PREPARING A WAY FOR THE LORD

One of British street artist Banksy's famous pictures is *The Flower Thrower*. In this powerful image of peaceful resistance, a figure leans backwards with his arm poised to throw an object. A similar figure in other protest posters would be poised to hurl a violent projectile. Instead, Banksy subverts a potentially violent image with his figure holding a bouquet of colourful flowers.

John the Baptist emerges from the wilderness, clothed in camel's hair, surviving on a diet of locusts and honey. His wild appearance is juxtaposed against his peaceful, steadfast call to repentance and the forgiveness of sins. He calls people to turn towards the One who is coming, the One who will be the embodiment of all that John currently preaches.

Jesus's spiritual kingship subverts and overturns all notions of a powerful earthly leader who dominates his subjects and rules with power. Indeed, the God whom John proclaims not only meets his people in love but also accompanies them all the way to the cross. Jesus embodies a love which is tender and compassionate but which is also fiercely committed to accompaniment and solidarity with us, in the entirety of life's circumstances.

Philosopher Hannah Arendt explained that power is the human ability not just to act, but to act in concert (On Violence, 1969). In contrast to conventional notions of power, she held that power is the ability to communicate and cooperate, not to coerce and dominate.

In contemporary times, John's call to prepare for the Lord's coming, by making rough roads smooth so that humanity will see the salvation of the Lord can perhaps be heard in the voices calling to us from the margins: the voices of women, LBGTIQ+ sisters and brothers, ethnic minorities, victims of abuse, and those fleeing persecution among others. We are invited to welcome everyone with compassion, to collaborate and stand with them. Together, we are witnesses to a community of faith which is united by love.

Building God's kingdom is almost always an uphill struggle, yet it helps to hold fast to the vision that his kingdom is both "now and not yet" and to persist with our efforts for mercy, justice and unity.

In the first reading, the prophet Baruch uses the metaphor of beauty to encourage Jerusalem to hold fast to its vision of God: Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress; put on the beauty of the glory of God forever.

In challenging times, a helpful way to remind ourselves of the presence of God is to notice and rejoice in the beauty which surrounds us, to recognise God's presence, amidst our struggles. French philosopher Simone Weill in Waiting for God describes it quite profoundly: The beautiful is the

experiential proof that the incarnation is possible ... "Christ is really present in the universal beauty ... the beauty of this world is Christ's tender smile coming to us."



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Gosnells Catholic Parish

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



Parish Priest: Fr Brennan Sia

brennan.sia@perthcatholic.org.au

Address: 175 Corfield St, Gosnells WA 6110
Alternate Entry by:1 Isdell Place, Gosnells
Postal Address: PO Box 297,
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: <u>secretary@qosnellsparish.orq.au</u>

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 Ayeni: 0424 812 632 Email: qosnellsyouth@qmail.com

8th December, 2024

2nd Sunday of Advent

Year C

Violet

Today's Readings

Baruch 5:1-9 Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11 Luke 3:1-6

15th December, 2024

3rd Sunday of Advent

Year C

Violet

Today's Readings

Zephaniah 3:14-18 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:10-18

St Munchin's Catholic Primary School



Sophie Clements

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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 Wednesday of the Month					
Rosary	After weekday Masses					
Exposition	tion Tuesday 5.00pm - 6.00pm with Benediction, Sunday 6.00pm - 7.00pm					
Charismatic Prayer	natic Prayer Thursday 7.15pm - 9.00pm.					
Baptism	Sunday at 11.00am, or by arrangement					
Marriage	By appointment - Minimum SIX MONTHS notice for preparation etc					

Want to support your Parish?

You can now deposit your contribution directly into parish accounts.

First Collection

Supports our Parish Priest, Priests in smaller Parishes or remote Parishes that require assistance.

A/c name: Gosnells Parish - 1st Collection Account, BSB: 086-006, A/c: 705883907,

Reference: 1st Collection (your name optional)

Second Collection

Ongoing administration costs, funds for future growth and improvements of the Parish.

A/c name: Gosnells Parish, BSB: 086-006, A/c: 773984777, **Reference:** 2nd Collection (your name optional)

Praying For You



Death Anniversary

Anne McMahon

Our Sick

Alfredo Barbuzza, Ann Ralston, Kathleen Mansfield, Maria Siciliano, Susanne Carroll, Fran Vallis, Pat Simm, Ammini Jose, John Breag, Conrad Briggs, Joel Celine, Dennis Ford, Letecia Niembra, Dolly, Elvira Panici-Allen, Annabelle McNess, Erika Magness, Abby Magness, Richard Bisnath, Wendy Price, Fran Wiffen



Feast Days this Week							
Dec 9	Mon	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Sacrament					
11	Wed	St Damasus 1, Pope					
13	Fri	St Lucy					
14	Sat	St John of the Cross					

Parish Meetings

Parish Pastoral Council

In recess till February 4th 2025.

Vinnies

In recess till January 22nd 2025.

