

HAPPY WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY!

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, A2
26th July 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 JULY

“Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.”

Mass Intention(s): Let us pray for our dear grandparents and the elderly, and those who have gone before us.

Eternal repose of the soul of: Orietta Francesca Gianfrancesco and Apolinario De Freitas.

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

Cathedral Parish: Let us pray for new members of our parish community from the RCIA 2026; for those discerning to join the Catholic Church – RCIA 2027; for our RCIC Candidates; for the After School Sacramental Program (ASSP).

Prayer Requests: Fr Roy Pereira, Mervyn Hustler, Brenda Finlayson DSG, Kevin Verghese, Silvio Maiolo, John Kukulka, Margaret Reid, Maria Ricili Villanueva, Renato and Maria Fe Repuyan, Patrick Moran, Claire Kelly, Bridget Collins, Helen Whitcombe, Luke Scanlon, Neil Young, Angele Haydar, Noah Forster and Jake Palandri, Freya Dealino & Wade Godsell.

Diocese: Let us pray for Bishop George, the Diocesan Synodal Team and the Diocesan General Assemblies in 2026 and 2027.

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.



“FINDING A TREASURE”

A treasure is not something we earn but something we find. We can spend a lot of our lives wishing and hoping that some treasure will come our way. We can forget that we already possess a wonderful treasure in our loved ones and in the gift of life itself. And the greatest treasure of all is the kingdom of heaven which Jesus freely offers to us. May we have the wisdom to seek our treasure in God, and not in the glittering goods of a passing world.

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 67: 6-7, 36

God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.

First Reading

1 Kings 3:5,7-12

A reading from the first book of the Kings

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, ‘Ask what you would like me to give you.’ Solomon replied, ‘O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its number cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?’ It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. ‘Since you have asked for this’ the Lord said ‘and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.’

The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

R. Lord, I love your commands.

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold. **R.**
2. Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come and I shall live
for your law is my delight. **R.**
3. That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold,
why I rule my life by your precepts,
and hate false ways. **R.**
4. Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. **R.**

Second Reading

Romans 8:28-30

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

We know that by turning everything to their good, God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation
11:25

cf. Matthew

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
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.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Communion Antiphon

Ps 102: 2

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.



A Priceless Discovery Awaits!

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)



The Parable of the Hidden Treasure, attributed to Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn and Gerrit Dou, 1630

“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.” Matthew 13:44–46

In the first parable above, a person unexpectedly discovers a treasure buried in a field. Imagine that you take a metal detector with you while on a hike, simply curious about what might lie beneath the soil. Suddenly, the detector gives a strong signal. Expecting perhaps a rusted can or an old nail, you begin to dig. But as your shovel strikes something solid, you uncover an old chest. With growing anticipation, you lift it from the earth and open it—only to find it brimming with ancient and priceless jewels, gold and silver coins, and other precious items of immense worth.

In the second parable, the merchant is actively searching for a valuable pearl. He knows what he seeks and finally discovers one of exceptional worth—one that eclipses all others. In both cases, however, the response is the same: the man and the merchant each go and sell all they possess to obtain the treasure they have found.

These parables pose two fundamental questions for each of us:

- Have I discovered the priceless treasure of the Kingdom of Heaven?
- If I have, am I willing to let go of everything else to attain it?

Like the man who stumbles upon the buried treasure, many people encounter God's grace in surprising ways—through a moment of prayer, a profound experience at Mass, an act of charity, or even during suffering. Maybe those people were not actively seeking divine treasure, yet in a moment of providence, the veil is lifted, and the beauty of God's Kingdom is revealed. Once they discover the treasure, their souls realize that nothing else compares. From that point on, they are moved to reorient their entire lives to possess that treasure fully.

The path of the merchant, by contrast, is that of the soul who longs for truth, beauty, and goodness, diligently seeking them out. The one who searches might spend years studying, praying, yearning, and pursuing what is of eternal value. And then—finally—the “pearl” is found. Christ is discovered. The Gospel becomes clear. The longing is fulfilled. Again, everything else is willingly surrendered for the sake of that one Pearl of great price—Jesus Christ.

In both parables, the decision to sell all to gain the treasure is an easy choice. The discovery is so great that everything else the person possesses pales in comparison. But how many people have truly made such a discovery?

