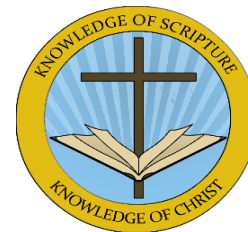


ST JEROME'S CATHOLIC PARISH

VISION: "To be an active faith community centred on Jesus Christ, which unites everyone to build a better world"



3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT YR B- 13th December

Parish Priest: Fr Vijay D'Souza CRS
E: johnson.dsouza@perthcatholic.org.au
Assistant Priest: Fr Pierangelo Borali CRS
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Parish Office: 36 Troode Street, Munster
Phone: 9418 1229
Secretary : secretary@stjeromesparish.org
Website: www.stjeromesparish.org

FIRST READING: *Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11*
The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,
for the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,
to bind up hearts that are broken;
to proclaim liberty to captives,
freedom to those in prison;
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.
'I exult for joy in the Lord,
my soul rejoices in my God,
for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he
has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,
like a bridegroom wearing his wreath,
like a bride adorned in her jewels.
For as the earth makes fresh things grow,
as a garden makes seeds spring up,
so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring
up in the sight of the nations.'

The Word of the Lord. **R: Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Lk 1:46-50, 53-54 R. Isa 60:10*

R: My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on His servant in her nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **R**

The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy His name!

His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear Him. **R**

He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, His servant,
remembering His mercy. **R**

SECOND READING *St Paul to Thessalonians 5:16-24*

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all
things give thanks to God, because this is what God
expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of
prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything
- hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and
may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and
body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has
called you and He will not fail you.

The Word of the Lord. **R. Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Is 61:1*

Alleluia, Alleluia!

**The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; He sent me to
bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: *John 1:6-8, 19-28*

A man came, sent by God.
His name was John. He came as a witness,
as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone
might believe through him.
He was not the light,
only a witness to speak for the light.
This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews
sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him,
'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared
quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they
asked, 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not,' he said. 'Are you the
Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who
are you? We must take back an answer to those who
sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John
said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:
make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and
they put this further question to him, 'Why are you
baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and
not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but
there stands among you - unknown to you - the one who
is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-
strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the
Jordan, where John was baptising.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.



Father's message

Be a witness.

“A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness.” (John 1:6-7) The word “witness” comes 4 times.

A witness is someone who knows the facts, possibly by experience.

Witnessing to Christ means telling others what we have personally experienced of Jesus.

When we encountered Jesus, our first reaction might have been to tell our best friend.

“Make a straight way for the Lord.” (John 1:23)

John knew Jesus personally. He believed Jesus was the Messiah, the Christ they were waiting for. He was not sure - he sent to ask him, before he died. He believed it and all his life had a single purpose: witnessing to him.

John points to Jesus, beyond himself. He sets himself aside, makes himself disposable.

Witnessing: μαρτυρία (martyria, martyr). How can we be witnesses?

1- Pray for the person you want to meet Jesus. You may stay here for a while.

2- Be alert to the opportunities Jesus will open for you.

3- Share your story, just the way it comes - your genuine self is the best you can offer.

4- You may have a plan, but your instincts will lead you. That is often where the Spirit nudges you. “Never try to suppress the Spirit.” (1Thess 5:19)

5- The focus is on Jesus, not on you. John is the voice. Jesus is the Word.

We already have an excellent place to start: our neighbourhoods.

A mature disciple is a witness - they share the Good News, their experience of Jesus.

Be a witness - share what Jesus does for you, especially in your neighbourhood

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME 2020

29 November - 1st Sunday of Advent, Year B

16 – 24 December Missa do Galo at 5.30 am (Portuguese Tradition Mass)

21-23 December, 6.00pm – 8.00pm Sacrament of Reconciliation at the Church

Thursday 24 December, 6.00 pm – Family Mass

Thursday 24 December, 8.00pm - Christmas Mass preceded by carols played at 7.30pm

Thursday 24 December, Midnight - Christmas Mass preceded by carols played at 11.30pm

Friday 25 December, 8.00am - Christmas Mass

Friday 25 December, 10.00am - Christmas Mass

NO 6.00 PM MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Monday 28 December, 7.00am and 09.00am – Feast of Holy Innocents (Blessing of children after 9.00am Mass)

Thursday 31 December, 11.00pm - Thanksgiving Holy Hour

Thursday 31 December, 12.00 midnight - New Year's Eve Mass

WEEKDAY MASS:

