 He can only bring that light if you will be his hands and his feet and his heart in the world. Be people of light.

Project Compassion Sunday

Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **for all future generations.**



With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support communities around the

world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2024 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future**



generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available in the Church today.

Alternatively by calling 1800 024 413 or by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion



Lent 2024

The season of Lent commences this Wednesday, 14th February

Ash Wednesday - 14th February

Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence for all Catholics between 14 and 65 years of age, except those who may be excused due to infirmity or ill health.



Ash Wednesday Services

Masses for Ash Wednesday, including the distribution of ashes, will be as follows:

St Francis Xavier Cathedral : 7am, 12:05pm and 6pm

St Lawrence's Bluff Point : 9:05am (Under Cover Area)

Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday during Lent at 6pm in the Cathedral commencing on Friday 16th February.

Little Black Book for Lent

A beautiful resource for daily reflections in Lent, the *Little Black Book* is available in the Church today for \$4 each. The reflections commence from today onwards. Please put the money in the bowl and take your copy. If you haven't got money today, take the book and bring the money next week. Thank you.

Lenten Reflections commencing tomorrow

All are welcome to attend the weekly reflections on Sunday Gospels during Lent, on every Monday 5:30-6:30pm in the Catholic Centre commencing tomorrow 12th February which will continue until the Holy Week. Resources of this program are from the Diocese of Wollongong. Please ring the parish office for registration.



Pieta

First Reconciliation / Confession this year

Sacrament of first Reconciliation/Confession will be celebrated in our parishes next Month.

Preparation classes for After School Program

The children from non-Catholic Schools for the first Reconciliation this year have already commenced their preparation classes last week. It will continue every Wednesday until the celebration.

Parent/Child Meeting this Wednesday

Candidates and their parents, from St Francis Xavier Primary School, St John's Primary School and After School Program should attend the Parent/Child meeting this Wednesday, 14th February 5-6pm in the Catholic Centre.

Commitment Mass Next Weekend

Candidates and parents are kindly requested to attend one of the following Masses next weekend for making their commitment.

Saturday 17th Feb at 6pm in the Cathedral or Bluff Point

Sunday 18th Feb at 7.30am, 9:30am or 6pm in the Cathedral

Sunday 18th Feb at 9.00am at St Lawrence's Bluff Point

Saturday 24th Feb at 6pm in the Cathedral

Rangeway students to attend one of the above Masses

Rangeway Church is closed temporarily

St John's Church at Rangeway has closed with immediate effect due to the extensive damage of the ceiling. There will not be any Masses or events in the Church until the damage is assessed and rectified, which might take a few months. Parishioners are requested to use other churches for attending Mass or arranging any rituals until the church is safely operative.



Parish Office & Holy Shop

Opening Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm & 1:30 - 4pm Monday-Friday

Safeguarding Officers 0470 207 707

11 Maitland Street, Geraldton, WA 6530

PO Box 46, Geraldton, WA 6531

sfxcath@westnet.com.au

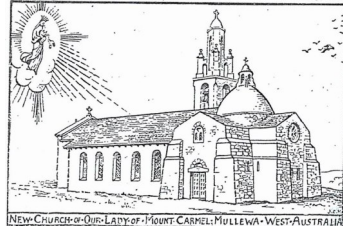
08 9964 1608 / 08 9964 2716

www.geraldtoncathedral.org

If you require a priest in emergency, please phone 9964 1608 (24/7)

Publication on the history of Mullewa Church

Monsignor Hawes Heritage Inc is working towards a publication about the history of Our Lady of Mt Carmel Church Mullewa over the 100 years since the laying of the Foundation Stone in 1924, with particular emphasis on the life of the Priest/Architect John Cyril Hawes. Past Parishioners and their family members, and Mullewa residents, are invited to contribute their memories, photographs, and documents relating to significant events in the church and parish, or any anecdotes relating to the life of John Hawes. Contributions can be posted or emailed to Gerry Eastman, PO Box 46 Geraldton 6531 or monsignorhawes@gmail.com or left at Bishop's House 7 Maitland Street ASAP. Please ensure your contact details are included. (We cannot guarantee that your information will be featured in the publication, however it may be used in displays and/or archived for future use).



An open invitation is extended to all who have any connection to or interest in the history of Our Lady of Mt Carmel Church and the life and work of Monsignor Hawes, to join us in Mullewa on September 14th 2024 to commemorate this centenary. The celebrations will commence with Mass at 11 a.m. followed by a social gathering with light lunch and refreshments provided. Coach transport from Geraldton will be available if required. *Please respond to advise attendance via our website www.monsignorhawes.com, contact Gerry on 0417 92 997 or email monsignorhawes@gmail.com*

Lent with Catholic Guy, Bruce Downes

Lent is a time when we can grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Easter. Be inspired. Be refreshed. Be renewed! For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is FREE and you can sign up here: <https://BruceDownes.org/Lent>
Go to BruceDownes.org for more information.

Children's Liturgy Suspended

Children's Liturgy in the Cathedral is currently suspended due to the lack of volunteers to run it.

