

# CATHOLIC PARISHES OF GERALDTON

## St Francis Xavier Cathedral

**Administrator** Fr Tai Trinh  
**Assistant Priests** Fr Larry Rodillas  
**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

## The Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year A

29 March 2026

**VOCATION VIEW:** Today's world is so filled with fear of uncertainty, suffering, injustice, anger, depression and loneliness that it cries for people waving palm branches of hope and resurrection, proclaiming new life.

**Today is Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week.** We recall Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem in the days leading up to his Passion and Death. Palms will be blessed at all parish Masses and these can be



taken home afterwards for safe keeping during the year ahead.

Saint Matthew's Passion will be read at all Masses today.

**The congregation is invited to take part in this.**

## Little White Book for Easter

A beautiful resource of six minutes daily reflections for Easter Season from Easter Sunday to Pentecost, the *Little White Book* is available in the Church today for \$4 each. Please put the money in the bowl and take your copy.

## Good Friday Collection

The annual collection for the support of the Church in the Holy Land takes place on Good Friday. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. For them, survival as a minority in the midst of people of other faiths is not easy, especially in this very stressful time of war. Each day we see images on our newsfeeds of unspeakable suffering. There is an absolute and urgent need to support our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land. Parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres throughout the Holy Land also rely on assistance from the Good Friday collection through which your support can be a meaningful sign of the spiritual link that unites all Christians to Jerusalem and to the Land of Jesus. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land again on this Good Friday and please keep them in your prayers. *Envelopes for the Good Friday collection are available at the entrance of the Church this weekend. Please take one and return it on Good Friday with your contribution. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.* Thank you!



## Easter Holidays

The Parish Office and the Diocesan/CDF Offices will be closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday.

## Restricted Access to the Parish Office

Due to the maintenance works of the Catholic Centre, the access to the Parish Office is restricted for two weeks from Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April until Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April. Please avoid visiting the office during this period unless necessary as we may be able to assist you over the phone or by email for any services you require. The access will be allowed only through the back entrance of the Catholic Centre after contacting the office in advance.

## Second Rite of Reconciliation Tomorrow

In preparation for the Easter Triduum, the second Rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated tomorrow Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> March at 7:00 pm in the Cathedral. Everyone is invited to be a part of this grace flowing ceremony.



## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

### St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 7:00pm** Second Rite of Reconciliation

**Holy Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April (No Morning Mass)**

**7:00pm** Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by adoration before the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00pm.

**Good Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**

**10:00am** Stations of the Cross followed by confessions  
**3:00pm** Commemoration of the Lord's Passion followed by confessions

**Holy Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April (No Morning Mass)**

**11-12nn** Confessions  
**7:00pm** Easter Vigil

*The Easter Vigil includes the lighting and blessing of the Easter Fire and Candle, Old Testament readings, Reception into our community as new Catholics, Baptism and Confirmation.*



**Easter Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April**

**7:30am, 9:30am and 6:00pm** Resurrection of the Lord

### St. Lawrence's Church, Bluff Point

**Good Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**

**3:00pm** Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

**Easter Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April**

**9:00am** Resurrection of the Lord

### St. Peter's Church, Greenough

**Good Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**

**10:00am** Stations of the Cross followed by confessions

**Easter Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April**

**8:00am** Resurrection of the Lord



**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)*

## Project Compassion

As Project Compassion 2026 comes to a close, we thank you for your generous support throughout Lent. This year, we shared the stories of four inspiring people whose lives are being uplifted through your compassion.

**UNITE  AGAINST POVERTY**  
this Lent

Your support is helping them overcome challenges and build stronger futures. There is still time to donate! Together, we can continue nurturing hope and empowering communities facing poverty and injustice. You can support Project Compassion this year through the donation boxes and envelopes available in the Church today or

online by scanning the QR code, or via: [www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate](http://www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate) or by calling: 1800 024 413. Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty* this Lent. **Please Donate Today!**



### Heartfelt Thanks from St John's Busy Bees

A great amount of work and cleaning was completed by the wonderful group of twenty five people who came along last Saturday to lend a hand. Their work helped lighten the load of cleaning up, sorting out and the replacement of the pews back into the church along with refitting the statues and ornaments to make it more like the beloved place of St John's Church.



We express hearty thanks to everyone for your time, support and the wonderful work and community spirit brought there to get the church back into shape almost ready for our school and church community to have a place to come together again for Mass, prayer services and sacraments. *God bless you and your families for your kind generosity!*

### Knights of the Southern Cross

Midwest Branch Meeting will be held on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April, 9am Cathedral Mass followed by Prayers and Lectio Divina lead by Fr Cross in the Crypt with Brunch at Tart & Co afterwards. All men over 18 encouraged to attend. *Please RSVP to [daniel.hatley@kscwa.org.au](mailto:daniel.hatley@kscwa.org.au)*



*"Praying for the souls in purgatory is the highest act of supernatural charity"*  
— St John Paul II

### Easter Vigil (Holy Saturday)

This is the third step of the *Triduum* journey.

