

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL!

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
25th January 2026

ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL PARISH
Catholic Diocese of Bunbury
Bunbury, Western Australia



“WANDJU, NIDJA NOONGAR BOODJA.”

OUR PARISH MISSION

Our Mission is to continue growing as a community where people can meet Jesus Christ and grow in his life and mission in the Catholic Faith.

OUR PARISH VISION

To be a parish that is open and transparent, nurturing, united and inclusive.
To be a community that is welcoming, embracing and caring for families, youth, and valuing cultural diversity.



POPE LEO XIV'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY

“Pray that praying with the word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.”

Mass Intention: for the repose of the soul of Perlita Tan.

General Intentions: Let us pray for the homeless, the underprivileged, those suffering in silence due to domestic violence, for migrants, refugees and seasonal workers. For peace in our world.

Cathedral Parish: Let us pray for our RCIA 2025 Catechumens and Candidates; for those discerning to join the Catholic Church; for our RCIC Candidates; for the After School Sacramental Program (ASSP); for the new academic year.

Prayer Requests: Mervyn Hustler, Brenda Finlayson DSG, Kevin Verghese, Frances Gianfrancesco, Silvio Maiolo, John Kukulka, Margaret Reid, Maria Ricili Villanueva, Renato & Maria Fe Repuyan, Patrick Moran, Claire Kelly, Bridget Collins, Helen Whitcomde, Luke Scanlon, Neil Young, Angele Haydar, Noah Forster & Jake Palandri, Sophie Phelan & Maxima Fortunado Gutierrez.

Diocese: Let us pray for Bishop George, the Synodal Evangelisation Team and the Diocesan Synodal General Assembly to be held on the 1st of August 2026.

*We invite you to request prayers from our parish community for any of your family members, relations and friends and we will include them on our prayer list.
Their consent, however, is required for publication.*

‘JESUS, OUR LIGHT.’

At times we can find ourselves ‘walking in darkness’. We get caught up in difficulties and cannot see a way out. Today’s liturgy reminds us that Jesus is our light and our salvation. As with the first disciples, he calls us to follow him. In the Gospels we have the Good News that brings light into the dark moments of our lives.

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 95: 1, 6

O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in his holy place.

First Reading

Isaiah 8:23-9:3

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness
has seen a great light;
on those who live in a land of deep shadow
a light has shone.
You have made their gladness greater,
you have made their joy increase;
they rejoice in your presence
as men rejoice at harvest time,
as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,
the bar across his shoulders,
the rod of his oppressor –
these you break as on the day of Midian.

The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 26(27):1,4,13-14

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink? **R.**

2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord,
for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord,
all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,
to behold his temple. **R.**
3. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! **R.**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ.' Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your Spirit.**

Priest: A reading from the holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, Lord.**

Hearing that John had been arrested, Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

*'Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!
Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan,
Galilee of the nations!
The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light;
on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death
a light has dawned.'*

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'

As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him. Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 33: 6

Look toward the Lord and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.

God's Permissive Will

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)



The Baptism of Christ by Francesco Trevisani (1656-1746)

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee... From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Matthew 4:12, 17

When John the Baptist was arrested, his followers were likely overcome with fear and grief. The man they revered as a prophet, who fearlessly proclaimed the coming of the Messiah and called for repentance through baptism, had been imprisoned. John was arrested by Herod Antipas, the son of Herod the Great, infamous for ordering the massacre of infants in Bethlehem. Like his father, Herod Antipas was ambitious and morally corrupt. As tetrarch of Galilee and Perea under Roman authority, Herod's political survival depended on maintaining Roman favor. He often used religion to secure legitimacy among the Jewish people, though his actions routinely violated Jewish law.

Though nominally Jewish, the Herodian dynasty was of Idumean descent, tracing its lineage to Esau rather than Jacob. The Idumeans were forcibly converted to Judaism between 135–104 BC. While this history granted the Herods a claim to Jewish identity, their foreign lineage and collaboration with Rome made them unpopular with many

Jews. Herod Antipas, like his father, prioritized political cunning and personal ambition over genuine adherence to Jewish law.

