

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF GERALDTON



St Francis Xavier Cathedral

Administrator Fr Gerard Totanes VG
Assistant Priest Fr Savio Nguyen
Nagle Chaplain Fr Joel Nyongesa

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

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

23 February 2025

VOCATION VIEW: If you love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you and pray for those who maltreat you, realise that God has already called YOU.

Jubilee Year 2025

Jubilee of Deacons

21-23 February

The Jubilee of Deacons has a theme: 'Deacons: Joyful Witnesses of Hope',

reminding us that Deacons help bring the hope and love of Christ to a world

which has lost hope.



Prayer

Loving God,
 St Paul understood his diakonia as the proclamation of the good news of reconciliation (2 Cor 5:12-20). May deacons today help bring awareness of the Good News of Jesus to a world in need of hope. St Paul also wrote that a deacon must have some essential qualities (1 Tim 3:8-13), including that he must be serious, not double-tongued, not a drunkard, not greedy, and must hold the mystery of faith with a clear conscience. His family life should be exemplary. May deacons today be given the grace of God to hold to these ideals. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lent 2025

The season of Lent commences on Wednesday, 5th March

Ash Wednesday - 5th March

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.

MASSES ON ASH WEDNESDAY

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 (School 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 7th March.



Little Black Book for Lent

The little black book for daily meditations during Lent - on the *Passion according to John* - is available in the Church today to be used from next Sunday onwards. This beautifully prepared book costs only \$4. Please put the money in the bowl and get your copy.

Lenten Reflections - Metanoia

Lenten reflections for spiritual renewal will be held every Thursday during Lent at 5:30pm in the Parish Seminar Room commencing from 6th March. Metanoia resources from the Diocese of Wollongong will be used. Call the Parish Office and Register your attendance.

Malayalam Mass tomorrow

Syro-Malabar Malayalam Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral tomorrow, on Monday, 24th February at 6pm. Confessions begin at 5:30pm. All Keralites are kindly invited to attend.

Morning Tea next Sunday

Being the first Sunday of the month, there will be morning tea next Sunday in the Divine Mercy Garden after the 9:30am Mass in the Cathedral. Welcome everyone to have a chat and sip a Cuppa. More helpers wanted to run this ministry smoothly. Please talk to Amy Zinetti, if you can give a hand this time or in the coming months.



THE FIRST RECONCILIATION | PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

CELEBRANT: Candidates for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, are you fully aware that you have begun a program which will lead you to deeper commitment to Christ and his Church?

CANDIDATE: Yes we are.

CELEBRANT: Are you willing to participate and cooperate in this preparation program for the Sacrament of Reconciliation?

CANDIDATE: Yes we are.

CELEBRANT: Parents, are you prepared to support your children in their preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation by word and

example as well as participating in parent meetings and endeavouring to participate in Sunday Masses?.

PARENTS: Yes we are.

CELEBRANT: Children, on the day of your Baptism you were signed by the sign of the Cross. Receive again this sign on your forehead. By this sign of his love, Christ will be your strength. (Priest and /or parents sign a cross on the forehead of each child).

CELEBRANT: On behalf of our parish community, I accept your commitment as candidates for Reconciliation. I know the members of our parish join with me in praying for you during this time of preparation.

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

@ gtonparish@geraldtoncatholic.org.au

08 9964 1608 / 08 9964 2716

PO Box 46, Geraldton, WA 6531

www.geraldtoncathedral.org

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

The Jubilee calls us to set out and overcome boundaries. When we travel, we not only change location, but also ourselves. The word "pilgrimage" comes from the Latin "perager", which means "through the fields", or "per eger", which means "border crossing". Both roots point to the distinctive aspect of embarking on a journey.

In the Bible, Abraham is described as a person on a journey: "Go forth from your land, your relatives, and from your father's house" (Gen 12:1). With these words Abraham begins his adventure, which ends in the Promised Land, where he is remembered as a "wandering Aramean" (Deut 26:5).

Jesus's worldly ministry is also seen as a journey from Galilee to the Holy City: "When the days for his being taken up were

fulfilled, he resolutely determined to journey to Jerusalem" (Luke 9:51). Christ calls His disciples to walk this road and even today Christians are those who follow him and set out after Him. As a matter of fact, the journey is progressively constructed: there are various routes to choose from, places to discover; the situations, catecheses, rites and liturgies, and travelling companions allow one to be enriched with new matters and perspectives. Pilgrimage is an experience of conversion, of transforming one's very being to orient it toward God's holiness.