#### The Celebration of the Lord's Resurrection

The Vigil liturgy has its very beginnings in the Old Testament. Here the ritual relives the night the Israelites stayed awake waiting for the Lord to deliver them from their slavery in Egypt. Here too, we wait for the good news that Jesus is risen.

We gather as a community to re-tell the wonderful stories of our salvation as we remember them together. How often when we were young did we love to hear the stories of our parents and grandparents?!

⇒ *How do we tell our 'faith story' to our friends and family?*

*The Easter Liturgy has four parts;*

#### 1. The Service of Light

The symbols of light and darkness, fire, word, water, oil, touch, and a shared meal speak of the power and presence of God. The Vigil begins with darkness, itself being a

powerful symbol. A light breaks into the darkness when the Easter candle is lit from the new fire. The Light of Christ is in our midst. The Easter Proclamation, (*the Exultet*) is sung.

#### 2. The Liturgy of the Word

The Word of our Salvation History is proclaimed in the Old Testament Readings and Psalms, each inviting a silence for the Assembly to pray. After the last reading, the candles are lit and the bells ring as the *Gloria (Glory to God)* is sung. Now we are ready to hear the New Testament word in the light of Christ, the Good News! *He is risen!*

#### 3. The Rites of Initiation

Those who are to be baptised are called forward. This is the time that catechumens and candidates enter the final part of their preparation for

### Easter Triduum



Baptism and reception of the Sacraments of Initiation. We all accompany them on their journey as we pray the Litany of Saints to intercede for them and for our whole community. The Easter Water is blessed and the Easter Candle is lowered into the water announcing the meaning of our baptism into these waters - one with him in dying that we might be one with him in rising. This is followed by the Profession of Faith and then we all renew our Baptismal Promises.

#### 4. The Liturgy of the Eucharist.

The Mass proceeds in the usual manner, from the Offertory Procession to the Eucharistic Prayer, to Communion Rite and then concluding with a Solemn Blessing.

⇒ *How are we 'touched' by the grace of the Risen Christ as we celebrate Easter?*



*Acknowledgements: The Easter Ceremonies, Online Services & personal resources Prepared by Sr Lyn Sparling rsj.*

### 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](http://www.geraldtondiocese.org.au)  
**Email** [dioger@geraldtoncatholic.org.au](mailto:dioger@geraldtoncatholic.org.au)



The journey of Lent has prepared us to celebrate Palm Sunday and commemorate Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, his Passion and death. Are we ready to journey with Jesus Christ into Jerusalem and his Passion and are we ready to welcome Christ to journey with us in our life's journey?

The Passion of the Lord stands at the heart of our discipleship, revealing the depth of God's love for everyone through suffering freely embraced. The Passion is the deliberate and total self-giving of Jesus who longs to enter fully into our human condition to redeem it. It reveals God's desire to meet us in human form and to guide us with his Word, so we can enjoy eternal life in his Kingdom.

The journey of the Passion begins in the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus confronts what lies ahead. His anguish is real and profound, even to the point of sweating blood. Yet in this moment of deep distress, Christ shows perfect obedience: "Not my will, but yours be done." His surrender reveals that our redemption is born not of force, but of love, a love aligned with his Father's will. The suffering - scourging, crowning with thorns,

carrying his cross and the long walk to Calvary - parades the physical brutality of the Passion. Christ's body bears the consequences of human

The Passion reaches its fulfillment in total self-giving love-love that holds nothing back; welcomes everyone; and goes to the end.



The Lord's Passion invites us, his disciples, not merely to observe, but to actively participate and journey with Christ. It also calls each of us to carry our own cross as Christ did, to trust God in our suffering, and to respond to evil with forgiveness, mercy and hope. In contemplating the Passion, we learn that pain is not the final and last word. From Christ's wounds flow love, healing, reconciliation, the promise of resurrection and new life.

The Passion of the Lord assures us and the world that no suffering is meaningless when the Lord becomes our light and our life and when we are united with Christ. There is no darkness in our life that is beyond the reach of God's steadfast love and redeeming grace. What is asked of us is faithful discipleship, self-giving love and relationship with God. As we enter into this Holy Week, let us remember that we have Christ who longs to journey with us.

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### Communion Antiphon

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.