When John the Baptist emerged on the scene, he proclaimed his message with fearless conviction. His central call was one of repentance and baptism for the forgiveness of sins, urging the people to prepare for the coming of the Messiah. Yet John did not shy away from addressing the moral and spiritual corruption of his time. He famously denounced the Pharisees and Sadducees as a “brood of vipers,” rebuking their hypocrisy and lack of genuine repentance. John also boldly condemned Herod Antipas for violating Jewish law by divorcing his wife and marrying Herodias, the wife of his half-brother, Philip. This marriage not only violated Mosaic Law but also reflected Herod’s ambitions to consolidate power and status. John’s fearless denunciation of sin, even among the powerful, ultimately led to his arrest and eventual martyrdom.

This historical context surrounding John’s arrest is crucial because it helps us understand God’s providence—how He permits certain evils to occur in order to bring about a greater good. Jesus Himself later affirmed John’s greatness, saying, “Among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist” (Matthew 11:11). If the Son of God declared John’s greatness shortly after John’s arrest, why didn’t God miraculously free him from persecution? The answer lies in John’s mission. He had fulfilled his primary role: preparing the way for the Lord, the “Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29). Once John’s mission was complete, God permitted him to seal his testimony with his own blood, offering his life as a martyr for the Lord and for the Truth that sets all people free.

Reflect today on John’s arrest and consider how you might have reacted if you had been one of his disciples. From an earthly perspective, martyrdom is difficult to comprehend or accept, especially in our own lives or in the lives of those we love. Though John’s arrest and subsequent martyrdom likely brought fear and grief to his disciples, shaking their sense of security, from an eternal perspective, John’s martyrdom was his greatest act of witness. It fulfilled his mission by pointing his disciples—and all of us—toward the true Prophet and Messiah, Jesus Christ. John is forever glorified in Heaven, and in the end, that is all that truly matters. As we honor John’s unwavering faith, seek to embrace God’s permissive will in your own life. Even in the face of suffering or evil, trust that God, in His providence, can bring about a greater good if we surrender ourselves fully to Him.

My provident and loving God, You permit evil to touch the lives of Your faithful followers, knowing that in Your perfect Wisdom, You can bring forth a greater good. Grant me the heart of a martyr, filled with courage and trust, whenever I face injustice in my life. Help me to unite my every trial to Yours, in imitation of Saint John the Baptist and Your own Passion and Death. Jesus, I trust in You.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,

*At the words that follow, up to and including
'the Virgin Mary', all bow.*

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again
from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the
Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

*At the words that follow, up to and including
'and became man', all bow.*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand
of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father
and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism
for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection
of the dead
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
25 January 2026

Celebrant: Jesus' preaching and healing shone the light of salvation wherever he went. We pray for that light to shine in our world.

Petitions

1. We pray for the continual protection of our Church leaders, especially Pope Leo and Bishop George: may they continue to follow the call of God in their lives and lead us towards the truth. We pray to the Lord.
2. We pray for Fr Joel and Fr Edcel: that as they begin their ministry in our parish, may they always remain selfless in their ministry and faithful to their priestly vocation. We pray to the Lord.
3. We pray for world leaders: may they only seek the path of dialogue and reconciliation, rather than provocation, aggression and the disregard of the sovereignty of every free nation in our world. We pray to the Lord.
4. We pray for all those who work in the emergency services: may they have the strength to care for those involved in floods, fire or road trauma. We pray to the Lord.
5. We pray for those gathered here around the table of the Lord: may our discipleship be continually strengthened by the Eucharist. We pray to the Lord.
6. We pray for the victims and survivors of persecution: may they be comforted and helped in their time of need. We pray to the Lord.
7. We pray for those who suffer grief and loss: may the love of those around them bring them the light of Christ in their difficulty. We pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Gracious God, help us always to live as children of the light.
We make this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.



THIS WEEKEND 24-25 January	Vigil Mass	8am	10am	6pm
Acolyte	Alfred L Terance O	Mick D	Alfred L	Joel G
Greeters	Shirley D	Cherylynn F Kath F	Irene R Wally C	David M
Commentary and Prayer of the Faithful	<i>Reader Required</i>	Sr Pauline	Liz D	Jean G
Reader	Pat G	Greg D	Sonia B	Gobi M
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion	<i>EMHC Required</i>	Pat D Cheryl N	Elaine T Marilou C Rosina I	<i>EMHC Required</i>
Children's Liturgy			<i>School Holidays</i>	
Altar Servers			Sophie D R Dionne L	Matthew G Evan B
Music	Laudate Choir	Joseline K	Couples for Christ	Mark J
Morning Tea				
OCEAN STAR / SUNDAY 2PM	Pastoral Care Volunteers	Pauline H	Readers	Chris L, Ethel N