The four major basilicas in Rome are the main pilgrimage destinations - St. Peter's Basilica, St. John Lateran, St. Mary Major, and St. Paul Outside the Walls. However,



pilgrims may also go to the Holy Land, their diocesan cathedral or other officially designated locations.

In the Geraldton Diocese, the following churches are designated as pilgrimage sites:

- St Francis Xavier Cathedral in Geraldton.
- Our Lady of Mt Carmel Church in Mullewa and Mass Rock.
- St Cecilia's Church in Port Hedland.

Those who cannot make the Jubilee Pilgrimage due to illness or other circumstances are nevertheless invited to take part in the spiritual journey that accompanies the Jubilee Year.



Volunteers Needed

The Monsignor Hawes Heritage Centre needs volunteers to help with the staffing of the Museum and/or tour guides for the regular Cathedral tours. The group of volunteers gathers regularly for social and training sessions over a cup of tea/coffee and cake. Please contact Louise Oliveri on 0488 944 372 or Mary Jayne Kane on 0427 007 312 if able to assist or for more information.



First Friday Holy Hour – Jubilee Year

"Where two or three of you gathered in My name, I am there with you" says Jesus.

Come as one Community to be with Our Source of HOPE. On Friday, 7th March at 11am followed by Holy Mass at 12.05pm.



Baptism Preparation Meeting

The next Baptism preparation meeting will be held on Tuesday, 11th March at **5:30pm** in the Parish Seminar Room. This meeting is mandatory for the parents of the eldest child to be baptised. *For booking, please contact the Parish Office on 9964 1608 or Email: gtonparish@geraldtoncatholic.org.au*



Knights of the Southern Cross

Midwest Branch Meeting will be held on Saturday, 8th March. Mass in the Cathedral at 9:00am followed by Prayers and Lectio Divina lead by Fr Cross in the Crypt. All men over 18 encouraged to attend. Please RSVP to Daniel, danielhatleyperpetualadoration@gmail.com



Multicultural Dinner

A Multicultural Dinner to be held in the Catholic Centre on Saturday 8th March, 6-10pm. Please wear your National Dress (if possible) and bring a plate of food to share that would be associated with your cultural heritage. Please bring your own drinks.



Cost is **\$10** for adults and **\$5** for children.

This is a fundraiser for our school in Akot Village, South Sudan and it is a family friendly event and everyone is welcome.



Anointing Mass

The next anointing Mass for the Catholic Parishes of Geraldton will be celebrated in the Cathedral on Saturday, 8th March at **9am**. Those who are sick or wish to be anointed are welcome to attend.



Make your contributions online

If you forgot to bring money for Cathedral collections, scan this QR code and donate online using your debit/credit card (A surcharge of 2.2% will be deducted from your donation). Alternatively you can make EFT transfer using **BSB 086 006** and **Account Number 826504934**, AC Name: SFX Cathedral Parish. Please put an appropriate reference/description such as **"donation, second collection, Planned Giving"** etc.



Right to Life - Fighting for Babies

Thank you to all our generous supporters who have donated to our Babies Fighting Fund. As you know, we are fighting for all babies, but particularly for those babies who are born alive after a so-called 'failed' abortion and then left to die by a callous medical staff who believe their actions are protected by state law. Our fight is desperately in need of money. If you have not donated before but are able to do so now please give as generously as you can. Please give \$5 or \$5000, depending on your capacity.



Our Account Details are as follows:

RTLAWA Building and Investment Account
BSB 633000 Account Number 218422558

Use the reference *'Donation to the Babies Born Alive Fighting Fund'*

Or use this link <https://www.righttolifewa.co/product/donation/>

If you have any questions please call Steve Klomp 0417184789

Your donation can be anonymous if you so wish.

Votive Candles

If you wish to light a candle for a special intention at the altar of Our Lady Help of Christians, LED Candles can be purchased at the Monsignor Hawes Heritage Centre Museum for 50c each. The Museum is Open Daily 10-4.

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

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Email dioger@geraldtoncatholic.org.au



In the Book of Samuel, we find two mortal enemies, David and Saul, in conflict. Saul is the anointed King of Judah and David has been anointed to succeed him. What happens next is an all too familiar human story. David is jealous of Saul's power; Saul is suspicious of David's motives.

How often family feuds and human relations take on these negative forces of jealousy and suspicion, resulting in the breakdown of relationships. We also see this operating at the international level between ethnic groups and nations, resulting in open conflict and even warfare.

To return to the story of King Saul and the yet-to-be appointed King David, there is a glimmer of light. Previously, in a rage, Saul had attempted to kill David by throwing a javelin at him! In this week's story, David has the opportunity to kill Saul, but relents. Choosing not to kill your enemy is a good first step! Even here we note David's motives are not entirely pure. He acts partly out of guilt, fearing divine anger if he was to kill one of God's anointed.