Many of us are like someone who learns of a buried treasure in a field and, out of curiosity, drives out to look—but spends little or no time searching. Or we are like a merchant who is informed of a rare and valuable pearl for sale far from home. Though interested, we note the length of the journey and abandon the thought.

Though we may have heard about the glory of God's Kingdom, unless we truly discover it, we will not see the value of attaining it at any cost. We will only be willing to sell all we have—to detach from every hindrance to grace, every sin, obsession, and distraction—if we make the initial discovery of the priceless nature of God's Kingdom already present on earth and the fullness of His Kingdom that awaits us in Heaven.

Reflect today on this invaluable treasure, waiting to be discovered. Consider where you are on that journey of discovery. Have you heard about the priceless treasure of coming to know, love, and serve God? Have you read about the radical response made by many saints? Have you discovered God for yourself, through prayer and moments of profound enlightenment? If you have not, keep searching—the Kingdom is near. If you have made this discovery, then consider all your attachments, and willingly surrender them to God, acknowledging that nothing is too much to offer to our loving God in exchange for the untold riches of the life of grace to which we are called.

My Lord and King, so often I seek the fleeting treasures of this world, including the illusion of treasures found in sin. Please open my eyes and help me to see You as You truly are—and to recognize the priceless value of Your Kingdom in my life. As I discover this Pearl of Great Price, grant me the courage and wisdom I need to surrender all that You ask of me, so that I may fully attain Your reign in my heart. 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.



ST. FRANCIS, PRAY FOR US.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: Jesus calls us to set our hearts on God's new world. We pray that all may receive treasure from God's kingdom.

1. We pray for Pope Leo, Bishop George and other leaders of our Church: may they bring to the people of God treasures both old and new. We pray to the Lord.

2. We pray for the leaders of every nation: may they work for peace and justice in our world, and especially on this World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, may they value the senior members of our society. We pray to the Lord.

3. We pray for those searching for meaning or direction in life: may they discover in Christ the lasting treasure that satisfies the deepest desires of the human heart. We pray to the Lord.

4. We pray for the elderly and grandparents of our parish community: may they be treated with remembrance, love and care. We pray to the Lord.

5. We pray for those who grieve the loss of loved ones: may their trust in God be deepened. We pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Lord God, help us to share the treasures of the kingdom. We bring these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

*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.*

THIS WEEKEND 25 th & 26 th July	Vigil Mass	8am	10am	6pm
Acolyte	Alfred L	Kim H	John L	Sem Chris
Greeters	Ester L	Jenny S Kath F	Wally C	David M
Commentator	Pat G	Kerry H	Deric D	Jean G
Reader	Pat G	Charlotte S	Maia R	Gobi M
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion	Linda L	<i>EMHC Needed</i> Lesley S Peter C Robin W	Elaine T Helen B Nilda C Rosina I	Nan M <i>EMHC Needed</i>
Children's Liturgy			<i>CANCELLED</i>	
Altar Servers			Elijah D Abel R Abigail R	Matthew G Evan B
Music	Laudate Choir	Craig F	Couples for Christ	Mark J
Morning Tea		Margaret C	Couples for Christ/Cathy R	
OCEAN STAR / SUNDAY 2PM		Pastoral Care Volunteers	Volunteer	Readers Chris L, Ethel N

NEXT WEEKEND 1 st & 2 nd August	Vigil Mass	8am	10am	6pm
Acolyte	Alfred L	<i>Acolyte Needed</i>	John I	<i>Acolyte Needed</i>
Greeters	Ester L	Cathy Y Robin W	Lynette A Verna H	David M
Commentator	Brad S	Daria S	Elaine T	Nan M
Reader	Brad S	Malena C	Liz L	Jean G
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion	Linda L	Margaret C Cheryl N David N <i>EMHC Needed</i>	Cathy R Sophie L Marilou C Liz L	Pauline H Gobi M Nan M
Children's Liturgy			Tricia W Virge R	
Altar Servers	Earl T		Matthew G, Caleb S, Godwin J, Gabriel R, Sophia R, Shelby C, Dean S, Lion & Tiger, Evan B	
Music	Sim R	Craig F	Diocesan Choir	<i>Music Needed</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	A Parishioner	A Parishioner	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

