

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF GERALDTON



St Francis Xavier Cathedral

Administrator Fr Gerard Totanes VG
Assistant Priests Fr Savio Nguyen
Nagle Chaplain Fr Bernard Balaraj
Mass Times Saturday Vigil 6:00pm
 Sunday 7:30am, 9:30am and 6:00pm
 Monday – Friday 7:00am Friday 12:05pm
Saturdays & Public Holidays 9:00am
Confessions Friday 11:30am -11:55am
 Saturday 11:00am -12:00pm & 5:30-5:55pm

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

Second Sunday of Advent

Year A

7 December 2025

VOCATION VIEW: "The earth shall be filled with knowledge of the Lord."
 Who taught you knowledge of the Lord, and who are you teaching today?

Advent

A Saviour has been born for us, has died and risen for us. We look for him to come again, because we do not yet see the fullness of his Kingdom. This looking forward in time is the second meaning of Here he comes.

In the epistle readings of Advent reading this year, Paul and James urge their communities - and us - to wait patiently for the completion of our salvation. And here he comes right now. Christ is present today in his Church in word, sacrament and community. We can see him in the faces of the poor, the suffering and the powerless.



Advent Wreath Ceremony

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, your coming was proclaimed by the prophet Isaiah who calls us to be a signal to the nations and to recognise the Messiah in our midst.
All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, you come among us now. St Paul reminds us to treat each other as Christ treats us and so give glory to the God and Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, you will come again in glory. John the Baptist calls us to 'repent for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

250 Years of Missionary Service!

Beginnings of the Presentation Sisters

On Christmas Eve in 1775, Nano Nagle, the Foundress, began what was to become the Congregation of the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary.



Here in Geraldton, we celebrate this great achievement today with a thanksgiving Mass in the Cathedral at 9:30am, followed by morning tea in the Catholic Centre.

Inviting your esteemed presence in these great events!

Welcome back our seminarians

Our Seminarians Tuan Dang, Tho Hoang and Phong Nguyen will be back in Geraldton for Christmas–new year break from tomorrow until early February. Please welcome them as well as keep them in your prayers and thoughts as they left their families to become Priests for our diocese.



Second Rite of Reconciliation Tomorrow

In preparation for Christmas, the Second Rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated tomorrow on 8th December at 7:00 pm in the Cathedral. There will be many priests available on this occasion for individual confessions. Welcome all to use this opportunity to worthily receive Jesus.



Community Christmas Carols at Rangeway Church

Saint John's parishioners are very enthusiastic to hold a Christmas Carols while the Church is getting ready to be operative very soon!. The Carols will be at the Church grounds on Sunday 21st December. Welcome all to be present by 5:30pm for a 6pm start and sing along!



"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."
 – Gandhi

Christmas Lunch for all Volunteers

Volunteers have very important roles in the day to day life of our Parishes. Many of our ministries run smoothly because of the generosity of our volunteers. A big thank you to all sacristans, altar servers, special ministers, Acolytes, choir members, readers, hospitality ministers, GodStart team members, children's liturgy team members, catechists, youth ministry members, counters and safeguarding officers. Thank you also to all other members who are involved directly or indirectly for the hassle free operation of our Parishes.



As a sign of appreciation, all volunteers are invited to a Christmas lunch next Sunday, 14th December in the Catholic Centre at 12:00 pm.

Please RSVP by this Wednesday to the Parish Office.



Today Sunday 7th December

at Maitland Park, Geraldton

Family Activities from 5 pm | Carols from 7 pm

Smoke, Vape & Alcohol free event.

Parish Office & Holy Shop Opening Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm & 1:30 - 4pm Monday-Friday

11 Maitland Street, Geraldton, WA 6530

PO Box 46, Geraldton, WA 6531

@ gtonparish@geraldtoncatholic.org.au

www.geraldtoncatholic.org



Safeguarding Officers 0470 207 707

08 9964 1608 / 08 9964 2716

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

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Tomorrow Monday | 8th December | Mass at 7 am

The Immaculate Conception refers to the state that the Blessed Virgin Mary was free from Original Sin from the very moment of her conception in the womb of her mother, Saint Anne. Mary is the first fruits of her Son's redemption and a prophetic model of what the Church is called to be.



Do you have any spare iPads to donate?

The Cathedral is looking for a few iPads in good working condition. If you have any used spare iPads and happy to donate, please contact the Parish or Diocesan Office.

Free Community Christmas Lunch at QEII Centre Thursday, 25 December 12 - 2pm

Centacare warmly invites community members in need, or those who find themselves alone this festive season, to join us in a joyous celebration on Christmas Day. To register your interest in attending, volunteering or to make a donation, please call 9921 1433.