**Note: Please find someone else to replace you if you are unable to do your roster.
Please notify the Parish Office of the change. Thank you.**

NEXT WEEKEND 31 st Jan-1 st Feb	Vigil Mass	8am	10am	6pm
Acolyte	Alfred L Terance O	Mick D	John I	Mark J
Greeters	Shirley D Ester L	Jenny S Robin W	Joe DÉS Lynette A Verna H	David M
Commentary and Prayer of the Faithful	<i>Reader Required</i>	Cathy Y	Helen B	<i>Reader Required</i>
Reader	Brad S	Malena C	Elaine T	Jean G
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion	<i>EMHC Required</i>	Cora C Peter C	Cathy R Marilou C Liz L	<i>EMHC Required</i>
Children's Liturgy			<i>School Holidays</i>	
Altar Servers			Matthew G, Caleb S, Godwin G, Dean S, Jayden S, Evan B	Dean S
Music	Laudate Choir	Craig F	Diocesan Liturgical Choir	<i>Music Required</i>
Morning Tea				
OCEAN STAR / SUNDAY 2PM	Pastoral Care Volunteers	Elaine G	Readers	Volunteer

CLEANERS	1 st week	2 nd week	3 rd week	4 th week	5 th week
Toilets	Ella V	Sally B	Julie K	Jan G	Shirley D
Cathedral	Group 1: 1 st week, Fri 5pm Leaders: Bruddie P./Jhoemarie B.		Group 2: 3 rd week, Thu 6pm Leaders: John J./Veronica O.		Thank you!

STEWARDSHIP

The Eucharistic sacrifice “is the fount and apex of the whole Christian life....”

Lumen gentium 11

26 January Monday Australia Day	9am: Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 9am: Mass, Carmelite Monastery
27 January Tuesday	7am: Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 8:20am: Staff Mass, Bunbury Catholic College 9am: Mass, Carmelite Monastery 6pm: Rosary, Koombana Bay
28 January Wednesday	7am: Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 9am: Mass, Carmelite Monastery 9am: Mass, Our Lady of Immaculate Conception, Dardanup 6pm: ASSP Parent Information Evening , St. Patrick's Cathedral Parish Hall
29 January Thursday	7am: Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 9am: Mass, Carmelite Monastery 11am: Mass, St. John of God Bunbury Hospital, Chapel 6pm: RCIA Enquiry Evening , St. Patrick's Cathedral Parish Hall
30 January Friday	7am: Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 9am: Mass, Carmelite Monastery 9am-9pm: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Chapel
31 January Saturday	8am: Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 9am: Mass, Carmelite Monastery 5pm: Reconciliation, St. Patrick's Cathedral 6pm: Vigil Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral
1 February Sunday Word of God Sunday	8am: Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 8:30am: Mass, Carmelite Monastery 10am: Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 10am: Mass, St. John of God Bunbury Hospital, Chapel 12nn: Filipino Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 2pm: Mass, Ocean Star 6pm: Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral

“God loves a cheerful giver.”

2 Corinthians 9:7

MASS COLLECTIONS

Due to the Christmas closure, financial reports
will be made available by the Parish Office after re-opening.

T H A N K Y O U .

LITURGIES & DEVOTIONS

HOLY ROSARY: During the month of January we will be meeting at Koombana Bay Beach (down the west end of the café, on the sailing club side). BYO food and drinks. BBQ facilities are available. All are welcome to join us at 6pm on Tuesdays. For more information contact Rosemary on 0402 459 678.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: is held in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel every Friday from 9am to 9pm. All are welcome. For more information contact Barbara on 0409 585 889.

PARISH NEWS

RCIA: Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumenate (those not baptised) **and the Rite of Welcoming of Candidates** (those who are already validly baptised). During the Sunday Cathedral 10am Mass, let us pray for our RCIA catechumen and candidates. Please check elsewhere in this bulletin who are our RCIA catechumen and candidates this year.

AUSTRALIA DAY MASS: Please note that the usual 7am daily Mass will be held at a special time of **9am** on **Monday, 26th January** in celebration of **Australia Day**. Join us as we pray for our nation, its people, and all who serve our community. Bishop George Kolodziej SDS DD will be the main presider with the Cathedral Priests concelebrating. All are invited for morning tea in the parish hall afterwards.

