

## A VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS

I recall a scripture scholar describing John the Baptist as an extremely eccentric character with an odd wardrobe and an unusual diet. However, you imagine him, certainly John must have had a captivating personality, attracting large followings in less than comfortable surroundings, and this surely suggests that his message carried real conviction.

Mark and his fellow gospel writers are in no doubt that John the Baptist is the fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecies about the one who would prepare the way for the coming of the messiah. Accordingly, John takes centre-stage in the liturgies of Advent. He invites us to think about our lives and to what extent we have welcomed the Lord into them, and how readily we are responding to his continuing invitation to follow him.

In his second letter Saint Peter is obviously concerned that the enthusiasm of some members of the early Christian community is beginning to wane because the promised Second Coming of the Lord has not arrived, and here are we, two thousand years later, still waiting and wondering. Of course, one of the fascinating aspects of Advent is that it expects us not only to commemorate the First Coming – the birth of the Christ-child in Bethlehem – but also requires us to look forward to his Second Coming in glory.

As we mature through life, we may well, like those Christians of the first century begin to wane in our zeal and commitment. It can prove difficult to capture the magic of Christmas as we experienced it in our childhood, and the Second Coming may seem like a dim and distant prospect. However hard we try "to live lives without spot or stain", we may be growing weary, wondering how the Lord is going to fulfil his promises for us personally and for the whole of his creation.

Perhaps one of the lessons we can learn from this Sunday's liturgy is that we are not likely to find the answers in the hustle and bustle of everyday life. We do need to withdraw into the desert within ourselves if we are to hear the voice in the wilderness calling us to "make a straight highway for our God". The temptation is to allow the cacophony of voices to distract us and crowd out the one voice that wants to clarify our thinking and give us the inner peace that will put everything into perspective.

Entering the mind of God, we will discover that a day can mean a thousand years, while a thousand years are like a day. With that perspective we may be able to recapture the joy of our youth and the sense of wonder that infused our minds at Christmas in those days. Remember: we need the trust of the little child to be ready for the Kingdom. A very happy Christmas to one and all.

Timothy J Buckley CSsR  
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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**  
philip.perreau@perthcatholic.org.au

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Alternate Entry by: 1 Isdell Place, Gosnells  
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Telephone: 9398 2331  
Email: [gosnells@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:gosnells@perthcatholic.org.au)  
Website: [www.gosnellsparish.org.au](http://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](mailto:secretary@gosnellsparish.org.au)

### Catechist Coordinator

Gen De Souza: 0408 717 809

### Safeguarding Officers

Email: [safeguarding@gosnellsparish.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@gosnellsparish.org.au)  
0432 398 973

### SVDP Local Contact

Loretta Watson: 0451 794 790

### Gosnells Youth

Veronica Ayeni: 0424 812 632  
Email: [gosnellsyouth@gmail.com](mailto:gosnellsyouth@gmail.com)

## 10th December, 2023

**2nd Sunday of Advent**

**Year B**

**Violet**

**Today's Readings**

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

2 St Peter 3:8-14

Mark 1:1-8

## 17th December, 2023

**3rd Sunday of Advent**

**Year B**

**Violet**

**Next Sunday's Readings**

Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11

1 Thess 5 16-24

John 1 6-8, 19-28

### St Munchin's Catholic Primary School



Principal: Mr Kevin Duffy  
1 Isdell Place, Gosnells  
PO Box 172, Gosnells WA 6990  
9234 7555  
[admin@stmunchins.wa.edu.au](mailto:admin@stmunchins.wa.edu.au)