Monday to Friday - 7am and 9am
Saturday - 9am

Religious Co-ordinator

Soly Fernandez

E: re_coordinator@stjromesparish.org

WEEKEND MASS: Saturday - 6pm Vigil

Sunday - 8am, 10am and 6pm (Youth Mass)

Safeguarding Officers

Judy McShane & Anne Strafela

E: safeguarding@stjromesparish.org

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 10.00 – 11.00am and 5pm - 5.30pm
Or on Request at any time

Parish Pastoral Council

Secretary: Ann Taylor

E: ppcsecretary@stjromesparish.org

Parish Office Hours:

Wednesday & Friday 9am to 2.30pm
Thursdays 9am to 12pm



REQUIREMENT TO KEEP RECORDS OF CHURCH ATTENDANCE FROM 5 DECEMBER 2020

To support contact tracing in case of an outbreak of covid-19, records are required by the WA government. The easiest way will be that all who can download an app - SafeWA. The app will easily record attendance by scanning a QR code. Using the app would make it so much easier for us to manage the requirement. We humbly request all who can to do so. All who cannot use the app will be required to write down their details on the sheets provided. We thank you in advance for your kind cooperation.

Filipino Mass will be on Sunday 13th December at 3.00pm, mass will be celebrated by Fr Albert Delicano



PREPARATION FOR THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST

To prepare ourselves for the birth of Jesus Christ there is a Portuguese Tradition of having Mass every morning for nine days ending on Christmas Eve prior to Christmas Day. The Mass will be said in English and the choir will sing songs dedicated to the birth of Christ in Portuguese. Everyone is welcome to join in these Masses and help in preparing ourselves for this important day. These Masses will commence on the **16th December and will continue until the 24th December, at 5.30am each day.**

POPE FRANCIS PROCLAIMS "YEAR OF ST JOSEPH"

With the Apostolic Letter "**Patris corde**" ("With a Father's Heart"), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of Saint Joseph" from today, **8th December 2020, to 8th December 2021.** At the conclusion of his Letter, he adds another prayer to St Joseph, which he encourages all of us to pray together:

**Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil.**

Amen.

In an Emergency only (anointing of the sick), when the Parish phone is unattended please call the parish emergency number of 0478 456 079 or send a text to this number. Thank you

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH:

Benji Kentwell, Matilda De Santos, Sister Renee Quadros, Salvatore Lazzara, Alessio De Souza, John Alvarez, Marina & Rita Papalia, Sid Gaspar, Lucia Merenda, Madeleine Lombardo, Maria Fernandez.

(Please advise the parish office if any of these names need to be removed.)

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

<p>Sat 12/12/20 6pm Soul of Ken Orr Soul of Laretta Yon Souls of Giulio & Vittoria Giorgi Souls of Giorgio & Angelina Giorgi Souls of Armando & Arminda Tucci Soul of Giuseppe Ciminata (1st anni)</p>	<p>Tues 15/12/20 7am Soul of Josephine Nunes 9am</p>
<p>Sun 13/12/20 8am Souls of Lues Coelho Holy Souls in purgatory Soul of Fr Julian Carasco</p> <p>10am Souls of Orlando & Clotilde Guerreiro Soul of Fr David Thexeira Soul of Corrado Palmiotti Soul of Virgilio Loreto Soul of Alberto Giglia</p> <p>6pm B'Day Int. Jose Francisco Garces</p>	<p>Wed 16/12/20 7am Soul of Matlha Ne 9am Int. of Freitas & Yukos families Int. Edel & Cheslin Ellis Special Int. Suneeth Fernandes Soul of Matteo Renato De Gennaro Souls of Chiara & Damiano De Gennaro Souls of Alexandro & Adolarata Scilio</p> <p>Thurs 17/12/20 7am 9am Soul of Robert Little (1st anni)</p> <p>Fri 18/12/20 7am Souls of Armando & George Correia 9am Souls of Carmelo & Antonia Acquado Soul of Sr Canisius Mladinich</p>
<p>Mon 14/12/20 7am Soul of Joe Faria 9am Soul of Rosa Teodorro Limina Int. John De Sousa & family Int. of St Rita De Casia Int. of Beate Carlo Acutis</p>	<p>Sat 19/12/20 9am Soul of Josefina Beatriz De Jesus Soul of Jaka Bacich</p>

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