BISHOP'S MASS. During most of the 1st Sunday of the month 10am Masses this year 2026, Bishop George Kolodziej SDS DD, Bishop of Bunbury, will be presiding over a Pontifical Mass. The first Bishop's Mass will be next Sunday, the 1st of February 2026. The Diocesan Liturgical Choir will be leading the congregational singing. Our Pontifical Servers will be serving at the Cathedral altar with our parish acolytes together with our parish

ministers. Bishop George would like to offer a Cathedral Mass at least once a month, schedule-permitting.

WELCOME MORNING TEA: Join us next **Sunday, 1st February**, for a special morning tea after the 10 am Mass to welcome our new priests, **Father Joel Villanueva OSJ** and **Father Edcel Silva OSJ** to St. Patrick's Cathedral Parish.5

2026 IMMIGRATION APPEAL. The Catholic Church has a long-standing tradition of supporting immigrants, particularly those fleeing war-torn countries and impoverished regions. The Church teaches that prosperous nations have a moral obligation to welcome the foreigner in search of security and means of livelihood. A retiring collection will be taken up after all Masses next weekend, 31st January & 1st February to support the Immigration Appeal. Thank you for your donation in anticipation.

VOICES OF HOPE. Our newest choir, Voices of Hope, has recently had a memorable debut by leading the congregational singing last Sunday, the 11th of January 2026. Through the leadership of the Missionaries of Light and musician, Melvin Santos, they invite anyone to join their choir and truly become a voice of hope to everyone.

SINCEREST THANK YOU. For so many years in the history of St. Patrick's Cathedral music ministry, Fionnuala Hannon and Marie Palfrey have been supporting our Cathedral parish through the music ministry. They have contributed immensely and we give thanks to God for their service and dedication to our faith community. Through their giftedness in the realm of music, our parish community has been able to lift our voices and offer due joyful worship to God. We are saddened by their resignation from the music ministry but grateful for all the years of our collaboration. We wish upon them God's continued blessing and guidance.

CRAIG FERNANDEZ. It was very evident

that the congregational singing at last Sunday's 8am Mass under the leadership of Craig Fernandez was nothing short of inspirational. Many have commented and congratulated Craig for his selfless generosity and musicality. His desire to help the Cathedral Parish is deeply moving and humbling. His musicality radiated his humility, revealing its source who is no other than God. When the sharing of one's gift is genuinely altruistic, God is proclaimed and celebrated. Craig will be regularly rostered for some of the Sunday 8am Masses. Let us gratefully remember Craig in our prayers.

ALMA WINWOOD. We are grateful to Alma for making herself available to lead our congregational singing during one of Sunday 8am Masses. We are still in the process of working out her roster which will be during the Sunday 8am Mass. In anticipation, we extend our gratitude to Alma and look forward to her opportunity to serve as our Mass musician.

CATHEDRAL CLEANERS. Our two groups of Cathedral volunteer cleaners have been faithfully committing to their designated rosters with at least 10 people per group have been offering an hour of their time once a month to cleaning the Cathedral. Some of them even bring their children along to help clean the Cathedral. Everyone is encouraged to join any of the two groups. The February cleaning rosters are 6 February, 6pm and 19 February, 5pm.



Cathedral volunteer cleaners pose for a photo after completing their roster. To Fr Pierre's right is Bruddie Paypon who is their group leader. He is also on the Parish Pastoral Council. As advertised some weeks ago, the Parish Office is organising a thank you morning tea for all our volunteer cleaners in the past,

particularly the 9am Tuesday roster. The date of the gathering will be advertised in this section soon. Thank you!

JOSEPHITE COMPANION GATHERING

Everyone is invited to join the Josephite Companions in Friendship, Prayer and Service. AGM and 'Connected in Christ, Walking Together as One.' Place: Parish Hall Cathedral Precinct, 11 Money St, Bunbury. Date: 28 January Time: 9.30am. Bring a friend and a plate of food for a shared meal. Response to this invitation would assist with organisation on the day. D. Savage 97914008



H. Brown 0478 783 990 or helenbrown.hb@gmail.com



MULTICULTURAL WEEKEND. The parish is grateful to everyone who supported, assisted and contributed towards our celebration of our parish Multicultural Weekend. A big thank you to the Missionaries of Light for the 'feast' held in the Parish Hall. There were plenty of food to share. The Multicultural Weekend will be held annually, with the support of Anne Mallaby and the 'Sinulog' dancers. The weekend also featured the Commissioning and Renewal Blessing of our Parish Pastoral Council. Congratulations to you all!



