

WHO ARE WE EXPECTING?

Amidst the rush of the 'festive season', who are we expecting this Advent? A Messiah perhaps? If so, what sort of Messiah do we imagine will turn up? John the Baptist, in prison, sends messengers enquiring of Jesus are you the one, or must we wait for another?

Last week John declared Jesus was the one who is to come – as the prophet Isaiah had foretold – but now he's not so sure. He's puzzled by what he's heard. Jesus responds by saying, "go and tell John what's been happening throughout Galilee". What disorients John is that not only does Jesus instruct, he also heals the blind, the lame, the lepers, the deaf, the poor, and those with no one to turn to. A new creation is happening – a re-creation – and Matthew's gospel has called our attention to it from the beginning.

The ascetic, prophetic John of last week – calling people to repent, dressed in camel hair and eating off the land – has told of the one who will bring a fierce judgment. So, who is this? Is this what the prophets foretold? Yes, Jesus calls people to repentance, but, by calling up the words of the prophet Isaiah again, lets it be known these healings are a sign of the new age that the Messiah will usher in: the kingdom of heaven is here.

The question for all of us at this time is what have we seen and heard this year? What is happening among us? Do the blind see, the lame walk, the deaf hear, do the poor get dental care, the homeless a place to live? Is the good news good for them? Is Jesus the one, or must we look around for another? These questions are being asked of us, all the more pointedly at this moment, which is why we have to make a response.

If there are no signs, or few that we can discern, then we might, like John in prison, become more and more uncertain of this person and wonder whether he is the one we continue to say he is. And we may turn away from him, because we had expected someone, something different. Jesus, recognising God's grace, says: 'Happy is the man who doesn't lose faith in me'.

The messengers leave and Jesus declares John to be the greatest of the prophets; but, he continues, the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater still. John's greatness only serves to highlight the fullness of life to which we are called; but, it is a fullness, a greatness, made real by doing what Jesus does – like the disciples he sent out previously – listening to, inviting into our midst those with no one to turn to. Is this the one we're expecting this Advent?

Damian Coleridge
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Gosnells Catholic Parish

Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament Church
Archdiocese of Perth
Western Australia



Parish Priest: Fr Philip Perreau
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Email: gosnells@perthcatholic.org.au
Website: www.gosnellsparish.org.au

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday to Friday 9.00am - 1.30pm

Entry by: 1 Isdell Place, Gosnells

Parish Secretary:

Naomi Newman: 9398 2331
Email: secretary@gosnellsparish.org.au

Catechist Coordinator

Barbara Ingram : 9398 2864

Safeguarding Officers

safeguarding@gosnellsparish.org.au
0432 398 973

SVDP Local Contact

Genevieve De Souza : 9398 5375

15th December, 2019

Third Sunday of Advent Year A

Today's Readings

Isiah 35:1-6
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

22nd December, 2019

Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A

Next Sunday's Readings

Isiah 35:1-6,10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

St Munchin's Catholic Primary School



Principal: Mr Robert Romeo
1 Isdell Place, Gosnells
PO Box 172, Gosnells WA 6990
9234 7555
admin@stmunchins.wa.edu.au

Follow Truth

Sunday Bulletin

Parish Liturgies

Weekend Mass	Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass, Sunday 7.30am, Sunday 9.30am
Weekday Mass	Monday 8.00am Communion Service (Mass on Solemnity only) Tuesday 6.00pm Mass - 1st Tuesday Mass of Anointing Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday 8.00am Mass Friday 9.00am Mass
Reconciliation	Saturday 5.00-5.45pm or anytime by appointment
Buckley Caring Centre	10.00am Mass - Second Thursday of the Month
Juniper Aged Care	11.00am Mass - Third Friday of the Month
Rosary	After weekday Masses
Exposition	Tuesday 5.00-6.00pm with Benediction, Sunday 6.00 - 7.00pm
Charismatic Prayer	Thursday 7.30pm - 9.30pm.
Baptism	Sunday at 11.00am, or by arrangement
Marriage	By appointment - Minimum SIX MONTHS notice for preparation etc

2020 Columban Calendar

Support your Vinnies by purchasing a 2020 Columban Calendar at only \$8 each. Calendars are available in the Church foyer. Place your contribution in the envelope provided and drop it into the SVDP Poor Box at the back of the church.



The Way
Advent and Christmas
Daily Reflections
2019
(70-page pocket size booklet)
Now available in the foyer.