27 July Monday	7am: Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 9am: Mass, Carmelite Monastery
28 July Tuesday	7am: Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 9am: Mass, Carmelite Monastery 6pm: Rosary, Blessed Sacrament Chapel
29 July Wednesday Sts Martha, Mary and Lazarus	7am: Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 9am: Mass, Carmelite Monastery 9am: Yr 2 Class Visit, St. Mary's Catholic Primary School 9am: Year 12 Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 3:45pm: RCIC (Introduction to RCIC), Parish Hall
30 July Thursday St Peter Chrysologus DIOCESAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY – Day 1	7am: Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 9am: Mass, Carmelite Monastery 9am: Diocesan General Assembly Clergy Mass, Blessed Sacrament Chapel 11am: Mass, St. John of God Hospital (<i>CANCELLED</i>) 4:15pm: ASSP First Holy Communion (Lesson 5), Meeting Room 5pm: ASSP Reconciliation Special Class (CANCELLED) 6pm: RCIA 2027 (Combined AGAPE)
31 July Friday St Ignatius of Loyola DIOCESAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY – Day 2	7am: Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 7:45am: Mass, Bunbury Catholic College (<i>CANCELLED</i>) 9am: Mass, Carmelite Monastery 9am-9pm: Adoration, Blessed Sacrament Chapel 9:30am: Mass, Bunbury Catholic College 12:41pm: BCC - 'Chat with the Chap' (<i>CANCELLED</i>)
1 August Saturday St Alphonsus Liguori DIOCESAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY – Day 3	8am: Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 9am: Mass, Carmelite Monastery 2:30pm: Diocesan General Assembly Concluding Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 5pm: Reconciliation, St Patrick's Cathedral 6pm: Vigil Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral
2 August Sunday 18 th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME Vocations Awareness Week	8am: Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 8.30am: Mass, Carmelite Monastery 10am: Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 10am: Mass, St. John of God Hospital 12noon: 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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

MASS COLLECTIONS

19th July 2026 – Week 3

First Collection \$ 2,356.65 | Sacrificial Giving \$ 2,781.81



LITURGIES & DEVOTIONS

HOLY ROSARY. You are all welcome to join the weekly praying of the Holy Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 6pm on Tuesdays in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Fellowship in the Parish Hall afterwards, all welcome to attend. For more information contact Rosemary 0402 459 678.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION is held in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel every Friday from 9am to 9pm.

PARISH NEWS

DIOCESAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. Around 150 parishioners will be gathering at Bunbury Catholic College for the Diocesan General Assembly on Saturday, 1 August 2026. After the diocesan-wide Conversations in the Spirit, the collated fruits of the conversations will be presented to assembly attendees. The assembly attendees will continue the Conversation in the Spirits, discerning the pastoral priorities our diocese and parish should undertake in the light of the difference voices which have been heard across the diocese during the Conversations in the Spirit. The question, 'What is God asking of us today?' will be discerned at this assembly and initial directions will be had. At the conclusion of the diocesan general assembly, the fruits of the conversation will be sent out to parishes for further discernment. For several months until Pentecost 2027, parishioners across the diocese will have the opportunity to continue with the synodal journey through Conversations in the Spirit leading to the 2027 General

Assembly when Bishop George Kolodziej will present the Diocesan Pastoral Plan. The coming days and months will be an exciting period in the life of our diocese. Please pray for our diocesan general assembly.

DIOCESAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SNAPSHOT OF EVENTS

July 30, Thursday: Priests will gather to discern the fruits of the Conversations in the Spirit held across the diocese. They will discern in the light of their role as pastors and spiritual leaders of our parish communities.

July 31, Friday. Priests, Principals and School Team Leaders will gather with Bishop George Kolodziej to discern the voices heard through the Conversations in the Spirit. The discernment will be undertaken through lens of the parish and school realities.

The blessing of the Pastoral Life and Mission Centre, Cathedral Precinct 3.30pm.

August 1, Saturday. Parishioners and observers will gather to consider the voices of our community heard through the many Conversations in the Spirit in our diocese. Through Conversations in groups, the assembly hopes to discover a common thread and direction regarding the question: "What is God asking of us today in our diocese and in our parishes."

