

HIDDEN TREASURES

Many would have seen the 2016 movie, "Hidden Figures," which focused on the roles of three African American women mathematicians - Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson – who worked at NASA during the Mercury program. Few would have known how these three women played crucial roles in the success of John Glenn's historic spaceflight.

The film highlights their struggles against racial and gender discrimination while contributing significantly to the US space program during the early 1960s. It is a powerful portrayal of their achievements and the challenges they faced in a segregated society. In today's gospel, we encounter two other "hidden" women, whose contribution to the Jesus' story is often overlooked or underestimated.

Mary, Jesus' mother is well known; but her role is often glossed over with pious niceties and elevated titles, which tell us very little about her true strength of character. In the opening chapters of Luke, Mary accepts a divine call to be the mother of Jesus, embarks on perilous quests to fulfil that vocation, and embraces a challenging vision of a coming end time revolution when paupers will displace kings (Lk 1:2).

Similarly, the elderly widow and seer, Anna, appears exercising matriarchal privilege and prophetic authority. Luke tells us that for many decades she "never left the temple, where she worshiped with fasting and prayer night and day" (Lk 2:37). This description implies that her role as a prophetess involved both religious and political activity. It is significant that she carries out this role in the Temple, the Jewish centre not only of social, political, and religious life, but also end time expectations. Like Mary, Anna "began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were expecting the redemption of Jerusalem" (Lk 2:38).

Anna and Mary lived in a society with its own set of challenges and expectations. As wives and mothers, one would normally expect them to be portrayed as homemakers concerned with cooking, cleaning, clothing, and childrearing. In the first century, a Jewish woman could exercise considerable freedom in domestic affairs, including managing servants in larger households. In the absence of a male authority, either through the death of her husband or other factors, a woman could govern her own affairs.

But women did not normally exercise authority in the public sphere. Even the privileged wives, widows and daughters of nobles and powerful officials could only aspire to employing influence within their immediate circles of friends and family.

Anna's very public allegiance to her faith and Mary's heroic role in pursuing her vocation were remarkable acts that broke societal norms. Anna and Mary showed strength and resilience in the face of the ruling patriarchy, and, ultimately, had a substantial impact on the subsequent events of history.

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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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Gosnells WA 6990
Telephone: 9398 2331
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

Gen De Souza: 0408 717 809

Safeguarding Officers

Email: safeguarding@gosnellsparish.org.au
0432 398 973

SVDP Local Contact

Loretta Watson: 0451 794 790

Gosnells Youth

Veronica Aveni: 0424 812 632
Email: gosnellsyouth@gmail.com

31st December, 2023

The Holy Family of Jesus,

Mary and Joseph

Year B

White

Today's Readings

Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3

Hebrew 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

Luke 2:22-40

7th January, 2024

The Epiphany of the Lord

Year B

White

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

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

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 5.00pm - 5.45pm or 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 5.00pm - 6.00pm with Benediction, Sunday 6.00pm - 7.00pm
Charismatic Prayer	Thursday 7.15pm - 9.00pm.
Baptism	Sunday at 11.00am, or by arrangement
Marriage	By appointment - Minimum SIX MONTHS notice for preparation etc

Christmas Hamper Raffle Winners

Congratulations to our hamper winners! 1st Prize: Carina, 2nd Prize: Silvana, 3rd Prize: Mary, 4th Prize: Sue, 5th Prize: Faye, 6th Prize: Rosalind, 7th Prize: Tracey, 8th Prize: Giovanni, 9th Prize: Dan

If you were not at the 9.30am Mass last week, please bring your winning ticket to claim your prize from Fr Philip after Mass. Amount raised was 1,000.00. Thank you for all your support.



Golden Age Club

Merry Christmas to all and have a safe and Happy New Year.

We will be in recess until club days resume Tuesday, January 16th 2024.



Praying For You

Recently Deceased

Thelma Lopez, Marisa Thackray,
Donald Van Der Spil

Death Anniversary

Elia Ittiachan, Antonio Squilace

Deceased

Ittiachan, U Shel Law

Our Sick

Bethwyn Johnson, Owen D'Souza, Fran Vallis,
Pat Simm, Ammini Jose, John Breag,
Conrad Briggs, Joel Celine, Dennis Ford,
Letecia Niembra, Wendy Kraft, Cecilia Lee,
Dolly, Elvira Panici-Allen, Annabelle McNess,
Richard Bisnath, Wendy Price, Fran Wiffen.



Jan 1	Mon	Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Jan 2	Tues	St Basil the Great & St Gregory Nazianen
Jan 3	Wed	The Most Holy Name of Jesus, St Munchin, St Genevieve, St Kuriakose Elias Chavara
Jan 4	Thur	St Elizabeth Ann Setan
Jan 5	Fri	St John Neumann

Rosters for 30/31 December, 2023

Mass	Greeters	Reader	Commentator	Acolyte	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers
Saturday 6.00pm	Sandra Wren Mercy Burton	Ayden Ratnasekera	Natasha Pinto	Martin Loh	Ludette Van Der Spil Mark van Ingen	Melanie Beacher, Teron Bouzin, Athena Calupig, Carl Agus
Sunday 7.30am	Inoka Ratnasekera Sandra Reid	Inoka Ratnasekera	Jack Roach	Clint Barnes	Chloe Pereira-Smith Inoka Ratnasekera	Callie Abogado, Jake Antu, Scott Tido, Caleb Watkins
Sunday 9.30am	Veronica Ayeni Anne Brink	Robert Szlezak	Yuriy Volikov	Lenny Dcruz	Anne Brink Jim Brink	James Jacob, Liam James, Kripa Jojo, Olivia Justin, Aung Kintha, Gei Long Ya Kintha

