

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

First Sunday of Advent

Year A

30 November 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

According to the official liturgy documents, the season of Advent is a period for "devout and joyful expectation". Although we celebrate the beginning of the Church's year, we are instructed to look to the end. "The master is coming". We wait and watch for Christ's coming by being faithful to the work he has given each of us to do.

As the minutes of our lives tick by, the Lord's arrival is always unexpected. The work of Christian living is constant watchfulness that discovers the redeeming possibility of every moment.

Therefore, "Be watchful! and Be alert!"



Advent Wreath Ceremony

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, your coming was proclaimed by the prophets of old. Prophet Isaiah called the Chosen People and today calls all people "to walk in the light of the Lord."

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, we believe you come among us now. St Paul urges us to be people of the light and to let our armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, you will come again in glory. You ask us to "stand ready. Because the Son of Man is coming at an hour we do not expect."

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Annual General Meeting (AGM) - Today

AGM of our combined Parishes will be held today on Sunday, starting with a morning tea at 10:30am in the Catholic Centre at the Nativity Cafe. The meeting will be commenced at 11:00 am in the Youth Room.

All parishioners are invited to attend.



Feast of St Francis Xavier this Wednesday

We celebrate the feast of our Patron St Francis Xavier this Wednesday on 3rd December. A special Holy Mass will be celebrated at 6:00 pm in the Cathedral.

Welcome all to celebrate!



PRAYER

Lord God, by the preaching of Saint Francis Xavier you brought many nations to yourself.
Give his zeal for the faith to all who believe in you, especially all who are gathered here today and who worship as a community under the patronage of Saint Francis Xavier.
May your Church rejoice in continued growth throughout the world.
May this prayer fill us with the same love that inspired Francis Xavier to work for the salvation of all.
Help us to live our Christian calling and to inherit the promise of eternal life.
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

Sestercentennial celebration of Presentation Sisters

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 look forward to mark the 250th Anniversary of this beginning, at the 9.30am Mass in the Cathedral next Sunday 7th December followed by morning tea in the Catholic Centre.

Inviting your esteemed presence in this great celebration!



Australian Catholic Youth Festival commencing today

Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) is a national gathering of Catholic young people established by the Australian Bishops more than ten years ago.

Run over three days, the Festival provides young people from all across Australia with the opportunity to come together to connect, deepen their relationship with Jesus, be empowered to live their faith in the world and experience the breadth of the Church in Australia. It commences today in Melbourne until 2nd December.

There are 27 young Catholics attending ACYF this year from our Diocese, among them 16 are from Geraldton parishes. Bishop Michael, Fr Bernard and Fr Dominic are also attending and supporting them. Please remember them all in your prayers and thoughts.

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

Little blue books still available

A beautiful resource for daily reflections during Advent, the **Little Blue Books** are still available in the church for only \$4. Only a few copies left.

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)

Nativity Display and Schools Competition in the Catholic Centre Concluding Thursday

The Nativity Display of the scenes created by our school children has been visited by many people in the past week in the Catholic Centre at 9 Maitland Street, Geraldton.

Bishop Michael has officially opened it for the public last Thursday and it will be closing on Thursday, 4th December at 5pm.

The display is open to everyone to come along and enjoy the creativity and work of our students, take a break and have some refreshments (*for a donation*). Nativity Café will be open and available each day from 9 am to 5 pm.

The Students of Schools from St Francis Xavier Primary, St Lawrence's, St John's, Our Lady of Mt Carmel Mullewa and St Mary's in Northampton have taken part, to look at various ideas and themes of Nativity Scenes

(with a stipulation that the models must be respectful). The model categories include traditional Biblical setting; culturally inspired, nature inspired, urban or modern themed, technology inspired or interfaith inspired. There are nine categories in total, that the students are using to create their models. Prizes will be awarded to the winners with the best nativity scenes and you are invited to vote for the best Nativity Scene that you think to be a winner!

There are many beautiful Nativity souvenirs on sale, which you may purchase and request for a personalised message to be inscribed on it by Fr Savio in his freehand calligraphy script!

A raffle for a large Nativity Set worth of \$600 is also ready with tickets on sale at the

display. Please make a visit and support this wonderful initiative leading up to Christmas this year!

Booking Needed for Group Visits

Any school or institution wishing to visit, please contact the Parish Office and make a booking in advance.

All local schools whether it is Catholic or non-Catholic are encouraged to visit this great event.

Please visit our webpage

<https://geraldtoncathedral.org/nativity-display/> or scan the QR code for more details and to see the available time slots.



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.



Bishop's Christmas Communion Appeal

Today is the First Sunday of Advent and in Matthew's Gospel we hear the command "Stay awake"! To be awake and alert to what is happening around, especially in the lives of those less fortunate, and assisting where possible, is living a life of faithful service to the Lord.

Please consider supporting the Christmas Communion Appeal

"Together we can make a difference".

Pew envelopes are available today. Tax Deductible

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



"Give me an army saying the Rosary and I will conquer the world."
- Blessed Pope Pius IX

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.



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.



DV-alert
Domestic and Family Violence Response Training

DV alert is free, nationally recognized training program to help frontline workers and general public to recognize the signs of domestic and family violence and know what to do next.