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY
CONCLUDING MASS:
St. Patrick's Cathedral,
1 August, 2.30pm.
ALL WELCOME.**

**RCIC – RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION
OF CHILDREN OF CATECHETICAL**

AGE. Please note the revised RCIC First Holy Communion Program schedule: Introductory Meeting: Wednesday, **29 July, 3.45–4.30pm, Location to be announced.** Weekly Classes: Commence Wednesday, 5 August, then every Wednesday, 3.45–4.30pm, Parish Hall. Rite of Acceptance & Welcoming: Sunday, 9 August, during the 10am Mass.

ACCOMMODATION REQUEST FOR ASSEMBLY PARTICIPANTS. Thank you to those who have responded. It is heartwarming to know the generosity of parishioners who are willing to welcome our sisters and brothers in Christ to their homes. Let us pray for the forthcoming General Assembly, 30 July – 1 August.

PLANT DONATIONS. We have received a few pot plants. Thank you to our donors. They will have a place in the garden currently being prepared for planting.

DIOCESAN NEWS

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE. Fellowship Day will be celebrated in the Parish Hall on Friday, 31st July at 1:30pm. This is an inter-church service and several denominations will be taking part. Afternoon tea will be served. Contact Margaret 9795 7878.

SPECIAL CELEBRATION FOR THE PRESENTATION SISTERS – SUNDAY 6 SEPTEMBER – 10AM ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL. This year marks 250 years since the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary were founded in Cork, Ireland, by Venerable Nano Nagle. There have been special celebrations around the world wherever the Presentation Sisters have ministered. On Sunday 6 September Bishop George will celebrate Mass at 10 am in the cathedral to mark the presence and ministry of the Presentation Sisters in the diocese, since 1902. Please come along and celebrate this occasion.

HEARTH - YOUNG ADULTS RETREAT A PLACE OF WARMTH, A PLACE OF CONSOLATION. We invite young adults to take a step back from the “busyness” of the day to day. This retreat seeks to deepen the spirituality of young adults through talks, guided prayers and reflections, silent time, discussions, conversations and activities. All food and materials are provided in registration costs. Retreat will begin on Friday evening and conclude on Sunday. Please note retreatants must be present for the full duration of the retreat. Retreat is open to young adults +18. Registration closes 17th August 2026. Follow the link below to register and more information.
<https://catholicdioceseofbunbury.brushfire.com/events/631859>

SPIRITUALITY HUB KIRUP. Peace Vigil Quiet Day, Thursday 6th August Hiroshima Day. 9.30am-2pm. Please join us for all or part of the day to pray for peace in these difficult times. The contemplative practice of the labyrinth will be part of our prayer. Also, save the date for St Phoebe's Day on 3rd September. Contact Deborah for further details 0419939864.



THE SOLEMNITY OF SAINT MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP. You are invited to join our parish celebration of the solemnity of St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop on Saturday, 8 August 10.30am. Celebratory refreshments after Mass in the Parish Hall. All welcome!

MESSAGE FROM HIS HOLINESS LEO XIV FOR THE SIXTH WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY



I will never forget you (Is 49:15)

Dear brothers and sisters,

Through the prophet Isaiah, the Lord promises that he will never forget any of us. He assures us that he has engraved our faces on the palms of his hands (cf. *Is 49:16*) and that his love is greater than a mother's love for her child (cf. *Is 49:15*). The prophet gives us a glimpse of an intimate and intense dialogue in which God addresses, in familiar terms, each person individually and the people as a whole. Even today, we can read these words as referring to each of us, and everyone can hear that "I will never forget you" spoken directly to them.

These are words that fill us with comfort and hope. They are the answer to an agonizing feeling that troubles the heart: "The Lord has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me" (*Is 49:14*). How often in Sacred Scripture, especially in the Psalms, does prayer spring from the despair of those who feel that their lives are of no interest to anyone and are being neglected! The painful feeling of being forgotten is, unfortunately, shared by many people, and among them are quite a few elderly people.

God's love, which forgets no one, offers itself as an act of justice and a response to the anonymity in which human life all too often ends up lost. The lives of many elderly people, in particular, seem to be covered by a veil that blurs the features of their faces and shrouds them in oblivion. This is what happens in homes where loneliness reigns and also in those care facilities where each person's uniqueness risks being reduced to a bed number or an illness.