Praying For You

Recently Deceased

Andrija Lendich, Leoncia Padillo

Deceased

Melvin Fredericks,
James Murphy

Death Anniversary

Terrance Black, Veronica Morris, Brandon Vershuer

Our Sick

Richard Bisnath,
Gerry & Annette Greenway,
Wendy Price, Fran Wiffen,
Ding Madrigal, Zee Pereira,
John Warui, Metilde Warui,
Con Farano, Natasha Curran,
Hirute Selassie, Peter Cox,
Mary Hazel Calupig, Bill Tucker,
Margaret Evans, Rene Priest,
Erika Magness, Ian Ballantyne,
Mavis Hall, Rose Thomas,



Feast Days this Week

Dec 18	Wed	St Flannan
21	Sat	St Peter Canisius

Rosters for 14/15 December, 2019

Mass	Greeters	Reader	Commentator	Acolyte	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers
Saturday 6.00pm	Theresa Spicer Sandra Wren	Mary Ann Bombita	Faye Mitchell	Stewart Bazzica	Lloyd Davies, Bridget Soh Cigi Dcruz, Ludette Van Der Spil Faye Mitchell, Christy Ravanez	Emmanuel Armoogum, Bella Bresland Diobett Bangayan, Tristan Bettridge Athena Calupig, Matthew Costantino
Sunday 7.30am	Yvonne Padua Ann Ralston	Alaster Croning	Kath Ryan	Larry Cavallo	Rod McAtee, Ann Ralston Volunteer, Volunteer	Andrea Martin, Aldric Ratnasekera Ayden Ratnasekera, Joel Thomas
Sunday 9.30am	Jane Fernandez Ciara Jacob	Helen Magness	Hedwig Kanari	Nigel Hayward	Servite Sister, Peta Phillips Silvana Sciorilli, Elsie T-Boundy Evelyn Yozzi, Joe Yozzi	Emily Crestani, Larissa Farr Linleigh Frasco, Angel Garavillas Paige Jacob, Sanjay Jojo
Tellers this week: Loretta Watson, Rosa Pedulla, Kath Ryan				Tellers next week: Bette Lyra, Cheryl Andrade, Clint & Thu Barnes		

Rosters for 21/22 December, 2019

Mass	Greeters	Reader	Commentator	Acolyte	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers
Saturday 6.00pm	Mercy Burton Rosa Ford	Pam Davies	Natasha Pinto	Martin Loh	Sandra Wren, Remi Biju Pam Davies, Lloyd Davies Cigi Dcruz, Vivian Loh	Patrick Costantino, Lance Dcruz Leslie Dcruz, Angel Donina Cailin Keane, Gabby Keane
Sunday 7.30am	Eric Almen Wendie Almen	Cheryl Andrade	Greg Drew	Geoff Mills	Peter Mack, Rod McAtee Diana Chong, Ann Ralston	Joses Thomas, Josey Thomas Michael Almen, Tom Antu
Sunday 9.30am	Ciara & Keanu Malagui-Hicks	Tiffany Mitchell	Bec Malagui-Hicks	Dan Hewitt	Servite Sister, Pay Tru Francisco Aung, Michael Ayeni Anne Brink, Jim Brink	Noel Justin, Sophia Kay Enrico Labrador, Elaine Labrador Alexander Lim, Keanu Malagui-Hicks

WE CARE

SVDP Emergency Relief Phone 1300 794 054

Marycare Contact Maureen 9398 7375 Anne 9490 3377





Jesus is the Reason for the Season

Advent

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday, 19th Dec at 7.00pm. The Second Rite of Reconciliation will take place with several priests present. Let us prepare for the Season of Peace by reconciling ourselves with God and with one another.

The Second Rite of Reconciliation will also be celebrated at Sacred Heart Thornlie Tuesday, 17th Dec at 7.00pm.

Our Christmas Celebrations

Tuesday, 24th December

5.15pm Carols followed by 6.00pm Family Vigil Mass

11.15pm Carols followed by Midnight Mass



Wednesday, 25th December

8.30am Christmas Morning Mass



Let's invite our family, friends and neighbours to our Christmas celebration and share our joy with them.

Please note that the overflow car park for Christmas Masses will be on the St Munchin's school oval, accessed via the Corfield Street carpark.



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Fr Hieu's Farewell

Fr Hieu will be leaving our parish on 26th December. Please join us today after 9.30am Mass for a farewell gathering for him in the parish centre. Please bring a plate of finger food to share. Also, last chance to sign the farewell card for him.

Christmas Family Mass Acting out the Nativity Story



We invite all children in primary school to participate in acting out the story of the birth of Jesus at the Family Christmas Mass at 6pm on Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24th December. Please register in the foyer. Last rehearsal will be held in the church on Friday 20th at 4.30pm.