However, fear of God has its role as a pathway to a more authentic and loving life.

Let us now compare this approach to the words of Jesus in the gospel: "Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you". At a logical level, Jesus' reasoning is difficult to dispute: "If you



only love those who love you, what thanks can you expect?" No, says Jesus, you must overcome all those narrow views of love and forgiveness: "Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate". Moreover, "don't judge others, don't condemn, always forgive".

We may complain that Jesus is asking too much of us! Surely all this love and forgiveness will be seen as pure weakness, leading us to being eaten up, spewed out and trodden underfoot by our enemies! Yet, something within us knows we must break the cycle of violence and vengeance if we are to achieve peace, harmony and

goodwill among people and nations. This is the way of the gospel as lived and proclaimed by Jesus.

This is also the centre-point of Pope Francis' encyclical Fratelli Tutti (2020), where Francis uses the parable of the Good Samaritan to insist that love must go beyond tribe, family and nation to include stranger, migrant and refugee. We also note Francis' joint statement with Grand Imam Ahmad Al-Tayeb in Abu Dhabi (2019) which acknowledged that "God has created all human beings equal in rights, duties and dignity, and has called them to live together as brothers and sisters".

In today's world, 'loving your enemy' is best expressed in terms of commitment to dialogue and mutual respect among peoples of diverse religions and cultures. This enables us to open our hearts to become people of love, service and compassion. This way, we allow God's love to enter our lives and world, mindful of Jesus' words: "The amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back!"

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Reserved Parking Bays of the Cathedral

The Reserved Parking bays behind the Cathedral are strictly intended for the use of Clergy and Sacristans only, as they need entry and exit at any time. If you are not an intended person to park in the parking bays whether it is in the Church ground or elsewhere, please find other spots to park your car for whatever the reason be. Thank you.



THE PILGRIM ROSARY STATUE OF THE CATHEDRAL

The pilgrim rosary statue will be with Rosaria & Vince Lanza at 1 Batavia Place, Mahomets Flats, until 28th February. Rosary prayed at 5pm Monday-Friday. All welcome.



pastoral care 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.

MHHC Museum & Tours

The Museum is open daily from 10am-4pm. If you would like to learn more about John Hawes and the SFX Cathedral, tours are available on Sunday, Monday and Wednesday at 2:30 and Friday at 4:00. Tickets (\$5) are available at the museum.



Parish Finances			
Contributions of 16 th February 2025			
	Cathedral	Rangeway	Bluff Point
Priests' Collection \$	1742.10		900.10
Planned Giving \$	449.00	117.00	485.00
Parish Collection \$	1063.70		550.65
Friday Fast \$	113.00		



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.

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.

Adoration with Benediction at St Lawrence's

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

Please pray for those who are ill:

Fr Peter Downes, Brad Borrows, Ray Sloan, Isabelita Calimag, Rose Ralph, Noli Soliven, Reg Maisey, Megan Aylmore, Maria Salamone, Bernard Rooney, Tim Conway, Margaret John, Maureen Burke, Joe (Giuseppe) Gaudio, Andres Rodillas, Derek Levett, Peter Scarpuzza, Diana Bennett, Erica Pirrottina, Kim-Maree Kelly, Shirley Travis, Allan Malonzo, Zenaida Tan, Cherrille Quilty, Andrew Benzie, Pat Miragliotta, Monique Blanchard and Yvonne Fahl.



For the deceased: Frank & Lina Zinetti, Jim & Nancy Ward, Giovanni & Severina Giudicatti, Emilia & Novello Amazzini, Alessandro & Ida Caratti, Rosetta & Anselmo Scarpuzza, Don McDonald and Antonio Fiocco.

Anniversaries: Fr Keith Spain, Fr Robert Dowglass, Maria Fiocco and Elena Soto.

Recently Deceased: Ofelia Panero and Silvino Peresterelo.

Entrance Antiphon

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

First Reading (1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23)

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph. So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice.' David answered Abishai, 'Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them. David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 102)

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. **R.**

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. **R.**

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repays us according to our faults. **R.**

As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **R.**

Second Reading (1 Corinthians 15:45-49)

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

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment; love one another as I have loved you. . . . **Alleluia!**

Gospel (Luke 6: 27-38)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love

your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. 'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

*"Be
compassionate
as your Father is
compassionate"*

Communion Antiphon

I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

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.**

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Sirach 27:4-7 | Psalm 91 | 1 Corinthians 15:54-58 | Luke 6:39-45