Tellers this week: Geoff & Jenny Mills, Cheryl Martin

Tellers next week: Jim & Anne Brink, Kerry Keys

Rosters for 6/7 January, 2024

Mass	Greeters	Reader	Commentator	Acolyte	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers
Saturday 6.00pm	Rosa Ford Theresa Spicer	Aydriel Ratnasekera	Mary Ann Bombita	Colin Loh	Miriam Villan Tracey van Ingen	Jacob Malou, Joshua Manda, Kyle Marquis, Clinton Matthews
Sunday 7.30am	Dion Robson Shania Tido	Ronan Roach	Sr Savarie	Larry Cavallo	Pay Tru Diana Chong	Tom Antu, Bionney Bangayan, Diobett Bangayan, Adriel Ratnasekera
Sunday 9.30am	Leslie Dcruz Kerry Keys	Hanna Allen	Maureen Byrne	Philip Magness	Maureen Byrne Cigi Dcruz	Alisha Liyanage, Keanu Malagui- Hicks, Patrina Paesu, Julia Marano, Justus Shilo, Martin Yatar

WE CARE

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





Jesus, the Reason for the Season!

Wishing everyone a happy and Holy Christmas. May the joy we celebrate this season be the joy we share with others. May the peace that Jesus brings be ours to keep.

CHRISTMAS THANK YOU

Thank you to all those who were involved in making this Christmas a joyous celebration. So many people gave so much of their time and love. Thank you to those who so generously donated towards the costs of our Christmas flowers and those who arranged the flowers so beautifully. Those who set up the Christmas crib and the members of the music ministry who spent so much time in practice and then leading us into singing with joy, all the children and their parents who were involved in bringing to life the Christmas Story for the Vigil Family Mass, the readers and commentators, the acolytes and altar servers, the sacristan, those who donated the chocolate for the children, and those who organised the cake and wine after the Midnight Mass. Thank you too for bringing your relatives, friends and neighbours to our Christmas Masses.

I would also like to thank all of you for your many gifts, well wishes and support.

May the peace of God's Love be with you always.
Sincerely,
Fr Philip



New Year 2024 Mass

There will be Mass on Monday, 1st January at 9.00am to celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God.

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.

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.



Marycare

The Co-ordinators and volunteers of Marycare, extend best wishes to all parishioners for this Holy Christmas Season and for the new year.

We thank you for all your support during the year.

A volunteer recently shared the following: "Just being able to bring a little bit of joy to someone's life, a little bit of support and help that's momentary, like taking someone to an appointment or taking someone to the shops. It doesn't take a lot out of your life but it's giving them some much needed help. It makes them feel less stressed. You know that you're just doing them a little favour."



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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CALL IN FOR A VISIT

Parish Office Closure

The Parish office will be closed from 26th December to 9th January 2024. A heart felt thank-you to all our parishioners that donate their time by volunteering for our Parish ministries, out-reach programs through Marycare and St Vincent de Paul, our Parish Committees and to all that have contributed to our Parish in any way. May your Christmas be filled with the love and light of the Holy Spirit as we celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. May the new year be filled with many blessings.

Sincerely,
Naomi, Parish Secretary



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34th Annual Flame Congress January 2024 "REJOICE"

"REJOICE" Flame Ministries International 34th Annual Flame Congress at John XXIII College, Mt Claremont, Fri-Sun 12-14 Jan 2024. With **Guest Speaker The Most Rev Timothy Costelloe SDB, Archbishop of Perth, Father Timothy Deeter, Cyrus D'Souza FMI SD., Kaye Rollings FMI SD, Cheryl Douglas FMI.** Mass: Sun 11.30am. Free Evening Rallies Fri, Sat, & Sun at 7.00pm. Day sessions: 9.00am-5.00pm Sat & Sun. Food & Drinks available. Air-conditioned. For info see poster/brochures. Please contact: fmi@flameministries.org

Emeritus Archbishop Hickey's Memoirs

Emeritus Archbishop Hickey has completed his memoirs titled 'My Spirit Land'. It is a fascinating and insightful read, documenting not only the last 80+ years of the Catholic Church in WA, priests, cardinals, popes and Catholic agencies and policies, but also the journey of one of our Archbishops who was called to the priesthood in Western Australia. The book is available online at www.myspiritlandmemoir.com for \$44.95 plus \$15 postage and handling or collect at Our Lady of the Mission Church, Craigie for \$44.95 on Wednesday - Friday, 9am - 4pm. Please email myspiritlandmemoirs@gmail.com for enquiries.

OUR SPONSORS

Please support our sponsors who are helping us to cut down the cost of the production of our Weekly Bulletin.

**WA Young Salesians
SUMMER
Camp**
8-12 January 2024
Registrations NOW OPEN!!!
Visit: www.wayoungsalesians.com

**Begin the New Year 2024
on 31 December at the
Schoenstatt Shrine Mt Richon**

11.00 pm Adoration
11.45 pm Christmas carols
12.00 am Bells ring in the New Year
Holy Mass
Fellowship

Welcome to the Shrine!

WA Young Salesian - Summer Camp 8th-12th 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



On The Bulletin Board

Various employment opportunities from the Archdiocese of Perth.

Garden of Eden, Young Catholics Ball, 17th February 2024.

Please have a look on our bulletin board for more information.

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A sacred place for all parishioners and former parishioners and their families. Brochures are available in the foyer.