The Wondrous Gems of John Cyril Hawes

26th April \$75 3:00-7:30

Here's your chance to spend a relaxing afternoon discovering all the hidden gems of Monsignor Hawes in Geraldton. Have you been in the Cathedral Crypt or The Hermitage? Have you seen the artwork inside the chapel in the grounds of Utakarra Cemetery? Have you enjoyed the hospitality of the Irish Club? Join us on a Coach Tour of these and other buildings and learn a little more about our amazing Priest/Architect. Book online www.monsignorhawes.com or Phone Gerry 0417 912997.



Friday Fast

Parishioners and Families are invited to help the Friday Fast project by going without a little food or drink on Fridays (or any other day!) and putting your contribution, no matter how small it is, into a yellow envelope on the table at the back of the church and placing it in the collection plate each weekend. Lent is coming up and this is a good time to think about just how blest we are here in Australia and how desperate so many other people are. This year we will be helping Sr. Christy at St Mary's Home for vulnerable children in New Guinea. Our thanks to you all for your support and any queries to Yvonne Fahl 0400 978 284.

Apply to become a YouthCARE Chaplain today!

The role of supporting wellbeing for everyone within our school communities remains an important one as it gives our youth a better chance at a fulfilling journey along their education pathway.



Minimum requirements:

Love God and participation in a Christian Faith Community.
Certificate IV in youth work, community work or equivalent.
(This can be attained during first 12 months of service).

Look us up online at youthcare.org.au or contact Peter Hanrahan by email peter.hanrahan@youthcare.org.au or Mob: 0428 119 622

Weekly Reflections | Ash Wednesday



It is curious that this year Ash Wednesday happens to fall on the same day as St Valentine's Day. This doesn't happen very often. St Valentine's Day is a great occasion for florists and restaurants. Some people get carried away and arrange to propose marriage in hot air balloons and beside beautiful waterfalls. This is all great fun, and it is delightful to see people dizzy with love.

We all know that real love is about more than the good times. It is a commitment to grow together and encounter each other more and more deeply, even when the going is tough. There are legends about St Valentine but it's not clear who he may have been. The chances are, however, that he was a martyr in the early period of the Christian story. He knew that love meant sacrifice. Love lays down its own life to give life to

others.

Ash Wednesday is the perfect day to think about love. We don't see flowers in church today and we are asked to eat modestly.



Leaia sits with her daughter in their home in Samoa.

Photo: Laura Womersley/
Caritas Australia

Today, we begin our journey towards our observance and celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter. The cross of Jesus is the ultimate symbol of how profoundly God loves the world.

Lent is a time when we are also asked to consider how authentically we make God's love visible to others. The reading today from St Paul reminds us that 'we are ambassadors for Christ.' This means taking

risks and reaching beyond our comfort zones to share a message with a world that is often indifferent and doesn't want to hear it.

Each year, through Project Compassion, Caritas Australia offers us a significant opportunity to become ambassadors for Christ. The prophet Joel says, 'Why should it be said among nations, "where is their God?"' In other words, we must try to live the message of Jesus, which is one of justice, compassion, inclusion and extravagant love. Today's Psalm is a reminder that God speaks through us:

*Give me again the joy of your help,
With a spirit of fervour sustain me,
O Lord, open my lips,
And my mouth shall declare your praise.
the Lord's way to the poor.'*

- Written by Michael McGirr

Diocesan Office

(Opening Hours: 8:30am - 4pm Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri | 8:30am - 1pm Wed)

Address 7 Maitland Street, Geraldton, WA 6530

Mail PO Box 46, Geraldton, WA 6531
Phone 08 9921 3221

Web www.geraldtondiocese.org.au
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The Old Testament Law existed to protect God's people from physical and moral hazards that could harm the whole community. The Law's emphasis on spiritual and bodily purity established how God's people could live together in a healthy relationship with God and each other.

And a leper was a danger to the whole community. While leprosy, more commonly known today as Hansen's disease, is still a highly contagious infection, in ancient times, it was incurable, and its diagnosis was virtually a death sentence.

The only thing a community could do to protect itself was to quarantine those infected permanently. As a result, lepers had to live outside walled cities, could no longer enter God's presence in the Temple and were forbidden to interact with the community. Even a chance encounter with a leper could make someone unclean.

To re-enter right relationship with God and the community, a leper would need to be healed and ceremonially purified. The process required a Temple priest to investigate a leper claiming to have been healed and then pronouncing them fit to re-enter contact with God and with other

people. The healing of leprosy was so rare that many rabbis considered it akin to raising someone from the dead and the rare holiness of the healer.

The leper in today's gospel identifies Jesus as the



one through whom the power of God is uniquely present. Instead of notifying Jesus of his condition by shouting "unclean, unclean" and avoiding contact with Jesus, as the Law demanded, the leper's plea of "If you wish, you can make me clean" shows his utter confidence in Jesus' power. And instead of avoiding the leper to preserve his cleanness, Jesus touches him. From the perspective of the leper, this may have been the first time another human being touched him in years. In this moment, Jesus restores both human and divine contact to the

leper who had been cut off from both.