The celebration of the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is an opportunity to rediscover that the Church is called to be a mother to all and that at any age it is always possible to recognize ourselves as sons and daughters of God. May this day, therefore, be an inspiration for everyone, especially the young, to revive the beautiful

custom of visiting their grandparents, the elderly members of the family and even those who have no one to visit them. Bring them, through this message and your presence, the closeness and affection of the Pope. Ensure that the words of the prophet, “But I will never forget you,” take the form of a tender and affectionate encounter. “In an era that favours speed and fragmentation, the human person still yearns to receive care and recognition from attentive minds, kind words and hands capable of tenderness. The digital culture multiplies connections and offers new opportunities for interaction; yet, the human heart retains an irrevocable need for genuine closeness” (Encyclical Letter, [*Magnifica Humanitas*](#), 239).

The Church understands the suffering of her elderly members; she knows full well that they are all too often viewed through the lens of stereotypes and considered a burden; she is aware that a profit-driven economy weakens family ties; she knows that many elderly people are left behind by children who are forced to migrate or, in some cases, to fight in wars. For each of these reasons, she joyfully proclaims the Lord’s promise: “But I will never forget you!”

It is a joy, at any age, but especially when we are no longer young, to discover, as [*John Paul I*](#) said, that we are the recipients “of undying love on the part of God. We know: he has always his eyes open on us, even when it seems to be dark. He is our father; even more he is our mother” ([*Angelus*](#), 10 September 1978). Even if it does not come naturally to think this way, the truth is that even in old age we do not cease to be sons and daughters; therefore, the invitation to return to the arms of God — whose love is both paternal and maternal — remains worthwhile at any age.

For many, the discovery of God’s tenderness takes place over the course of their lives, sometimes even in its final stages. Indeed, unlike in the past, it is increasingly common to reach old age without having had a genuine experience of faith. In such cases, old age — beginning with the questions that arise with greater urgency during this season of life — can become the right time to begin or resume a spiritual life. On this new journey, one can recognize that God, as Saint Augustine says, “is a mother because he cherishes, because he nourishes, because he nurses, because he protects” (*Commentary on Psalm 27*, II, 18). It is an awareness that helps us not to feel ashamed of the fragility that emerges and also to understand that we are always in need of one another and in need of attention and care. To God, who draws near to us and whom we learn to recognize in his tenderness, we can now turn with filial trust in prayer. It is never too late to begin turning to him. It can be a great gift for everyone.

Dear elderly men and women, [*Pope Francis*](#) spoke of you as a “new people” ([*Catechesis*](#), 23 February 2022), since the number of older adults has never been so large in human history. It is, therefore, more important than ever to reflect with you, this “new people,” on what our vocation might be when fragility — the human person’s companion from birth — seems to take over. I would like to say to you: do not be afraid of fragility! It is precisely this weakness that holds within itself a new potential that also illuminates the other stages of life. Indeed, when “we acknowledge our fragility, our hearts become open to supporting one another and to invoking the One who can grant what no human power can ensure: the profound reconciliation of hearts and, with it, true peace” ([*Meeting with the Algerian community*](#), Basilica of Our Lady of Africa, Algiers, 13 April 2026).

Continued on page 17...



**FR. NATHAN
BARRIE**

This week I was blessed to concelebrate the Funeral Mass for Apolinario, the father of our seminarian, Chris. It was a privilege to stand alongside Chris and his family as they gathered to commend his father to the loving mercy of God. Funerals are always moments of sadness, but they also remind us of the precious gift of family and the hope we have in the Resurrection.

I also attended meetings of our Parish Pastoral Council and the School Advisory Council at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School. Both meetings were a reminder of the many people who generously give their time and energy to help our parish and school communities grow and flourish. There is much work that happens quietly behind the scenes, and I am grateful for the commitment of so many.

Another busy but productive day was spent in prison ministry. Each visit is a reminder of the dignity of every person and of the importance of bringing the hope and mercy of Christ to those who are often easily forgotten.

God bless us.



**FR. JOEL
VILLANUEVA OSJ**

My dear parishioners, I ask you to pray for the success of the Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend, which is happening this 25–26 July 2026 at Bunbury Catholic College.

This special weekend will bring together seven married couples (four belonging to our parish) who have generously accepted the invitation to deepen their relationship with one another and with God.

Marriage Encounter is a powerful ministry of the Church that encourages husbands and wives to nurture open communication, mutual understanding, forgiveness, and lasting love. Strong and faith-filled marriages are the foundation of vibrant families, and healthy families are the heart of every parish community.