RCIA: Catechumen and Candidates (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)



Verna-Lee Hansen



Kate Victoria Back



Rebecca Berry



Peter Anthony Lomax



Dylan Eli Wilson

This Sunday, during our Sunday 10am Cathedral Mass, our parish will witness the ritual acceptance of **Verna-Lee Hansen** into the Order of Catechumenate and the welcoming of the following Candidates, **Kate Victoria Back, Rebecca Berry, Peter Anthony Lomax, Dylan Eli Wilson**. Both acceptance and welcoming are part of the RCIA journey. Those who belong to the Order of Catechumenate are not yet baptised and therefore will be receiving the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation) at Easter Vigil on the 4th of April. On the other hand, those who have already been validly baptised from another Christian church will be welcomed and later on received

into the Catholic Faith at Easter Vigil. Please pray for our catechumen and candidates.

MEET OUR NEW PRIESTS



L-R: Fr Pierre Repuyan, Fr Edcel Silva OSJ, Fr Joel Villanueva OSJ

FR JOEL VILLANUEVA OSJ

Hello dear parishioners of Saint Patrick Cathedral. I am Rev. Fr. Joel Maranan Villanueva, OSJ of the Congregation of the Oblates of Saint Joseph. I came from San Juan, Batangas, Philippines. I was born May 7, 1983. I had my perpetual profession of the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience on August 15, 2011. I was ordained a priest on June 9, 2012.

I thank our Bishop, Most. Rev. George Kolodziej, SDS for trusting me to be part of the pastoral team of Saint Patrick as assistant priest.

I arrived in Australia for the first time on September 20, 2022. My first pastoral assignment was in the parish of the Holy Family in Albany and served as an assistant to the parish priest and chaplain at Saint Joseph's College.

Before coming to Australia, I served as a formator and educator of our seminarians and a school director. My passion for education, formation and catechesis helped me to establish the Oblates of Saint Joseph Institute of Catechetics and Tanglaw Dunong Scholarship Foundation, Inc. I also served for two years as the President of the Association of Religious of the Archdiocese of Lipa (ARAL). Since 2016, I have been actively propagating the Word of God in different social media platforms.

(Continued next page)

Sunday's Multicultural Mass was a truly joyful and uplifting celebration of diversity, togetherness and faith. The atmosphere was harmonious, respectful, and deeply inclusive, creating a powerful feeling of oneness and unity among everyone present. From the vibrant Sinulog dancers to the Prayer of the Faithful offered in various languages, every moment reflected the beauty of our shared cultural richness.

National flags were displayed, traditional dress proudly worn, and voices raised in prayer and song all came together to create a special sense of acceptance and belonging. Fr Pierre reminded us through his heartfelt words that our voices are being heard, that we are all valued and loved, and that we must continue to raise our voices with confidence and hope. It was a moving celebration of who we are as one community – different in culture, yet united in faith – embracing diversity while standing together as one.

On behalf of the Bunbury Parish Pastoral Council

MEET OUR NEW PRIESTS: *Continued from previous page...*

With these pastoral experiences, I hope to be able to “Serve the Interests of Jesus, Like Saint Joseph,” in whatever way I can. Please include me in your prayers as I serve in our Cathedral Parish.

FR EDCCEL SILVA OSJ

Hello there! I am Fr. Edcel Silva from the religious congregation of the Oblates of St. Joseph (OSJ). I just came from the Philippines a week ago and I am glad to be stationed here in St. Patrick's Cathedral of Bunbury temporarily. I am 44 years old and was born on the 6th of September 1981 in Padre Garcia province of Batangas. I will be celebrating my 17th priestly anniversary on the 2nd of February 2026. Bishop Gerard Holohan, D.D. was my ordaining prelate way back in 2009.

Prior to my application here in the Diocese of Bunbury, I have been blessed by God to be assigned in various fields of OSJ apostolates: local missions, social apostolate being the Administrator of Silong Tanglaw Foundation home for the street children, initial formation as the Assistant Spiritual Director, School Director of a school having over one thousand students and parish apostolate as Parish Priest in two consecutive terms. I was also given the chance to be one of the OSJ Philippine Provincial Councilors in 2022-2025 and was in-charged of the ongoing formation of our perpetually professed brothers and priests. These experiences shaped me of who I am today as a religious and as a priest.

