

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF GERALDTON

St Francis Xavier Cathedral

Administrator Fr Tai Trinh
Assistant Priest Fr Larry Rodillas
Nagle Chaplain Fr Bernard Balara

Parish Secretary: Sr Han
Pastoral Associate: Sr Ngan

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 8:00am

St Peter's Greenough Sunday Mass 8:00am

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

16th August 2026

VOCATION VIEW: "It would be easier for the world to survive without the sun than to do without Holy Mass." (St. Pio of Pietrelcina)

Pope Leo XIV: Attendance at Sunday Mass cannot be replaced by virtual participation



VATICAN CITY-Pope Leo XIV has urged Catholics to prioritize attending Sunday Mass, warning that active participation in the Eucharist cannot be replaced by virtual gatherings.

"I urge everyone to seek the best possible conditions so that even those who are unable to take time off work on Sundays may take part in holy Mass," Leo said.

In his [address](#) during his general audience at the Vatican on Aug. 12, the pontiff continued his catechesis on the Second Vatican Council's constitution on the liturgy, [Sacrosanctum Concilium](#).

As on [Aug. 5](#), his general audience was held inside St. Peter's Basilica due to Rome's high summer temperatures.

The liturgical year according to Pius XII and Prosper Guéranger

Leo explained the importance of the

liturgical year, referencing his predecessor Venerable Pope Pius XII as well as Servant of God Abbot Prosper Guéranger, OSB, the first abbot of Solesmes Abbey in France and a key figure in the liturgical movement.

It is "important to note that this way of referring to the cycle of Christian feasts as the 'liturgical year' became widespread in ecclesiastical language thanks to the work of the Servant of God Abbot Prosper Guéranger," Leo said in his remarks.

The pope also stressed that the liturgical year is not merely a remembrance of past events but, as Pius XII wrote in his encyclical [Mediator Dei](#), "Christ himself, who is ever living in his Church."

"The liturgical year should thus be understood as a constant renewal of the work of salvation which Christ accomplishes in history," the pope said. "As she journeys through this temporal cycle, the Church

remains in contact with the Lord's redemptive action, so that all the faithful may be filled with his grace."

The importance of Sunday Mass

Leo also explained that the Church has always regarded Sunday as a weekly celebration of Christ's resurrection: the "dies Domini" ("the Lord's day").

He urged Catholics to attend Sunday Mass and warned against using virtual gatherings to substitute for in-person attendance.

"To sanctify Sunday, it is essential to celebrate the Eucharist," Leo said. "This assembly cannot be substituted by a solely virtual presence, nor can it be reduced to a merely passive gathering."

"The liturgical assembly is in fact fulfilled through the active participation of brothers and sisters," Leo added.

Source: <https://www.ewtnnews.com/vatican/pope-leo-xiv-attendance-at-sunday-mass-cannot-be-replaced-by-virtual-participation>

48 Hour Rosary Bouquet For Our Lady's Birthday

To participate in this gift to Mary, our Mother, please pledge to say the Rosary for one hour between 6pm Saturday 5th Sep to 6pm Monday 7th Sep 2026. Your Rosary can be prayed wherever is convenient. The Rosary Scroll names will be presented on Tuesday 8th September during the Mass at 12:10pm in St Mary's Cathedral in Perth.

Place your committed time slots on the roster available at the church door this weekend.



Kojarena Annual Mass and Bring and Share Lunch

Annual Mass at St James' Chapel, Kojarena will be celebrated by bishop Michael Morrissey on Sunday 30th August, at 11am. This year we are celebrating 20 years since the Annual Masses commenced. Everyone is welcome to attend Mass as well as to enjoy driving through the beautiful greenish country roads. It's only 30 mins drive from Geraldton.



Fathers' Day Mass Bouquet

Fathers' Day this year falls on Sunday, 6th of September. It is a day to remember, honour and appreciate your father, grandfather or father figures! If you wish to have a Mass offered for them whether they are living or deceased, 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. A register listed with the Mass Bouquet beneficiaries will be placed before the Altar during the Month of September.