As these seven couples begin this grace-filled journey, may I ask everyone to keep them, the presenting team, and all those involved in the weekend in your prayers. Please pray for me also that I may become truly an instrument of God's Love for these couples.

Let us entrust this Marriage Encounter Weekend to the intercession of the Holy Family of Nazareth, Jesus, Mary and Joseph.



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.

27 July Monday	Weekday, Ordinary Time 17	Jer 13:1-11 Deut 32:18-21 Mt 13:31-35
28 July Tuesday	Weekday, Ordinary Time 17	Jer 14:17-22 Ps 78:8-9, 11, 13 Mt 13:36-43
29 July Wednesday	Sts Martha, Mary and Lazarus	1 Jn 4:7-16 Ps 33:2-11 Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
30 July Thursday	Weekday, Ordinary Time 17 St Peter Chrysologus, bishop, doctor	Jer 18:1-6 Ps 145:2-6 Mt 13:47-53
31 July Friday	St Ignatius of Loyola, priest	Jer 26:1-9 Ps 68:5, 8-10, 14 Mt 13:54-58
1 August Saturday	St Alphonsus Liguori, bishop, doctor	Jer 26:11-16, 24 Ps 68:15-16, 30-31, 33-34 Mt 14:1-12
2 August Sunday	18 th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME Vocations Awareness Week	Is 55:1-3 Ps 144:8-9, 15-18 Rom 8:35, 37-39 Mt 14:13-21

PPC Post by Helen Brown, PPC Chairperson

The PPC is filled with joy as the parish welcomes children and their families to the First Eucharist Commitment Mass. This occasion and time of preparation brings joy because:

- Children take an important step in their faith journey, growing closer to Jesus through the Eucharist.
- Families celebrate together, sharing in their child's spiritual growth and commitment to faith.
- The parish community welcomes and supports them, reminding everyone that they are part of the Body of Christ.
- The Eucharist is a gift of God's love, nourishing believers and uniting them with Jesus and one another.
- It is a time of thanksgiving and hope, as children continue to grow in faith, service, and discipleship.

As Catholics, we rejoice because the Eucharist is the source and summit of Christian life, and each child who receives this sacrament is welcomed more deeply into the life of Christ and His Church. This shared celebration strengthens the faith of the whole community and fills hearts with gratitude and joy. Please keep them in your prayers.

The PPC looks forward to clarity around next steps in regard to the audio system after the visit from OsbornAudio next week.

St James and pilgrimage by Sr. Christine Clarke, PBVM

Yesterday was the feast of St James, one of the apostles of Jesus in the gospels. He has come to be strongly connected to the pilgrimage in Spain known as the Camino de Santiago - or the Way of St James.

Pilgrimage is **a journey** of some sort, often connected to the life of Jesus, or one of the saints, or to mark a particular event for a family or group.

Pope Benedict spoke of pilgrimage in 2010: '...it is not simply to visit a place to admire its treasures, art or history. It means to step out of ourselves **to encounter God** where God has been revealed, and where **God's grace** has shone for people.'

Pilgrimages are made to a huge variety of places, with the Way of St James one of the most visited. It became very popular in the Middle Ages and is still a major pilgrimage route. The **journey to and from the special place** comprises the pilgrimage.

The usual reasons for undertaking a pilgrimage include **seeking guidance** for direction in life, **giving thanks** for favours received and to **petition God** for spiritual or physical favours.

An interesting connection with pilgrimage is the practice of the procession of palms and the veneration of the cross in Holy Week. These were brought to the West by early pilgrims from Jerusalem, where these practices originated.

Writers from many eras across Christianity have recommended the idea of pilgrimage as **an inner journey**.



DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY PRAYER

Loving and faithful God, as we walk along the road of our lives, help us to recognise that you are with us. Stay close to us. Open our hearts when we hear your word. In the blessing and breaking of the bread and of our lives together, help us to recognise you and know that you are near. Fill us with your Spirit and joy, so we may go and share your Good News. Send your blessing on all the people of our Diocese as we prepare for our Assembly in August. May your Spirit of wisdom inspire and guide all our conversations and gatherings. May your Spirit of living communion unite us more closely in our parishes and diocese.

May our walking together be fruitful and be a sign of your presence in our world. Amen.

Our Lady of the Way – Pray for Us

St Joseph, Protector of the Church – Pray for Us.