I have dedicated many years of my priesthood in local missions in the Philippines because I find it interesting to be with unfamiliar people, engaging in different culture and discovering the presence of God and His love through the goodness of the people entrusted unto my care. The many years of missionary exposure locally truly prepared me to take the challenge of evangelization here in Australia.

As my religious and priestly life continues, I think there is no better way to prepare me on my next assignment than to be assigned here in the Cathedral. I thank our good Bishop, Most Rev. George Kolodziej, D.D. for this opportunity to be mentored by Fr. Pierre Repuyan, the Dean of the Cathedral, so that I may be prepared on what is to come in the future. And of course, it is my joy to journey with God's people here in Bunbury.

On to the new things! I look forward to meeting you in the coming weeks.



STEPS OF *LECTIO DIVINA*

1. **Prepare (Silencio):** Take a few moments to quiet yourself, get in a comfortable position, and become aware of God's presence.
2. **Read (Lectio):** Read the Scripture passage slowly, out loud if possible. Listen for a nudge: What words or images is the Spirit drawing you toward today?
3. **Meditate (Meditatio):** Re-read the Scripture passage, lingering over the person/word/phrase that captured your attention. Let your imagination engage the story/text. Reflect on how it might intersect with your life today.
4. **Pray (Oratio):** Read through the Scripture passage another time, allowing the Scripture to lead you into a prayer/response to God. Talk to God about what has come to mind, and how He might be inviting you to respond.
5. **Contemplate (Contemplatio):** Rest in the awareness of God's presence, remaining open to anything else the Holy Spirit might stir in your heart. If your mind wanders, gently redirect your thoughts toward God. Simply be still. Expect nothing. Enjoy a moment of fellowship with God that goes deeper than words. God loves you.

26 January Monday	Australia Day	Is 32:15-18; Ps 84:9-14; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Mt 5:1-12
27 January Tuesday	St Angela Merici, virgin Sts Timothy and Titus	2 Sam 6:12-15, 17-19; Ps 23:7-10; Mk 3:31-35
28 January Wednesday	St Thomas Aquinas, priest, doctor	2 Sam 7:4-17; Ps 88:4-5, 27-30; Mk 4:1-20
29 January Thursday	Weekday, Ordinary Time 3	2 Sam 7:18-19, 24-29; Ps 131:1-5, 11-14; Mk 4:21-25
30 January Friday	Weekday, Ordinary Time 3	2 Sam 11:1-10, 13-17; Ps 50:3-7, 10-11; Mk 4:26-34
31 January Saturday	St John Bosco, priest	2 Sam 12:1-7, 10-17; Ps 50:12-17; Mk 4:35-41
1 February Sunday	4 th Sunday in Ordinary Time WORD OF GOD SUNDAY	Zeph 2:3; 3:12-13; Ps 145:7-10; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12

Understanding the documents of Vatican II – Pope Leo

Recently Pope Leo began a series of talks at the Wednesday General Audience, with catechesis on the documents of Vatican Council II. He began with the Dogmatic Constitution Dei Verbum, on the divine Revelation: an important document of the Council. In the words of Jesus: "No longer do I call you servants ...", (Jn 15:15). Jesus Christ has transformed our relationship with God to a relationship of friendship. The only condition of the new covenant is love.

In the Christian Revelation, that is, when God took human form in his Son, the Covenant is new and eternal, and nothing can separate us from God's love. As in the experience of human friendship, the relationship is nurtured by the exchange of true words.

The document reminds us that God speaks to us, and by speaking to us, God is revealed as one who invites us into friendship. So, the first attitude to cultivate is listening, so that the divine Word may penetrate our minds and hearts. At the same time, we need to speak with God, to reveal ourselves. Prayer calls us to live and cultivate friendship with the Lord.

For community liturgical prayer, the readings of the Word of God are already chosen for us, because we follow the liturgical cycle. So we need to make time for prayer, meditation and reflection on those readings, as an important part of the Christian's day and week.

