

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF GERALDTON



St Francis Xavier Cathedral

Administrator Fr Gerard Totanes VG
Assistant Priests Fr Savio Nguyen and Fr Joel Nyongesa
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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

7 September 2025

VOCATION VIEW: *Jesus says clearly; "Anyone who does not take up the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple." You and Jesus can carry your cross together. Then, you can follow!*

Father's Day brings us an opportunity to reflect on the biblical importance of dads and honour the significant role they play in our lives. Throughout the Scriptures, we find profound examples of fatherhood that serve as a testament to the immense impact fathers have on their families, communities, and the spiritual growth of their children. On this special day, let us celebrate and encourage fathers, recognizing their vital role in shaping and moulding the lives of



their children, and let us express our heartfelt gratitude for their sacrificial love, strength, and unwavering support.

please use a "Father's Day Mass Bouquet" envelopes available at the church doors today. Money received through these offerings will be used to support the GodStart program through which the newly Baptised children will receive birthday cards and prayer tips until they reach 4 years of age.

If you wish to have a Mass offered for them whether they are living or deceased,

A register listed with the Mass Bouquet beneficiaries has been placed before the Altar during the Month of September.

Father's Day Morning Tea Today

Please come and join in a special Father's day morning tea today at the Catholic Centre at 10:30am, to celebrate and honour all Fathers! Bring your father along! *Everyone is invited! Helping hands are needed always and would be appreciated.*



The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary | 8 September

"Let us celebrate with joy the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, for from her arose the sun of justice, Christ our Lord".



149th Birth Anniversary of the Servant of God, John C Hawes
 Priest-Architect and Builder of St Francis Xavier Cathedral, John Cyril Hawes, was born on the 7th of September 1876 in Richmond, England. He is known for the many churches that he built throughout our Mid-West region as well as overseas. Next year, the Diocese will mark the Sesquicentenary of his birth in a special way. For more information on Monsignor John Hawes' life and buildings, visit www.monsignorhawes.com

Launch of new Parish Website. A newly developed parish website was launched a week ago which is mobile friendly, faster, interactive and informative. Mass times, special events, sacramental details & forms, planned giving details & direct debit forms, articles, notices, bulletins, gallery of photos and video links etc are available on the website which is accessible via www.geraldtoncathedral.org
Change of QR Codes. Many QR codes published earlier for the old web pages might not work from now onwards. Therefore, if QR codes do not work, please use the website address which is www.geraldtoncathedral.org

Happy Birthday Bishop Michael

Bishop Michael is celebrating his 73rd birthday this Tuesday, the 9th of September. *Please keep him in your prayers and thoughts as he leads us in faith.*



Diocesan Pilgrimage in the Year of Hope

Sunday 28th September. Begins with 9:30am Mass at St Francis Xavier Cathedral, taking to Mullewa and other sites, returning to Geraldton around 5pm same day.



See flyer for more details. Phone 0448 959 067 to register.

Sacrament of Confirmation this week

Congratulations to the candidates from our parish schools and After School Program, who are receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this week as follows:



6pm Tuesday St John's School at St Lawrence's Bluff Point
 6pm Wednesday St Francis Xavier Cathedral
 6pm Thursday St Lawrence's Bluff Point, in the under cover area

Please keep these children in your prayers.

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

Volunteers Needed for Cathedral Garden Mulching

We're seeking a team of 10-12 enthusiastic volunteers to assist with spreading mulch along the Cathedral garden banks on Cathedral Avenue on Saturday, 13th September, from 8:30am onwards. Tasks include: filling wheelbarrows with mulch and transporting and spreading mulch across the garden banks. Please bring your own work gloves and come prepared for some hands-on outdoor work. If you're able to help, kindly contact the Parish Office at (08) 9964 1608 or 0448 959 067. Your support will make a big difference in keeping our Cathedral grounds beautiful. Thank you!

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.geraldtoncathedral.org



Safeguarding Officers 0470 207 707
 08 9964 1608 / 08 9964 2716

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

Prayer for Fathers

Almighty God, we pray for your blessing, favour, and strength over every Dad in this world, for those who are seeking to walk closely with you in a dark world, and for those who just need to be reminded that you are real. We ask for your renewed courage, for your boldness, for your Spirit to fill them.