The response of Jesus to the leper is his response to all of us who have been devastated by the effects of sin, sickness, and death. Jesus is not disturbed, scandalised, or tainted by any human impurity. Instead, he restores in us the capacity for communion with God and others.

As St Paul reminds us, the true fulfilment of the Law, and the primary healing work of God, is cleanness from the disease of sin, which rots the inside of a person and prevents authentic communion. As Jesus says elsewhere in the gospels, "First clean the inside of the cup, so that the outside also may become clean."

Jesus' holiness goes beyond what the Temple priests could accomplish and what the Law of Moses could prescribe. Jesus can purge uncleanness from everyone who comes to him in faith since no defilement can touch him. Jesus does not just pronounce us clean, like the Temple priests could, but he makes the whole person clean, inside and out.

Joseph Doyle @ Majellan Media 2023 #4062



If you or family members are admitted to hospital (or sick and at home) and wish to receive holy communion/pastoral visit, please ring the parish office on 9964 1608. You can also request the hospital staff to inform the Parish Office that you have been admitted in the hospital.

Please pray for those who are ill:

Brad Borrows, Ray Sloan, Isabelita Calimag, Sue Harris, Rose Ralph, Noli Soliven, Reg Maisey, Megan Aylmore, Maria Salamone, Bernard Rooney, Tim Conway, Margaret John, Maureen Burke, Joe (Giuseppe) Gaudio, Laura Drew, Andres Rodillas, Derek Levett, Peter Scarpuzza, Diana Bennett, Erica Pirrottina, Kim-Maree Kelly Shirley Travis, Allan Malonzo, Una McFadden.

For the deceased: Frank & Lina Zinetti, Jim & Nancy Ward, Don McDonald, Rosetta & Anselmo Scarpuzza, Monica Clune, Antonio, Grazia, Nunzio and Vince Tascone.

Anniversaries: Bernie Clune, Gesualdo Masiello, Cono Lanza Cariccio, Phil Canny, Matthew Donovan and Cletus Heelan.

Recently Deceased: Francesca Oliveri and Louis Eeles.



Stella Maris Girl's Reunion

Stella Maris College 1974 batch reunion will be held on Sunday, 3rd March commencing with Holy Mass celebrated in the Cathedral at 9:30am followed by tours and other activities. All batch mates, please mark your diary!

"The Lord measures out perfection neither by the multitude nor the magnitude of our deeds, but by the manner in which we perform them." – St. John of the Cross

THE PILGRIM ROSARY STATUE OF THE CATHEDRAL

The Pilgrim Rosary statue will be with Mrs Amy Zinetti at 14 Mellows Place, Rangeway until 23rd February.

Rosary prayed at **5pm on Monday-Friday**



Holy Hour with Benediction at St Lawrence's

Every second Sunday of the Month 7:45-8:45am.

Last Sunday of each month 3-4pm - Divine Mercy holy hour



Exposition in the Cathedral

Every Thursday after 7am Mass until 8am, Saturdays 8:30-9:00am followed by Mass and First Fridays 7:30-9:30pm with benediction.

SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS OF THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF GERALDTON
We thank them for their commitment to the children and the vulnerable of our parishes.



Amy Zinetti



Leonie Golding



Melinda Jupp



Simon Place



Ron Pace



Rosemary Taylor

Safe and Supported

Contact Number 0470 207 707 | Email: sgo@westnet.com.au

Every Child, in every community needs a fair go



Entrance Antiphon

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

First Reading (Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46)

A reading from the book of Leviticus

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons. 'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 31)

**R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble,
and you fill me with the joy of salvation.**

Happy the man whose offence is forgiven, whose sin is remitted. O happy the man to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, in whose spirit is no guile. **R.**

But now I have acknowledged my sins; my guilt I did not hide. I said: 'I will confess my offence to the Lord.' And you, Lord, have forgiven the guilt of my sin. **R.**

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, exult, you just! O come, ring out your joy, all you upright of heart. **R.**

Second Reading (1 Corinthians 10:31-11:11)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone - to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved. Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! ... A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.....**Alleluia!**

Gospel (Mark 1:40-45)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started



talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

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.

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, (**bow for the following line ***)

*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.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Genesis 9:8-15 | Psalm 24 | 1 Peter 3:18-22 | Mark 1:12-15

Baptism Preparation Meeting this Week

The next Baptism preparation meeting will be held this Tuesday, 13th February at **5:30pm** in the Parish Seminar Room. This meeting is mandatory for the eldest child to be baptized. *For booking, please contact the Parish Office on 9964 1608 or Email: sfxcath@westnet.com.au*



32nd Annual World Day of the Sick | Today

Thirty Two years ago, Saint John Paul II instituted the World Day of the Sick to encourage the people of God, Catholic health institutions and civil society to be increasingly attentive to the sick and to those who care for them. *Message of Pope Francis can be read at https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/sick/documents/20211210_30-giornata-malato.html*

Parish Finances

Contributions of 4th February 2024

	Cathedral	Rangeway	Bluff Point
Priests' Collection \$	1760.55	-	678.50
Planned Giving \$	638.00	210.00	412.00
Parish Collection \$	782.00	-	341.05
Friday Fast \$	91.30		