Ministry of Pastoral Visitation

You are invited to be part of the Ministry of Pastoral Visitation team which will reach out to the bereaved and housebound or visit Nursing Homes with Sr Flora. When visiting homes you will go with another team member and through this much needed ministry, you will give comfort to those who've lost the loved ones and uplift the housebound and lonely, just as Jesus did when he went from home to home. There are certain Safeguarding requirements. Please leave your details with Benny at the Parish Office to register your interest and to be contacted for further information.

Phone 9964 1608 or email gtonparish@geraldtoncatholic.org.au

Thank You With great gratitude we thank St Lawrence's Parishioners for their most generous contributions to our Special Collection. The amount received was \$1,160 and this will go towards purchasing a large TV to have mounted onto the wall of the Church. We have found it necessary to replace the old overhead projector we currently use for our masses, funerals and other celebrations as the quality has diminished, so that it will be clearer and legible for all who participate.



New readers' roster available

New roster starting from this weekend for the Cathedral readers is available now. It was emailed a week ago to all readers. If you wish to have a hard copy, please collect it from the Sacristy. Thank you.



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.

When you Call After Hours

Afterhours phone calls are expected for emergency pastoral care only. For any other enquiries and bookings must be made during the office hours. If the duty Priest is involved in a ministry when you call, for example during a Mass, he won't be able to pick it up. So please try after some time or leave a clear voice message with your full name and phone number for him to call you back. Thank you.

Diocesan Office

Address 7 Maitland Street
Geraldton, WA 6530

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

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

Web www.geraldtondiocese.org.au
Email dioger@geraldtoncatholic.org.au



Bishop's Christmas Communio Appeal

St Paul asks us to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated us. As we approach the celebration of the greatest gift to mankind, may we consider giving our own gift of life via the Communio Appeal.

"Together we can make a difference".

Scan the QR Code or click on the link
<https://geraldtoncathedral.org/communio/>
for more details and mode of payments.



St Lawrence's Church Plant Sale

A Plant Sale will be held on Saturday 20th December from 9 am to 12 noon at Fr Gerard's patio by the church. Fr Gerard is selling his treasured plants before he goes to Karratha. This is a plant sale not to be missed. Come along and choose something special from the fantastic selection as there may be something there for you! The money earned will go to St Lawrence's Church to cover running costs and upkeep.

Seasons of Hope - Centacare Christmas Appeal

We come together to support those most in need within our community.

If you would like to help those in need this Christmas, we are seeking support through Donations of:

- ⇒ Non-perishable food items - in high demand
- ⇒ School stationery - in high demand
- ⇒ New blankets - in high demand
- ⇒ Financial contributions - in high demand
- ⇒ New toys & gifts for children/teenagers

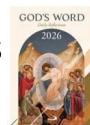
Donate at Centacare's office at 3 Maitland Street or at any designated drop off point, scan the QR Code.

Your kind support will help us deliver a range of meaningful programs that bring joy, comfort and hope to those who need it most. For more information please visit centacaregeraldton.org.au or call 9921 1433.



God's Word 2026 still available in the Parish Office

God's Word for daily readings and reflections for 2026 is available now in the Parish Office for \$22. Hurry to get your copy as only a few more copies left!



Columban Calendar 2026

Pretty and Popular Columban calendar for the year 2026 is still available in the Parish Office holy shop for only \$11.



Christian Meditation Group

The Christian Meditation Group will be in recess from 12th December until 4th January 2026.

Have you bought enough Christmas Cards?

Cards and Nativity Sets are available in our Holy Shop

Christmas is pretty close! Be on time to send out your messages to your loved ones. Beautiful Christmas cards are now available for you to purchase in our Holy Shop.

Budget cards for just \$3.50 per packet of 8.

If you are looking to buy a nativity set for this Christmas, whether it is small or big in size, we have it in our holy shop. Please visit the parish office during the office hours. EFTPOS available.



When we hear the words, 'a voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord ...', what do we hear? A young man wondered whether he was being called to be a priest. But when have we heard a call to prepare a way for the Lord?

In our wilderness have we heard a voice calling us to a change of heart? A woman heard such a voice when she spoke of her grief in a small group. A friend's response enabled her 'to find release from the doubts and fears and self-concern that had imprisoned me.' That's the hope and the joy offered to us in Advent, in the person of the one who is to come.