Read the full text of Pope Leo's address at

<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/audiences/2026/documents/20260114-udienza-generale.html>

Quiet in Kirup at the Spirituality Hub this year will provide a course in contemplative practices commencing on Wednesday 4th February and continuing on the 1st Wednesday and 3rd Tuesday of each month. Please see flyers in Church foyer for further details or contact Deborah deborahmrobertson@bigpond.com. Our schedule of other events is also available in the foyer.

SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

Doreen Wijekoon: 0459 253 073 / bunburysgo1@gmail.com

Ruth Dunne: 0400 230 664 / bunburysgo4@gmail.com

Alexis Woolhead: 0400 213 278

Kath Fenton: 0408 236 310

Helenmary Sykes: 0437 782 727



*Feel free to talk to any of these officers
about any Safeguarding queries or concerns that you may have.*

HEARING AID LOOP The Cathedral has an active hearing aid loop. You may need to contact your hearing aid supplier to have your hearing aid adjusted to hear through the sound system in the Cathedral. The hearing aid loop operates within the first 8/9 pews and has very good range across the Cathedral. Sit in these pews to get the best reception.






RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA). Are you an adult interested in learning about the Catholic Faith? Were you baptised but have been away from the Church for a while? Do you need to receive the Sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation. Please phone us

at Parish Office and we will assist you with your interest or queries about our parish program. The RCIA 2026-27 will begin in February 2026. An inquiry evening will be held on Thursday, 29 January 2026, 6pm in the Parish Hall.



CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF CHILDREN (CIC) OF CATECHETICAL AGE. Our Cathedral Parish will be running the program, Christian Initiation of Children of Catechetical Age, commencing in February 2026. The parish CIC program is a sacramental preparation program for non-baptised children and baptised non-Catholic children of catechetical age. The catechetical age is around 7 years old. The Sacraments of Initiation involve Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also included in the sacramental program. If you wish to have your child or children go through the program, please fill out an enrolment form available in the Cathedral cloister or ring the Parish Office to request a copy. You may also phone the Parish Office to speak with Fr Pierre about your inquiries.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2026. Enrolment forms will be made available in the coming weeks in the Cathedral cloister. Eligibility: First Reconciliation Year 3+, First Communion Year 4+, and Confirmation Year 6+. If your child or children missed out on their respective academic years for receiving the sacraments, please speak with Fr Pierre, Dean of the Cathedral, or speak with Ollen Martinez who is our sacramental program preparation specialist in the Parish Office.

- **ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?** Welcome to St. Patrick's! Please fill out a 'New Parishioner' card found in the Cathedral cloister and hand it back to our Mass greeters, to a Parish Pastoral Councilor or to one of our Cathedral priests. We'll definitely contact you soon.
- **SACRIFICIAL GIVING PROGRAM.** Thank you for financially supporting our Cathedral Parish via our sacrificial giving program. It is a way of helping our parish by committing to donate a certain amount of money to the parish on a weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, quarterly and annual basis. If you would like to be part of the program, please fill out a registration form available at the Cathedral cloister. Please check out this web link to register or to know more about our parish sacrificial planned giving program: <https://www.bunburyparish.org/sacrificial-giving>.
- **WE HAVE AN ELECTRONIC 'TAP' DEVICE FOR YOUR DONATION!** St. Patrick's Cathedral has a "Donation Point Tap" located near the statue of St. Patrick in the Cathedral cloister. This electronic device allows you to donate to our parish by simply tapping your contactless enabled card, mobile or wearable to donate. Any parishioner may also conveniently use the device to fulfill their weekly financial contribution, most especially when you have left your wallets or purses at home. 
- **HAVE YOU JOINED THE PARISH 'FLOCKNOTE'?** Flocknote helps our parish to easily keep in contact with parishioners. *For example:* the parish news is sent out each Friday to parishioners via a Flocknote email. We can also let you know of the latest parish happenings as they come to hand. To join simply go to: www.stpatricksbunbury.flocknote.com or our parish website www.bunburyparish.org.
- **STEWARDSHIP CALLING.** "Give and gifts will be given to you" (Luke 6:38) Are you being called to any of our parish ministries? Please have a chat with one of our ministers or to our Cathedral Priests. We'd love to have you on board. We offer training and updating to our ministries.
- **ST. PATRICK'S CARE.** Scriptures tell us that we are our sisters and brothers keepers. Our parish community is calling you to reach out to fellow parishioners in times of their emergency needs or crisis. Are you able to share your time and talents in offering the following pastoral care to members of our parish community: home visitation, transportation, lawn mowing, emergency meals, and grief accompaniment. Help us grow this parish program by growing the love that comes from your heart. If you are able to help, please phone the Parish Office to speak with the Dean of the Cathedral – 08 97212141.
- **CARING FOR THE HOMELESS.** Our Parish Outreach Team offers free hot lunch every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month to members of our wider community who are experiencing homelessness. You can help by either becoming a volunteer or a donor. You may volunteer by either helping cook a dish, hand out flyers around the city, assist serve the meals, help with the setting up and the cleaning up, etc. You can also help by donating money towards the groceries. The approximate cost of running a free lunch event is \$350.00 We do hope you can help us in some ways. Thank you.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES OWNED BY CATHOLICS WHO SUPPORT OUR CATHEDRAL PARISH.