Make them always aware and alert of the schemes of the enemy. We ask that you would keep their footsteps firm, and guard their way. We ask that you would help them to always stand strong, to be men of faith, to say "no" to what is wrong, and to say "yes" to what is right. We ask that you would fill their hearts with love, compassion, joy, faithfulness, and cover their lives with great peace, in the name of Jesus your Son. Amen.

Courtesy: Christianity.com

Short Music Recital in St Francis Xavier Cathedral

Today, Sunday, 7th September 3.30—4.15 pm. Young musicians under the tutelage of Jacinta Jakovcevic, Diocesan Director of Music & Principal Organist, playing piano and organ. Admission is free. So, come along and enjoy a little afternoon of music and fun.

Knights of the Southern Cross - Midwest Branch Meeting:

Saturday September 13, 9am Cathedral Mass followed by Prayers and Lectio Divina led by Fr Cross in Crypt with Brunch at Tarts & Co afterwards. All men over 18 encouraged to attend. Please RSVP to Daniel, danielhatleyperpetualadoration@gmail.com."



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. Any other enquiries and bookings must be made during 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.

Looking for Confirmation Gifts or Cards?

There are many piety gift items available in our holy shop for all occasions. Statues, Bibles, Missals, Crucifix, religious books, medals, rosary beads, necklaces as well as a great selection of greeting cards for various occasions such as Birthdays, Christening, Feast days, Wedding, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, Jubilees, Anniversaries and many more.. *EFTPOS available... Welcome to visit during the office hours!*



Interested in becoming Catholic ?

or wanting to know more about the Catholic Faith?

Please join in the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

Anyone wanting to explore the Catholic Faith is invited to attend the final enquiry evening on **Wednesday, 24th September** to begin their preparation.

Venue: Seminar Room, Catholic Centre, 9 Maitland St., Geraldton.

The OCIA will take you through the phases of the process to learn everything you need to know about the Catholic Faith and its traditions during your formation as you prepare to enter the Catholic Church on your faith seeking journey at Easter 2026.

You will be supported throughout by the OCIA Team during the four phases of Pre-catechumenate, Catechumenate, Purification and Enlightenment (Lent) and post-Easter.

For registration, please contact the Parish Office on 9964 1608.

For more information and enrolment form, please visit our website by scanning this QR code or accessing the URL

www.geraldtoncathedral.org/ocia/



Safeguarding Sunday Morning Tea Next Sunday

Please come and join in a special Morning Tea to celebrate Safeguarding Sunday on 14 September. Parishioners are invited to attend the 10:30 am morning tea at the Catholic Centre. Children's games will be provided by the Parish Catholic Youth Group. It is a day to be reminded of our continued commitment to protect and care for those who are most vulnerable as we live our mission of being a safe, welcoming and hope-filled church.

Please Register your details

We request both new and existing Parishioners to register your details with the parish at the earliest (if you haven't done it yet). You can register your details online by visiting our parish registration page, either by scanning this QR code or via www.geraldtoncathedral.org/registration/

If you wish to complete a paper form, it is available at the parish office or download it from the above web page. Thank you.



Baptism Preparation Meeting this week

The next Baptism preparation meeting will be this Tuesday, 9th September at 5:30pm in the Parish Seminar Room. This meeting is mandatory for the eldest child to be baptised.

For booking, please contact the Parish Office on 9964 1608 or Email: gtonparish@geraldtoncatholic.org.au

Lighting candles in the Cathedral

Lighting candles before the altar of Our Lady is restricted to certain times on any day due to various reasons including vandalism and safety. The permitted time is just before Mass and soon after the Mass only. Everyone is kindly requested to follow this. Thank you.

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.



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



The good news revealed by Jesus includes many demanding and sometimes scandalous teachings. As the writer of today's first reading discerns, we probably would not have come to the same conclusions as God if we were in charge. When it comes to living how God wants us to, "who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom, and sent your holy spirit from above?" To be a Christian is to believe that God has shown us who he is and what he wants from us, even if that means embracing what the rest of the world derides as shameful foolishness.



