

## EXPERIENCING JOY THROUGH REPENTANCE

The two themes of Sunday's readings are repentance and joy. We do not usually associate these two themes with each other, but they go hand in glove in the kingdom of God.

The prophets of the Old Testament often spoke of what it would mean for God to live with his people. As we read in today's first reading, it would mean the total flowering of love between God and humanity, the permanent establishment of justice and the overthrowing of everything that afflicts and enslaves people. In the words of the prophet Zephaniah, it will be a day for God's people to "*shout for joy*" and "*exult with all your heart*".

However, this joyful uniting of God with his people requires our cooperation. A significant theme in the Old Testament is that God will only be actively present in the midst of a just and holy community. This is because to remain close to God is to become like him and for everything else to fall away.

As a result, we have to prepare ourselves to be able to operate in God's presence. For John the Baptist in today's Gospel, the kind of spiritual labour involved in this preparation begins with repentance.

Repentance for John starts with giving up those habits of ours where we get an advantage at the expense of others or where we live in a way contrary to God's love and law. It may mean, as it did for the people in today's Gospel, that we need to change how we use our money, our relationships with others or how we go about our jobs and careers.

However, repentance is not a process that should cause us anxiety. When we are moved to repentance, we know that we do so with God's accompaniment and patience. As Paul says, through prayer, we can invite God into every area of our lives, even those places where we are afraid to let God have control.

When we turn towards God in repentance, we do not find condemnation or judgement but the peace and joy that come from living in lockstep with Christ. This is why the coming of Christ, celebrated at Christmas, is celebrated with such rejoicing. God has come to live among his people and, where there was separation due to sin, God can make the repentant heart both whole and holy.

And our joy is assured because, when we do turn back to God, we are responding to the great love and joy that God has called us with. Zephaniah depicts the moment of God coming to live among his people as God "*dancing with shouts of joy*". As it says elsewhere in the Gospel of Luke, there is great "*joy in heaven over one sinner who repents.*"

Repentance, then, is nothing to fear but is instead the path to true joy. All it takes is listening to God's daily invitation to turn back towards his way of living and start on the journey of a life lived with Christ.

Joseph Doyle  
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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

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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)

## 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

## 22nd December, 2024

**4th Sunday of Advent**

**Year C**

**Violet**

**Today's Readings**

Micah 5:1-4

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-45

### 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 Wednesday 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

### 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



### Recently Deceased

Dr Elijah Nathan

### Death Anniversary

Anne McMahon

### Our Sick

Alfredo Barbuza,  
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 21	Sat	St Peter Canisius
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### Parish Meetings

#### Parish Pastoral Council

In recess till February 4th 2025.

#### Vinnies

In recess till January 22nd 2025.

### 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 Dcruz
Tellers this week: Bette Lyra, Clint & Thu Barnes				Tellers next week: Sue & Vincent Frawley, Faye Rodriguez		

### Rosters for 21/22 December, 2024

Mass	Greeters	Reader	Commentator	Acolyte	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers
Saturday 6.00pm	Faye Mitchell Jemima Pinto	Ayden Ratnasekera	Natasha Pinto	Martin Loh	Bridget Soh Ludette Van Der Spil	Jacob Raymond, Clinton Matthews Aydriel Ratnasekera, Kyle Marquis
Sunday 7.30am	Shania Tido Eric Almen	Jack Roach	Sr Savarie	Geoff Mills	Sue Frawley Vincent Frawley	Scott Tido, Caleb Watkins Callie Abogado, Jake Antu
Sunday 9.30am	Silvana & Andy Sciorilli	Jomy Jose	Helen Magness	Dan Hewitt	Alex Liyanage Helen Magness	Angel Garavillas, John Gilmore Gabino Htoo, Austin Jacob James Jacob, Liam James

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## Jesus is the Reason for the Season

### Our Christmas Celebrations

**Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> December**

Please join the 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, 25<sup>th</sup> 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 Street carpark.

### Advent Sacrament of Reconciliation

Let us prepare for the Season of Peace by reconciling ourselves with God and with one another.

**Second Rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated at:**  
Sacred Heart Thornlie, Thursday 19th December, 7.00pm.

### 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. Our last rehearsal will be held in the church on Wednesday 18th 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.

### 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.

### St Vincent de Paul Gosnells Conference

Your Vinnies' thank you for all your support throughout 2024. If you picked up a STAR from our Christmas Tree, please bring back your age appropriate wrapped gift and place it under the Tree or hand into the Parish Office this week so we have time to deliver before Christmas. 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. God Bless.



### 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.



### 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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## 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.



## Golden Age Club

Merry Christmas to all and have a safe and Happy New Year. We will be in recess until club days resume 28th January 2025.



## 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.



## WA Young Salesian - Summer Camp 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Have you registered yet for our 2025 Summer Camp? If not, there is still time but you'll have to be quick! Act now to avoid disappointment as there are limited places left. Contact Fr Brennan, visit the website or contact Graham Maher on 0418 979 600 for more information. Last chance to register this weekend at: [www.wayoungsalesians.com](http://www.wayoungsalesians.com)



THE RECTOR DROPS IN ON THE PAGEANT REHEARSAL



## menALIVE Weekend For Men

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.



## First Friday Coffee Corner

Coffee Corner will be back on 7th February, 2025.

Coffee Corner is held in the Parish Centre on the first Friday of every month from 8.30am until 11.00am.

Everyone is welcome – adults and children, all ages.

We wish all of our attendees a happy and a holy Christmas and thank everyone for their fellowship throughout the year. We look forward to catching up again in the new year. Spread the word and bring a friend!

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