Rosters for 7/8 December, 2024								
Mass	Greeters	Reader	Commentator	Acolyte	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers		
Saturday 6.00pm	Theresa Spicer Sandra Wren	Carina Limgenco	Vilma Lyra	Richard Serrano	Carina Limgenco Vivian Loh	Jacob Raymond, Clinton Matthews Aydriel Ratnasekera, Kyle Marquis		
Sunday 7.30am	Inoka Ratnasekera Sandra Reid	Jenny Mills	Greg Drew	Clint Barnes	Chloe Pereira-Smith Inoka Ratnasekera	Caleb Watkins, Callie Abogado Jake Antu, Tom Antu		
Sunday 9.30am	Ciara & Keanu Malagui-Hicks	Ben Gradisen	Ciara Jacob	Nigel Hayward	Angela Bushby Maureen Byrne	Kripa Jojo, Olivia Justin Aung Kintha, Gei Long Ya Kintha Alisha Liyanage, Julia Marano		
Tellers this week: Jim & Anne Brink, Kerry Keys				Tellers next week: Bette Lyra, Clint & Thu Barnes				
Rosters for 14/15 December, 2024								
Mass	Greeters	Reader	Commentator	Acolyte	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers		
Saturday 6.00pm	Faye Mitchell Jemima Pinto	Joshua Mahamu	Jemima Pinto	Graham Maher	Faye Mitchell Christy Ravanez	Carl Agus, Melanie Beacher Jacob Malou, Joshua Manda		
Sunday 7.30am	Shania Tido Eric Almen	Chloé Pereira-Smith	Inoka Ratnasekera	Larry Cavallo	Pay Tru Diana Chong	Bionney Bangayan, Rosemary Saw Diobett Bangayan, Richardson Saw		
Sunday 9.30am	Silvana & Andy Sciorilli	Cecilia Jacob	Paige Jacob	Lenny Dcruz	Cigi Dcruz Carolina Hayward	Patrina Paesu, Justus Shilo Martin Yatar, Carl Borlongan Florian Christstar, Leslie Doruz		



SVDP Emergency Relief Phone 1300 794 054



Monday Mass

There will be Mass on Monday 9th December at 8am for the Immaculate conception of the Virgin Mary.

Jesus is the Reason for the Season

Advent Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesday, 11th 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 Sheppard Kelmscott, Tuesday 10th December, 7.00pm. St Francis Xavier Armadale, Thursday 12th December, 7.00pm. Sacred Heart Thornlie, Thursday 19th December, 7.00pm.



Marycare Thank You

The Coordinators of Marycare, our Parish Outreach Program acknowledge the contribution of all volunteers. Even though our program has not been called on for many Care Activities this year, it continues to play an important role in the life of

your parish. Through the generosity of people willing to offer their time and talents, parishioners know help is generally available if they require it.

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. Rehearsals will be held in the church on Wednesday 11th and 18th December at 4.30pm.



safeguarding

Jesus is the Reason for the Season

Our Christmas Celebrations

Tuesday, 24th December

Please join the Children's Choir for Carol singing from 5.15pm followed by 6.00pm Family Vigil Mass. Children are invited to come dressed as shepherds, angels or kings.



Please join with the Choir for Carol singing from 11.15pm 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.

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.

Morning Tea Helpers are Needed

The new roster for Morning Tea will be drawn up soon for 2025. 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

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St Vincent de Paul Gosnells Conference Christmas Appeal

Your Vinnies' thank you for your support of our Christmas Appeal last weekend. Our Christmas Tree is up in the church foyer. Please pick up a STAR and bring back your age appropriate wrapped gift and place it under the Tree. We have a limited number of Columban Calendars which make ideal family Christmas Presents at only \$10ea. Alternatively, a small donation to our Poor Box help us in our endeavours, every little bit goes a long way. For those wishing to make an electronic donation, we will have our EFTPOS machine in the foyer at this weekend masses. God Bless.

Youth Night

It's almost that time of year again! Join us for a Youth Christmas Dinner on Saturday 14th December from 7pm to 9.30pm in the Parish Hall! Since it is the last event of the year, we invite you to dress up (green, red, white or gold) and bring a plate to share! Scan the code to sign up and email gosnellsyouth@gmail.com to indicate what you are bringing or sign up and food forms are in the foyer.



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.

WA Young Salesian - Summer Camp 6th - 10th January 2025

Are you between 11½ -15yrs or starting Year 7 in 2025? 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 Brennan, visit the website or contact Graham Maher on 0418 979 600 for more information. Register now at: www.wayoungsalesians.com

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.



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.

Weekend For Men

Enquiries Brenda 0414 098 705 or Dan 0409 849 049.

What are you doing on the 15th-16th March 2025? Could you benefit from a weekend featuring talks, personal testimonies, opportunities for discussion and space to reflect? Since menALIVE commenced in 2003,

thousands of Catholic men have been encouraged and inspired at weekends across Australia. The weekends programme will be conducted by an experienced menALIVE Team, right here in our own Parish. For further information and enquiries, please contact: Vincent Watson - 0406 831 972 or Daniel Tomlinson - 0403 988 181.



On The Bulletin Board

For all Archdiocese employment opportunities, please visit https://www.perthcatholic.org.au/Employment.htm Various pilgrimages, retreats, youth events and lots more!

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





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Our Parish Columbarium

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