2 Hour Domestic Violence aware Workshop for general public

On 3 December 1-3pm hosted by the Murchison Region Aboriginal Corporation, Spalding, WA. Register by scanning the QR Code.

2 Days First Nations Foundations Workshop for frontline workers

4 & 5 December 9-5pm (both days) hosted by the Murchison Region Aboriginal Corporation, Spalding, WA. Register by scanning the QR Code.

For further enquiries: training.dvalert@lifeline.org.au 



Next Sunday 7th December

at Maitland Park, Geraldton

Family Activities from 5 pm | Carols from 7 pm

Smoke, Vape & Alcohol free event.

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



“Stay awake!” It’s not exactly the most comforting advice for people who might already be tired at the end of a long year — especially as we join the throngs flocking to shops for the usual Christmas spend-up. Yet that’s the cry that greets us on this first Sunday of Advent. The season opens not with tinsel and cheer, but with Jesus telling his disciples to be alert, watchful, and ready for something new.

Isaiah paints a hopeful picture of what this newness might mean: nations streaming to the mountain of the Lord, swords beaten into ploughshares, war replaced with peace. After a year marked by wars, famine and political mayhem, this is a vision for which we would be prepared to stay awake. The psalm aptly echoes our present longing, calling us to pray for peace in Jerusalem and to rejoice at the prospect of God’s house filled with pilgrims.

And then comes Jesus’ story about Noah’s day. People were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, carrying on with ordinary life. Nothing wrong with that, of course—except that they were asleep to the bigger picture.

When the flood came, they weren’t ready. Jesus says the same will be true of the coming of the Son of Man: two people at work side by side, one ready, one not. So: “Stay awake.”

Paul, writing to the Romans, makes it even plainer: “You know what time it is, how it is now

tone. Stay awake to what God is doing in your life right now. Stay awake to the small gifts that slip past us when we’re on autopilot. Stay awake to the people around you who might need attention, kindness, or encouragement.

Advent is a season that sneaks up in the middle of ordinary life. The shops have been in Christmas mode for weeks already. Work deadlines pile up. Social calendars start filling. Christmas lunch planning is pressing. And in the middle of all that noise, the church whispers, “Wake up. Pay attention. Something new is coming.”

Staying awake doesn’t require us to drink more coffee or get less sleep. It means living with our eyes wide open — choosing not to drift through December in a haze, but to notice where God’s peace, hope, and joy are breaking in. Advent asks us to be watchful people, ready to catch glimpses of God’s kingdom in unexpected places: in conversations with friends, in moments of silence, even in the messy, imperfect preparations for Christmas.



the moment for you to wake from sleep.” His message feels urgent, like an alarm clock going off before the dawn. We wake with a start and wonder, “Is it too late?”

It’s tempting to hear this only as a warning about the end of the world and a possible pending judgement for our sins. But Advent is not about dire predictions or even more dire penitential practices. Advent invites us to hear this biblical message in a gentler, more everyday

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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!



Knights of the Southern Cross

Midwest Branch End of Year Meeting: 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, Therese Taylor & Ron Siemiginowski.

Anniversaries: Fr Tim Manley, Maria Masiello, TK George, Ron Adam, Teresa Vinchiguerra, Grazia and Sebastiano Scarpuzza.

Recently Deceased: Jan Chalk (QLD).

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2025				
Churches	Christmas Eve (Wednesday)			Christmas
	Vigil	Carols	Night	Morning
SFX Cathedral	6:00 pm	9:30pm	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			

No Evening Mass

SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION			
SFX Cathedral	8 th Dec	Monday	7:00 pm

Parish Finances			
Contributions of 23 rd November 2025			
	Cathedral	Rangeway	Bluff Point
Priests’ Collection	\$ 1579.80		895.95
Envelopes	\$ 130.00	117.00	80.00
Parish Collection	\$ 1363.10		559.40
Friday Fast	\$ 66.45		



Entrance Antiphon

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

First Reading (Isaiah 2:1-5)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.' He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 121)

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.' And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**

It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name. There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David. **R.**

For the peace of Jerusalem pray: 'Peace be to your homes! May peace reign in your walls, in your palaces, peace!' **R.**

For love of my brethren and friends I say: 'Peace upon you!' For love of the house of the Lord I will ask for your good. **R.**

Second Reading (Romans 13:11-14)

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

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon - let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

*Let your armour
be the Lord
Jesus Christ*

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!.....

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation..... **Alleluia!**

Gospel (Matthew 24:37-44)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of

Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left. 'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.



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

Isaiah 11:1-10 | Psalm 71 | Romans 15:4-9 | Matthew 3:1-12

Divine Mercy Holy Hour in Bluff Point

Today, Sunday 3- 4pm at St Lawrence's Church. All welcome to pray the chaplet and adore Jesus, our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every First Friday, with Litany of St Joseph and Benediction. Next Friday, 5th December 7:30 - 9:30pm in the Cathedral.



O Come, Let Us Adore Him!

December Holy Hour in the Cathedral
Next Friday 5th December at 11am followed by Mass at 12:05pm

Columban Calendar 2026

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