### 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

Acts 10:34,37-43 | Psalm 117 | Colossians 3:1-4 | John 20:1-9

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

### Parish Finances

Contributions of 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026

	Cathedral	Rangeway	Bluff Point
Priests' Collection	\$ 1637.15		582.60
Envelopes	\$ 80.00	92.00	250.00
Parish Collection	\$ 1469.75		311.25
Friday Fast	\$ 65.70		



### Lent and Holy Week Service Times are available online

Please visit <https://geraldtoncathedral.org/lent/> or scan this QR Code for Lenten programs and Holy Week Service times to view or download.



### Divine Mercy Holy Hour at Nazareth House

Today, Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 3- 4pm in the Nazareth House main Chapel. All welcome to pray the chaplet and adore Jesus, our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament followed by benediction.



### 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.

### Holy Hour at Nazareth House Chapel

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 4:00-5:00 pm  
Sundays 3-4pm in the Nazareth House main Chapel.



### 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, Pat Miragliotta, Derek Levett, Ron Coumbe, Matthew Greenlees, Ramon Tan Jr., Zenaida Tan, Peg Faithfull, Maureen Lynch, Colleen Salter, Allan Smith and Sr Terri Emslie pbvm.



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

**Anniversaries:** Barry Salter and Maurice Grima.

**Recently Deceased:** Natasha Giles, Maureen Lynch and Kaye Marsh.

## Entrance Antiphon

Six days before the Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem, the children ran to meet him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice cried out: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy! O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! Who is this king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!



## First Reading (Isaiah 50:4-7)

### A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

*The word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

## Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 21)

### R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me deride me. They curl their lips, they toss their heads. 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; let him release him if this is his friend.'

R.

Many dogs have surrounded me, a band of the wicked beset me. They tear holes in my hands and my feet. I can count every one of my bones.

R.

They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe. O Lord, do not leave me alone, my strength, make haste to help me!

R.

I will tell of your name to my brethren and praise you where they are assembled. 'You who fear the Lord give him praise; all sons of Jacob, give him glory. Revere him, Israel's sons.'

R.

## Second Reading (Philippians 2:6-11)

### A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians.

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*The Word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

## Gospel Acclamation

### Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.

### Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!



## Gospel (Matthew 27:11-54)

### The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Jesus was brought before Pontius Pilate, the governor, and the governor put to him this question, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' Jesus replied, 'It is you who say it.' But when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to answer at all. Pilate then said to him, 'Do you not hear how many charges they have brought against you?' But to the governor's complete amazement, he offered no reply

to any of the charges. At festival time it was the governor's practice to release a prisoner for the people, anyone they chose. Now there was at that time a notorious prisoner whose name was Barabbas. So when the crowd gathered, Pilate said to them, 'Which do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?' For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. Now as he was seated in the chair of judgment, his wife sent him a message, 'Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him.' The chief priests and the elders, however, had persuaded the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus. So when the governor spoke and asked them, 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?' they said 'Barabbas'. 'But in that case,' Pilate said to them 'what am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?' They all said, 'Let him be crucified!' 'Why?' he asked 'What harm has he done?' But they shouted all the louder, 'Let him be crucified!' Then Pilate saw that he was making no impression, that in fact a riot was imminent. So he took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd and said, 'I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your concern.' And the people, to a man, shouted back, 'His blood be on us and on our children!' Then he released Barabbas for them. He ordered Jesus to be first scourged and then handed over to be crucified. The governor's soldiers took Jesus with them into the Praetorium and collected the whole cohort round him. Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak, and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make fun of him they knelt to him saying, 'Hail, king of the Jews!' And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head with it. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the cloak and dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him. On their way out, they came across a man from Cyrene, Simon by name, and enlisted him to carry his cross. When they had reached a place called Golgotha, that is, the place of the skull, they gave him wine to drink mixed with gall, which he tasted but refused to drink. When they had finished crucifying him they shared out his clothing by casting lots, and then sat down and stayed there keeping guard over him. Above his head was placed the charge against him: it read: 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' At the same time two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said 'So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself! If you are God's son, come down from the cross!' The chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way. 'He saved others,' they said 'he cannot save himself. He is the king of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He put his trust in God; now let God rescue him if he wants him. For he did say, "I am the son of God." Even the robbers who were crucified with him taunted him in the same way. From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, 'Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani!' that is, 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me!' When some of those who stood there heard this, they said, 'The man is calling on Elijah,' and one of them quickly ran to get a sponge which he dipped in vinegar and putting it on a reed, gave it to him to drink. 'Wait!' said the rest of them 'and see if Elijah will come to save him.' But Jesus again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit.

*All kneel and pause a moment.*

At that, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; the earth quaked; the rocks were split; the tombs opened and the bodies of many holy men rose from the dead, and these, after his resurrection, came out of the tombs, entered the Holy City and appeared to a number of people. Meanwhile the centurion, together with the others guarding Jesus, had seen the earthquake and all that was taking place, and they were terrified and said, 'In truth this was a son of God.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

*Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.*