Continued from page 13...

This is how we can live out our old age as Christians: “fragile” yet at the same time “called.” A man and a woman can, in fact, be born anew in old age (cf. *Jn* 3:4-6) and exclaim, with the prophet: “In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength” (*Is* 30:15). This strength can become an invitation not to resort to the ways of arrogance and power to ensure human coexistence, but to the ways of reconciliation and true peace. In this time, so harshly marked by the violence of war and social unrest, many wonder what the world in which their grandchildren will grow up will be like. I urge you, dear friends, to join me in praying earnestly that peace may soon come to the whole world.

Dear elderly brothers and sisters, I thank you for supporting me every day with your prayers, especially when you recite the Holy Rosary. I return this gratitude from the bottom of my heart and leave you with this prayer: may the Lord always renew us in faith, hope and love — He who never forgets us!

From the Vatican, 15 June 2026

LEO PP. XIV

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COLUMBARIUM



St. Patrick's Cathedral Parish offers the opportunity to parishioners for the remains of their loved ones - their families and relatives, or themselves - to be laid to rest in the limestone wall **Columbarium** situated around the eastern-end of the sacred grounds of St. Patrick's Cathedral. For more information, collect a brochure from the Cathedral cloister or call the Parish Office at 9721 2141 during office hours.



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MEMORIAL WALL

St. Patrick's Cathedral Parish offers the opportunity to parishioners to remember their loved ones - their families and relatives, or themselves - by placing a memorial plaque on the limestone **Memorial Wall** situated around the eastern-end of the sacred grounds of St. Patrick's Cathedral. For more information, collect a brochure from the Cathedral cloister or call the Parish Office at 9721 2141 during office hours.

ST. PAT'S OUTREACH

offers some practical support and accompaniment to members of our wider community particularly to those who are experiencing homelessness. We commit to following the example of Jesus Christ who reminds us that: "Whatever you did to one of the least sisters and brothers of mine, you did it also to be" (Matthew 25:40).

WE ACCEPT DONATIONS FOR OUR CARE PACKS WE GIVE TO THE HOMELESS. Kindly leave your donations in the basket found in the Cathedral cloister: e.g. toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, shampoo, etc. Cash donations are also accepted. For more information, please contact **Anne & Ryan Mallaby – 0455 570 623.**

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

We invite you to support our Cathedral Parish via our sacrificial giving program. It is a way of helping our parish financially 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>.



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.



PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE IF YOU WISH TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN THIS PARISH BULLETIN.

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



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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 Bunbury 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, Chairperson: ppc.chair@bunburyparish.org
Liz Lomax, Deputy Chairperson-Secretary: ppc.secretary@bunburyparish.org
Feedback: feedback@bunburyparish.org

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE (PFC)

Brian Castieau, PFC Chair: bcastieau@gmail.com

CLERGY

Bishop of Bunbury: His Excellency, Most Reverend George Kolodziej SDS DD
Email: bishopbunbury@bunburycatholic.org.au
Cathedral Dean & Vicar General: Very Reverend Pierangelo Repuyan PhD VG
Email: pierre.repuyan@bunburycatholic.org.au
Associate Priest: Rev Fr Joel Villanueva OSJ, **Email:** joel.villanueva@bunburycatholic.org.au
Associate Priest: Rev Fr Nathan Barrie EKHS, **Email:** nathanbarrie@live.com.au
Deacon: Ian Lewis

PARISH OFFICE STAFF

Parish Administration Officer: Maria Kathleen Abante – parishadmin2@bunburycatholic.org.au
Parish Secretary: Kim Hillman (Monday) - parishadmin1@bunburycatholic.org.au
Parish Secretary: Ollen Grace Martinez (Tuesday-Friday) – parishadmin1@bunburycatholic.org.au

MASS HYMNS	Gathering	Offertory	Communion	Reflection	Mission
6pm Saturday	BB 213	BB 67	CHANT	BB 61	BB 468
8am Sunday	AOV1 80	BB 67	AOV1 49	AOV1 40	AOV1 16
10am Sunday	AOV1 57	AOV1 146	AOV1 155	AOV1 166	AOV1 158
6pm Sunday	AOV1 76	AOV2 4	AOV1 6	AOV2 126	AOV1 57
SJOGH	AOV1 16	AOV1 40	AOV2 155	-	AOV1 80