The Jesse Tree

The Jesse tree helps us connect the custom of decorating our Christmas trees to the events leading to the birth of Jesus. The Jesse tree is named from Isaiah 11:1: "A shoot shall come out of the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots." Jesse was the father of King David. We adorn a Jesse tree with illustrated ornaments that represent the people, prophecies, and events leading up to the birth of Jesus. The ornaments of the Jesse tree tell the story of God in the Old Testament, connecting the Advent season with the faithfulness of God across four thousand years of history.



Christmas Rosters

We need your help if you are a Reader, Commentator, Altar Server, Eucharist Minister or Acolyte as many of those who regularly serve will be away for the Christmas Service. If you can help serve at our Christmas Masses please put your name down on the list in the foyer.

Christmas Hamper Raffle

Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Winners will be drawn after 9.30am Mass, 22nd December. All proceeds to aid parish funds.



Liturgy of the Word for Children

The Liturgy of the Word, normally conducted at our 9.30am Mass, for Children 4 years and over is in recess until the new school year begins. We pray that the children will enjoy the holidays and continue to join our Sunday Liturgy with their families.

Parish Safeguarding Officers

The Perth Catholic Archdiocese is committed to the safety and security of all children and young people. If you have any safety concerns about a person in the parish or about a child protection or child safety issue, you can discuss it with the Parish Safeguarding Officers.

Phone 0432 398 973 or email safeguarding@gosnellsparish.org.au



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New Rosters

The roster for Extraordinary Ministers and Acolytes for the next four months is available in the foyer. Please ensure that you collect a copy for your reference at home. Once again thank you for your service to our community.

All Singers and Musicians

Come along and meet the fabulous and friendly choir members and let's make Christmas extra special. Practice is every Monday night from 7pm to 8.30pm, in the church. Please use the Corfield St entrance. New parishioners are especially encouraged to join us for fun and friendship while serving the needs of the parish with music. Enquiries: Suzanne 0423 771 796 or Brenda 0414 098 705.



Christmas Children's Choir

The Children's Choir will sing for the Family Mass on Christmas Eve. Practice has begun, but not too late to join us Mondays from 3pm (with 3.30pm start) to 4.30pm in the Church. Parents are welcome to stay. Carols will be sung for the half hour prior to Mass on Christmas eve. All enquiries to Suzanne Bazzica 0423 771 796.



Flowers for Christmas

We once again are asking parishioners to help with the purchase of flowers for our Christmas decorations. There is a container in the foyer to take your donation. May God continue to bless and keep you and your family as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ.



Buckets For Jesus Christmas Bazaar

Looking for something different? Come down to our Christmas Bazaar for some great gift Ideas, clothes, shoes, bric-a-bracs, plants, furniture and much more. Saturdays 9am to 4pm, 4 Cowle Street, West Perth. All proceeds to the earthquake victims and homeless. See bulletin board for more information.

Vinnies

There is still time to make a difference to someone's life this Christmas. Help your local Vinnies by donating to our Poor Box, utilising our Christmas Appeal envelopes, a pack of Christmas Cards in exchange for a gold coin donation or purchasing a Columban Calendar. As always, your Vinnies thank you for your support.



Marycare Volunteers

Insurance Forms are required to be completed by all of our Volunteers. Please collect a form from the glass cabinet in the church foyer if you have not completed one previously. Place the completed form in the Parish Office In Box in the foyer or return to the Parish Office as soon as possible. Enquiries to Marycare Co-ordinators or the parish office.

The Red Wagon

It was the day after Christmas at a church in San Francisco. The pastor of the church was looking at the manger scene, when he noticed that the baby Jesus figure was missing from the cradle. He immediately turned and went outside and saw a little boy with a red wagon walking down the street. And in the wagon, was the figure of the infant Jesus. So he walked up to the boy and said, 'Son, where did you get that little baby Jesus that's in your wagon?'

The little boy replied, 'I got him from the church.'

'Why did you take him?' asked the pastor.

The little boy replied, 'Well, about a week before Christmas, I prayed to the little Lord Jesus. I told him if he would bring me a red wagon for Christmas, I would give him a ride around the block in it.'

Catholic Faith Renewal

We wish to remind you about our coming Weekend Retreat By Fr Gino Henriques. "The Joy of the Gospel" Friday, 1 May, 6.00pm to Sunday 3 May, 5.00pm - 2020. Advent Park 345 Kalamunda Rd, Maida Vale. Each day will begin with morning Prayers and Praise & Worship, followed by teachings from Fr Gino. Daily Holy Mass & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. More details to follow nearer the date. For more information please call Charles 0413 755 799, Ron or Rita 0422 917 054 or email: catholicfaithrenewal@gmail.com

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