"As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him".
(Psalm 103:13)

Parish Office & Holy Shop

11 Maitland Street, Geraldton, WA 6530

PO Box 46, Geraldton, WA 6531

Opening Hours: 9:00am - 1:00pm & 1:30 - 4pm Tuesday-Friday

@ gtonparish@geraldtoncatholic.org.au

www.geraldtoncatholic.org

Parish Office: 08 9964 1608

Safeguarding Officers: 0470 207 707

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



Interested in becoming Catholic ?
or wanting to know more about the Catholic Faith?

Please come join in the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)
Anyone wanting to explore the Catholic Faith is invited to attend the following three enquiry evenings to begin their preparation:
19th August, Wednesday at 5pm; 26th August, Wednesday at 5pm; 2nd September, Wednesday at 5pm

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 2027.
You will be supported throughout by the OCIA Team during the four Phases of Evangelisation and Pre-catechumenate, Catechumenate, Purification and Enlightenment and Mystagogy.
For registration, please contact the Parish Office on 9964 1608. For more information and enrolment form, please visit our Website by scanning the QR code or accessing the URL

<https://geraldtoncathedral.org/ocia/>



St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship

The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. More information and Applications Forms are available on our website uacpallottines.au. Closing Date 31 August 2026

MHHC Museum & Tours

The Monsignor Hawes Heritage Centre (MHHC) is open every day 10am to 4pm (except Tuesdays and Thursdays). If you would like to learn more about John Hawes and SFX Cathedral, tours are available on Sunday, Monday and Wednesday 2:30 pm, and Friday 4 pm. Special Night Tours are held each 2nd Friday of the month. Tickets available at MHHC or at TryBooking (please scan QR code)



Looking for Religious Gifts or Cards?

Piety gift items for many occasions are available in our parish office!

There are beautiful statues, plaques and other items

Bibles, Missals, Crucifix, religious books, medals, rosary beads as well as a great selection of greeting cards for various occasions such as Birthdays, Christening, Feast days, Jubilee, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, Wedding, Jubilee, Anniversaries, etc. *Welcome to visit during Office time!*



Friday Fast

Please continue your generous giving. The small yellow envelopes are located at the entrance to every Church. If you need more envelopes or have any questions about Friday Fast, please scan this QR code to access our Parish Website or via <https://geraldtoncathedral.org/friday-fast/> or contact Jan Bowen on 0438 804 191.



WA Professional Standards Office
for abuse complaints against the Catholic Church

Professional Standards Office WA
Saxon Gee (Perth) 1800 072 390 /08 9221 7762
Email director.wapso@perthcatholic.org.au

Catholic Parishes of Geraldton

Safeguarding Officers **0470 207 707**
Amy Zinetti Leonie Golding Melinda Jupp
Simon Place Ron Pace Rosemary Taylor
Diocesan Director of Safeguarding **Jacqui Correy**
Phone: **9921 3221**, Email: safeguarding@geraldtoncatholic.org.au

Are you or anyone you know housebound or isolated?

The Catholic Parishes of Geraldton Home Visitation Ministry can help. **We Offer:**

*Social and Emotional Support
Friendly, regular visits from trained volunteers
Connection to Parish and Community Services*

For More Information

Gerry Eastman 0417 912 997 Alison Dawson 0438 215 112
<https://geraldtoncathedral.org/visitation-ministry/>

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 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.

Make your contributions online

You are welcome to make EFT transfers using Parish bank details as follows: **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. For more details, visit our webpage using this QR code or via link <https://geraldtoncathedral.org/support-us/>



Parish Finances			
Contributions of 09 August 2026			
	Cathedral	Rangeway	Bluff Point
Priests' Collection \$	1715.00	261.00	665.00
Planned Giving \$	80.00	102.00	150.00
Parish Collection \$	1491.35	261.05	423.55
Friday Fast \$	81.30		



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



Boundaries – geographical, cultural, religious and gender – are crossed in today's gospel. In fact, it's one of the few stories in Matthew's Gospel that takes place outside Jewish territory. Matthew understands the ministry of Jesus being directed firstly to the house of Israel. Only when the good news of the Kingdom of God has been offered to them, will it be offered to "all nations". (Matt 28:19)

Jesus enters the pagan regions of Tyre and Sidon. Both towns were located on the coast north of Israel, and were historically hostile to the Israelites. It's here, in foreign territory, that Jesus is boldly confronted by a Canaanite woman; a descendant of one of Israel's ancient enemies. She symbolises all those who are regarded as 'unclean' by Jesus' own people.