Follow Truth

# Sunday Bulletin

Parish Liturgies	
<b>Weekend Mass</b>	Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass, Sunday 7.30am, Sunday 9.30am
<b>Weekday Mass</b>	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
<b>Reconciliation</b>	Saturday 5.00pm - 5.45pm or by appointment
<b>Buckley Caring Centre</b>	10.00am Mass - Second Thursday of the Month
<b>Juniper Aged Care</b>	11.00am Mass - Third Friday of the Month
<b>Rosary</b>	After weekday Masses
<b>Exposition</b>	Tuesday 5.00pm - 6.00pm with Benediction, Sunday 6.00pm - 7.00pm
<b>Charismatic Prayer</b>	Thursday 7.15pm - 9.00pm.
<b>Baptism</b>	Sunday at 11.00am, or by arrangement
<b>Marriage</b>	By appointment - Minimum <b>SIX MONTHS</b> notice for preparation etc
Parish Meetings	
<b>Parish Pastoral Council</b>	Tuesday, 12th December Parish Centre, 6.45pm
<b>Vinnies</b>	Wednesday, 13th December Parish Centre at 7.30pm

### 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, prophesies, 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.



## Praying For You



### Recently Deceased

Brenda Ring

### Death Anniversary

Daniele Di Martino, Domico Di Martino, Sr Magdala Mary OSM, Sr Ladisca Mary OSM, Sr Iruthaya Selvi Mary OSM, Narcido Obera Jnr, Felicidad Obera

### Deceased

Beatrice Moreira, Walter Moreira, Julia Roach

### Our Sick

Bethwyn Johnson, Owen D'Souza, Fran Vallis, Pat Simm, Ammini Jose, John Breag, Conrad Briggs, Joel Celine, Dennis Ford,

**Prayers for the Sick:** We thank God that our prayers have been answered for several people on our list. Some names have now been removed. If you wish to have any name re-instated, or removed, please contact the Parish Secretary.

### Funeral

A Mass of Thanksgiving was offered in our Church on Friday, 8th December for Mrs Brenda Ring, recently deceased.

### Feast Days this Week

Dec	Mon	Pope St Damasus I, St Mara Maravillas of Jesus
11	Mon	Pope St Damasus I, St Mara Maravillas of Jesus
12	Tue	Our Lady of Guadalupe, St Finian of Clonard
13	Wed	St Lucy
14	Thu	St John of the Cross

### Rosters for 9/10 December, 2023

Mass	Greeters	Reader	Commentator	Acolyte	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers
Saturday 6.00pm	Rosa Ford Theresa Spicer	Carina Limgenco	Lynette Lieveaux	Volunteer	Remi Biju Carina Limgenco	Kyle Marquis, Clinton Matthews Jacob Raymond, Carl Agus
Sunday 7.30am	Jennifer Barnes Jackie Hall	Jenny Mills	Geoff Mills	Larry Cavallo	Pay Tru Diana Chong	Scott Tido, Caleb Watkins Callie Abogado, Jake Antu
Sunday 9.30am	Karen Suarez Robert Szlezak	Ciara Malagui-Hicks	Bec Malagui-Hicks	Phillip Magness	Silvana Sciorilli Robert Szlezak	Liam James, Kripa Jojo Olivia Justin, Aung Kintha Gei Long Ya Kintha, Alisha Liyanage
Tellers this week: Sue & Vincent Frawley, Darryl le Guay				Tellers next week: Sidney & Esmie D'Souza, Faye Rodriguez		

### Rosters for 16/17 December, 2023

Mass	Greeters	Reader	Commentator	Acolyte	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers
Saturday 6.00pm	Sandra Wren Mercy Burton	Joshua Mahamu	Vilma Lyra	Martin Loh	Vivian Loh Faye Mitchell	Melanie Beacher, Teron Bouzin, Athena Calupig, Jacob Malou
Sunday 7.30am	Alan Da Silva Yvonne Da Silva	Jeanette Pedulla	Sean Mullins	Geoff Mills	Sue Frawley Vincent Frawley	Callie Abogado, Jake Antu, Tom Antu, Bionney Bangayan
Sunday 9.30am	Francis Xavier Hanna Allen	Jerlyn Patrick	Dion Robson	Nigel Hayward	Evelyn Yozzi Joe Yozzi	Keanu Malagui-Hicks, Julia Marano, Patrina Paesu, Justus Shilo, Martin Yatar, Carl Borlongan

**WE CARE**

**SVDP Emergency Relief** Phone 1300 794 054  
Marycare Maureen L 0414 937 440 Anne 9490 3377 Maureen B 0411 691





## Jesus is the Reason for the Season Advent Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesday, 13th December 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.