- Residential, commercial & rural property transactions
- Private sale transactions including preparation of Contract
- Subdivisions and land developments
- Family and related party transfers
- Applications including change of name, survivorship and lost title applications

Leisa Norrish
32 Stirling Street Bunbury
PH: 9781 4666



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JOHN MAZZA BA. LLB.

Barrister and Solicitor

John Mazza has been a
lawyer for more than 26
years, the past 20 in
Bunbury.



- Personal injuries
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"For nothing will be impossible with God."

Luke 1:37



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

St. Patrick's Cathedral Parish acknowledges the traditional owners of the land, the Noongar Wardandi people and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all members of the Aboriginal communities and their cultures; and to Elders past, present and emerging.

PARISH DETAILS

Address: 11 Money Street, Bunbury, Western Australia 6230
Postal Address: P.O. Box 2005 Bunbury, Western Australia 6231
Email: parishadmin1@bunburycatholic.org.au
Telephone: 08 9721 2141 | **Website:** <https://www.bunburyparish.org/>

MASS TIMES

Weekdays: 7.00am; **Saturday:** 8.00am, 6.00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday: 8.00am, 10.00am, 6.00pm
Gelorup Carmelite Monastery: 8.30am Sunday; 9.00am Monday - Saturday
Dalyellup Catholic Community: 10am every Sunday - St. John of God Hospital Chapel
Filipino Mass: 12.00 noon every 1st Sunday of the month
Syro-Malabar Mass: 12.30pm every 4th Sunday of the month
Monthly Healing Mass: 10.30am every 1st Tuesday of the month
St John of God Hospital Chapel Mass: 11am every Thursday
Reconciliation: Saturdays 5pm to 5.40pm prior to the 6pm Vigil Mass; or by appointment
Baptism, Wedding, Funeral: By arrangement - please phone the Parish Office

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC)

Helen Brown, PPC Chair: ppc.chair@bunburyparish.org
Liz Lomax, PPC Secretary: ppc.secretary@bunburyparish.org
Feedback: feedback@bunburyparish.org

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE (PFC)

Brian Castieau, PFC Chair: bcastieau@gmail.com
Committee Members
Adrian Seale: adrian@seale.com.au
Mike Freeman: mike.j.freeman@bigpond.com

CLERGY

Bishop of Bunbury: Most Rev. George Kolodziej SDS DD
Email: bishopbunbury@bunburycatholic.org.au
Cathedral Dean & Vicar General: Very Rev Fr Pierangelo Repuyan PhD VG
Email: pierre.repuyan@bunburycatholic.org.au
Associate Priest: Rev Fr Jayan Johnson HGN, **Email:** jayan.johnson@bunburycatholic.org.au
Associate Priest: Rev Fr Joel Villanueva OSJ, **Email:** jmvosj02@yahoo.com
Resident Priest: Rev Fr Edcel Silva OSJ, **Email:** edcelosj.au@gmail.com | **Deacon:** Ian Lewis

MASS HYMNS	Gathering	Offertory	Communion	Reflection	Mission
6pm Saturday	BB 213	BB 116	Chant	BB 283	Alma Redemptoris Mater
8am Sunday	AOV1 29	AOV1 54	AOV2 31	BB 708	AOV1 57
10am Sunday	AOV1 124	AOV1 164	AOV1 185	AOV2 031	AOV1 188
6pm Sunday	AOV1 90	AOV1 6	AOV1 74	AOV1 5	AOV1 57
SJOG Hospital	AOV2 3	AOV1 164	AOV1 12	AOV1 12	AOV2 59