As a mother, she is 'beside herself' with worry and fear for her precious daughter, whom she says is "tormented by a demon". There is no doubt that they would have been subjected to exclusion, suspicion and rejection, based on the false understanding of the time, that such an affliction was a result of sin.

Despite the fact that she is a woman, and an 'outsider', out of desperation and driven by a strong and unrelenting mother's love for her child in need, she calls out to Jesus, declaring him to be, "Lord, Son of David" – a remarkable confession of faith for a non-Jew.

Perhaps surprisingly to us, Jesus initially



remains silent; seemingly ignoring the woman and excluding her from his ministry. The disciples are impatient and don't want to get involved with her, and they ask Jesus to "send her away".

By way of a further rebuke, Jesus declares that his mission is only to "the house of Israel". But the woman is not deterred. Her daughter's life is at stake, and she draws on deep courage and raw nerve to plead with Jesus a second time: "Lord, help me". Jesus'

reply seems insensitive: "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs".

This seeming harsh 'put down' of the woman, strengthens her resolve further, and she seizes her opportunity with both hands to challenge Jesus on 'who' are to be the recipients of his ministry. Pet dogs are allowed to eat the crumbs that fall from table, and she is simply asking for one such crumb for her daughter and herself.

The Canaanite woman's single-mindedness, tenacity and persistence, lead Jesus to praise her great faith, and heal her daughter. In doing so, Jesus moves into new territory of understanding himself and his mission. He demonstrates who he really is – the Saviour; and he acknowledges their rightful place among the saved.

The encounter between Jesus and the Canaanite woman reveals the unconditional and unrestricted mercy of Jesus, the power of faith and the promise of salvation for all who believe.

David J Hore CSsR © Majellan Media 2026
#4195

Exposition in the Cathedral

Every Thursday after 7am Mass until 8am, Saturdays 8:30-9:00 am followed by Mass.

Eucharist Adoration in Saint Lawrence's Church

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for adoration 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at St Lawrence's Eucharistic chapel. For more information, please contact Father Tai on 0407 650 229

Holy Hour at Nazareth House Chapel

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



Coming up for a blessing during Communion

Those who do not receive holy Communion including non-Catholics and non-Baptised, are welcome to join the line of communicants holding arms across your chest, to receive a blessing from a Priest or an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. Thank you.



Faith Formation on Eucharist Online Course

University of Notre Dame Australia is pleased to promote a series of online short courses for parishioners to learn and grow together in faith. To encourage community participation, parish groups may register for an in-person gathering with an **unlimited number of attendees**. For more information and registration details, please see scan the QR code or register at www.gomakedisciples.org.au/didasko



The Pilgrim Rosary Statue of the Cathedral

The Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in Moira McLean's house at 124 Fitzgerald Street from 17th August to 28th August.



Christan Meditation in the Crypt

Every Wednesday after 7:00 Mass, 7:30 until 8:00am. For more information, please contact Mrs Iris Bolton on 0498 162 774 and leave a short message with **your name + mediation**.

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, Colleen Salter, Sr Terri Emslie pbvm, David Muir, and Bronwyn Marsh, Vivienne Ross



For the deceased: Frank & Lina Zinetti, Jim & Nancy Ward, Gerry Miles

Anniversary: Frank Sciuto, Fr Peter Downes, Gladys Moore and Colleen Shanks, Carmela Bertonie

Recently Deceased: Betty Thompson

Please keep in your daily prayer the sick & deceased, including those grieving.

Did you know?

All necessary information including Sacraments and bulletins are available on our website. Please visit www.geraldtoncathedral.org

Entrance Antiphon

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

First Reading (Isaiah 56:1, 6-7)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest. Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants - all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant - these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 66)

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help.

R.

Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth.

R.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him.

R.

Second Reading (Romans 11:13-15, 29-32)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice. Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now - and only because of the mercy shown to you - will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

Gospel (Matthew 15:21-28)

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

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.

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.

Feasts of the Week2

20	Aug	Thurs	Saint Bernard
21	Aug	Fri	Saint Pius X
22	Aug	Sat	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Is 22:1,19-23 | Psalm 137 | Romans 11:33-36 | Mt16:13-20

"Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105)