John the Baptist prepares a way for him, and he reveals how we might do this by calling us to repent, to a change of heart, so the kingdom of heaven might be made real in our lives. When the people were baptised by him, they 'confessed their sins', naming them so they might be forgiven, and their relationship with God and one another, might be restored. These are the fruits of repentance. We can't simply presume like the religious leaders do in the gospel that all is well because we're in good

standing with God, as John calls them out for their complacency.

Clearly, he's an agent of change, and as the young man and the grieving woman instinctively understood, it's decision time, because John

She came to understand this judgement is not something to be afraid of, for when it comes it will be the moment when all is revealed, the moment of our liberation, when we will be 'set free to love'. The only question is, do we long for

this transformation or cling to what we've known? It's not quite what John had in mind, but it is the hope and joy of Advent; that the Lord's judgment will see the birth of a community of hope, where we might experience the joy of being with one another, both now and forever.

This community is at the heart of the first and second readings. Isaiah speaks of a new life for God's people on returning from exile — renewed relationship with one another and all creation. While Paul

speaks of hope in the scriptures and following the example of Christ and our forebears in faith, the building up of a community where we might all give glory to God. In this way we 'prepare a way for the Lord': it's what we're called to do.

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points to the coming one's role as judge at the end of time. He will baptise us with the Holy Spirit and with fire — a baptism of fire — which a woman experienced a few years ago when a bushfire destroyed her home. She lost everything and slowly came to realise it was an opportunity to do things differently this time, with God at the centre of her life.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. **(all bow)**
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

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

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Isaiah 35:1-6,10 | Psalm 145 | James 5:7-10 | Matthew 11:2-11

Knights of the Southern Cross

Midwest Branch End of Year Meeting: next Saturday December 13, 11am Cathedral Crypt Mass followed by Lunch at Tarts & Co afterwards- BYO Wine/ Beer.

All men over 18 encouraged to attend.

Please RSVP to Daniel, danielhatleyperpetualadoration@gmail.com



THE PILGRIM ROSARY STATUE OF THE CATHEDRAL

The Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the Bishop's House until 12th December.

Rosary will be prayed at **5pm** Monday-Friday

All are welcome to pray with the mother of God!



Holy Hour at Nazareth House Chapel

Monday, Friday and Sunday from 4 pm – 5 pm in the main Chapel. All welcome to join the Sisters and residents in prayerful adoration.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Cathedral

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

Please pray for those who are ill:

Rose Ralph, Tim Conway, Maria Salamone, Maureen Burke, Andres Rodillas, Peter Scarpuzza, Diana Bennett, Erica Pirrottina, Kim-Maree Kelly, Shirley Travis, Allan Malonzo, Cherrille Quilty, Pat Miragliotta, Derek Levett, Ron Coumbe, Matthew Greenlees, Ramon Tan Jr., Zenaida Tan, Peg Faithfull and Maureen Lynch.



For the deceased: Frank & Lina Zinetti, Rosetta & Anselmo Scarpuzza, Jim & Nancy Ward, Don McDonald and David Edser

Anniversaries: Fr Michael O'Flaherty, Rosina Mascaro and John Sancho.

Recently Deceased: Nathan Battilana, Jan Chalk (QLD) and Glenn Canque (Philippines).

Entrance Antiphon

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

First Reading (Isaiah 11:1-10)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless; his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips. The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 71)

R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. **R.**

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails: He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds. **R.**

For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. **R.**

May his name be blessed for ever and endure like the sun. Every tribe shall be blessed in him, all nations bless his name. **R.**

Second Reading (Romans 15:4-9)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!.....

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God..... **Alleluia!**

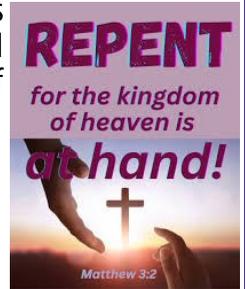
Gospel (Matthew 3:1-2)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet spoke of when he said: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



Communion Antiphon

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2025

Churches	Christmas Eve			Christmas	No Evening Mass
	Vigil	Carols	Night	Morning	
SFX Cathedral	6:00 pm	9:15pm	10pm	7:30 & 9:30	
St Peter's Greenough				8:00 am	
St Lawrence's Church Bluff Point	6:00 pm			9:00 am	
St Mary's Northampton				8:30 am	
OLHC Church Kalbarri	5:00 pm				
Chapman Valley Museum Nanson	5:30 pm				

Parish Finances

Contributions of 30th November 2025

	Cathedral	Rangeway	Bluff Point
Priests' Collection	\$ 1640.30		575.35
Envelopes	\$ 99.00	122.00	200.00
Parish Collection	\$ 1411.70		397.55
Friday Fast	\$ 87.80		