The second reading presents a perfect example of the wisdom of God colliding with the wisdom of the age. Paul, writing from prison, exhorts a fellow Christian, Philemon, to welcome and free his runaway slave, Onesimus. This was a powerfully countercultural appeal in a status-obsessed Greco-Roman society where slavery was as common as owning cars is today. Runaway slaves could expect severe punishment or execution if they were caught. The culture was so dependent on the practice that society stood against any show of leniency to slaves. But Paul doesn't just ask Philemon to receive Onesimus

back as his slave. He encourages Philemon to free the runaway slave and embrace him as a brother.

The wisdom of God teaches that baptism into Christ establishes an identity that is apart from and superior to all other kinds of social and cultural affiliations. Paul is encouraging Philemon to reject the entire social and moral order that his world was built upon, in order to testify to the love and wisdom of God. In this week's gospel, Jesus takes it one rather startling step further and explains that following him requires a willingness to hate even our own relatives. Here Jesus is using a Jewish idiom that uses hyperbole to indicate a clear preference and

priority. This is, after all, the same Jesus who commands us to love our enemies, let alone our own flesh and blood.

But the point still stands: God takes priority, even over every other good thing in our lives. Jesus is saying that to follow him means not letting rejection by or condemnation from the world, or even from our own loved ones, stop us from following him. There will be times in our lives when we face difficult consequences for living the way God wants us to, whether it's because we're standing up to the social and moral injustices of our time or because we prioritise God over other things, activities and people. This is why Jesus said, "Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple." If we believe that Jesus is who he says he is, the one who 'straightens our paths' and 'saves us by his wisdom', then let us join him on the road to Calvary and choose his ways over the ways of the world.

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KSC Foundation Scholarships

Teachers working in Catholic Schools are invited to apply to the KSC Education Foundation Scholarship Program for 2025 to study Religious Education and Theology Units at the University of Notre Dame in 2026. Successful applicants will have the opportunity to deepen their knowledge and contribute meaningfully to their school communities, nurturing faith and academic excellence. This scholarship supports professional development and fosters a vibrant learning environment shaped by the values of Catholic education. Applications open on 1 September and close on 27 October 2025 and online application forms will be available from <https://wa.kscsa.org.au/KSC-Education-Foundation.html>
For further information please contact office@kscwa.org.au, phone 9368 2503.



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY
Numbers 214-9 | Psalm 77 | Philippians 2:6-11 | John 3:13-17

Feasts of the Week

- 8 Sep Mon The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 13 Sep Sat St John Chrysostom



THE PILGRIM ROSARY STATUE OF THE CATHEDRAL

The pilgrim rosary statue will be in St John's Rangeway Presbytery from 08-12 September 2025
Rosary will be prayed at **5pm** Monday-Friday.
All are welcome to pray with the Mother of God!



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.

Holy Hour at Nazareth House Chapel

The Sisters and Residents at Nazareth House have Holy Hours on the following Days in the main Chapel: *Monday, Friday and Sunday from 4pm – 5pm.* Anyone who wishes to make a visit or join us in prayers is welcome.

Christian Meditation Group

The Christian Meditation Group in the cathedral gathers every Wednesday at 7:30am in the crypt. Inviting anyone interested.
Please contact Iris Bolton for any queries on 0498 162 774

Parish Finances			
Contributions of 31st August 2025			
	Cathedral	Rangeway	Bluff Point
Priests' Collection	\$ 1432.00		722.20
Envelopes	\$ 133.00	72.00	610.00
Parish Collection	\$ 1092.40		685.45
Friday Fast	\$ 59.65		



Please pray for those who are ill:

Fr Brian Ahearn, Rose Ralph, Tim Conway, Maria Salamone, Margaret John, Maureen Burke, Joe (Giuseppe) Gaudio, 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. and Zenaida Tan.



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

Anniversaries: Bruce McLeary, Kevin King, Ann Blayney, Angelina Giometti.

Recently Deceased:

Entrance Antiphon

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

First Reading (Wisdom 9:13-18)

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

What man can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord? The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind. It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens? As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above? Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 89)

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You turn men back in to dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night.

R.

You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades.

R.

Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants.

R.

In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands.

R.

Second Reading (Philemon 9-10,12-17)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philemon.

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him - I could say - a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!..... Let your face shine on your servant,
and teach me your laws..... **Alleluia!**

Gospel (Luke 14:25-33)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father,

mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes, and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. 'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

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.

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.**