**Second Rite of Reconciliation will also be celebrated at:**

Good Shepherd Kelmscott, Tuesday 12th December, 7.00pm.

St Francis Xavier Armadale, Thursday 14th December, 7.00pm.

## Our Christmas Celebrations

**Sunday, 24th December**

5.15pm Carols followed by 6.00pm Family Vigil Mass

11.15pm Carols followed by Midnight Mass

**Monday, 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.

The overflow carpark for Christmas Masses will be on the St Munchin's School oval, accessed via the Corfield St carpark.



## 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, Sunday 24th December. Please register today. Rehearsals will be held in the church on Wednesday 13th and 20th December at 4.30pm.

## 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.



## The Sign

Advent and Christmas  
Daily Reflections  
2023 Available in the  
church foyer.

Please collect your copy  
today

## Christmas Hamper Raffle

Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Winners will be drawn after 9.30am Mass, Sunday, 24th December. All proceeds to aid parish funds. Tickets are on sale today.



## Morning Tea Helpers are Needed

The new roster for Morning Tea will be drawn up soon for 2024.

New volunteers are especially invited to join this ministry and add their names to the list in the foyer.



## 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](mailto:safeguarding@gosnellsparish.org.au)



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**CALL IN FOR A VISIT**

## Golden Age Club



The next Club Day will be in the Parish Centre Tuesday 12th December from 9.00am. BYO lunch. Bingo from 12.15pm. For all parishioners 50 years and over to enjoy card games, carpet bowls, fellowship. New members are always welcome. Attendance Fee \$2.00. More information from Rose Heald 0418 948 245.

## 2024 Columban Calendar

Support your Vinnies by purchasing a 2024 Columban Calendar at only \$10 each. Calendars are available in the Church foyer. Please place your contribution in an envelope before placing in the SVDP poor box in the church next to the sliding doors.

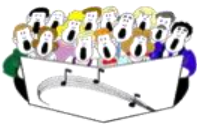


## Vinnies Christmas Appeal - Thank You

The Vinnies would like to say a big THANK YOU for your support of the Christmas Appeal last weekend. Through your generosity we raised \$5099.25 It's not too late to pick up a star off our Christmas Tree. All presents should be delivered by 17/12/23. We also have a number of school back packs available for free. Please phone 0417 941 670 if you would like to pick one up.



## Christmas Choirs



Please join us on Mondays at 7pm in the church if you would like to sing with the Christmas Choirs. Don't wait until the last moment. It puts us in the 'mood' for Christmas, and we give to each other, and to the Lord, by sharing time together for the benefit of others. We would love some more male voices. Children are welcome to join in as well, with their parents. Enquiries Brenda 0414 098 705 or Dan 0409 849 049.

## 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 bless you and your family as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ.



## Readers : Break Open The Word

The 2024 Book for Readers is available for Proclaimers of the Word to borrow to help prepare for their reading ministry. All copies are 'Parish' stamped and should be held by the Readers for just one week at a time.



## WA Young Salesian - Summer Camp 8<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Are you between 11½ -15yrs or starting Year 7 in 2024? Come and join us for this 5 day fun filled camp at Nanga Bush Camp, Dwellingup. From only \$270 (less than \$54 a day). Contact Fr Philip, visit the website or contact Graham Maher on 0418 979 600 for more information. Register now at: [www.wayoungsalesians.com](http://www.wayoungsalesians.com)



## On The Bulletin Board


**Various employment opportunities from the Archdiocese of Perth.**  
Advent Events For Families, Women And Girls At The Schoenstatt Shrine  
17th November to 17th December.  
Garden of Eden, Young Catholics Ball, 17th February 2024.  
**Please have a look on our bulletin board for more information.**



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