

ST JEROME'S CATHOLIC PARISH

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



4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT YR B- 20th December

Parish Priest: Fr Vijay D'Souza CRS
E: johnson.dsouza@perthcatholic.org.au
Assistant Priest: Fr Pierangelo Borali CRS
E: pierbora@gmail.com

Parish Office: 36 Troode Street, Munster
Phone: 9418 1229
Secretary : secretary@stjeromesparish.org
Website: www.stjeromesparish.org

FIRST READING: *Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16*
Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'
But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: "Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."'

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 88:2-7,29 .R.cf.v.2

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
Through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
That your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **R.**

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever
and set up your throne through all ages.' **R.**

He will say to me: 'You are my father,
My God, the rock who saves me.'
I will keep my love for him always;
For him my covenant shall endure. **R.**

SECOND READING: *St Paul to the Romans 16:25-27*
Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Lk 1:38*

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the servant of the Lord:
May his will for me be done.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: *Luke 1:26-38*
The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me,' And the angel left her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Father's message

The readings of today challenge me to welcome the unpredictability of God's action. "Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? [...]The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a house." (2Samuel 7:5.11).

David is told to give up his plan and let God work - and conform to God's work. God's plan is suddenly sprung upon Mary, who cannot help being disturbed. "Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus." (Luke1:31)

Last week we heard how John came as a witness. We realised we are called to be witnesses, too: witnesses to Jesus. Before Mary could give Jesus to the world, she was asked to conceive him. Mary welcomed Jesus into her womb, into her being. The Gospel said that the angel "went in". This may be understood in two ways: he went into her house, or he went into her being. Jesus was formed in Mary for nine months, and then was out there. He was delivered to the world. He was offered, witnessed, shared. The life of Mary, like the life of every mother, must have been extensively rearranged, realigned, by the presence of the baby.

The same announcement Mary received is made to me: you are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. You are to welcome Jesus into your being, let him rearrange all your life, let him grow upon you, recognise him, learn to address him by name – Jesus. Eventually, very soon, you will be ready to witness, to share this presence. Mary was moved to do that very soon: she visited her cousin Elizabeth.

Am I ready for this major change? This is what we celebrate at Christmas. "Let what you have said be done to me." (Luke 1:38).

Let it happen. Surrender to God's work. Like Mary, we are to welcome Jesus into our being and let him realign our whole life. Welcome Jesus and look after his presence.

Witness to him at Christmas events.

How about reconnecting with that family member whose relationship with you was somewhat compromise

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.

POPE FRANCIS PROCLAIMS “YEAR OF ST JOSEPH”

**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.

POPE FRANCIS ABOUT ST. JOSEPH IN HIS LETTER “PATRIS CORDE” WITH A FATHER’S HEART:

that is how Joseph loved Jesus, whom all four Gospels refer to as “the son of Joseph”. Matthew and Luke, the two Evangelists who speak most of Joseph, tell us very little, yet enough for us to appreciate what sort of father he was, and the mission entrusted to him by God’s providence.

We know that Joseph was a lowly carpenter (cf. Mt 13:55), betrothed to Mary (cf. Mt 1:18; Lk 1:27). He was a “just man” (Mt 1:19), ever ready to carry out God’s will as revealed to him in the Law (cf. Lk 2:22.27.39) and through four dreams (cf. Mt 1:20; 2:13.19.22). After a long and tiring journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, he beheld the birth of the Messiah in a stable, since “there was no place for them” elsewhere (cf. Lk 2:7). He witnessed the adoration of the shepherds (cf. Lk 2:8-20) and the Magi (cf. Mt 2:1-12), who represented respectively the people of Israel and the pagan peoples.

Joseph had the courage to become the legal father of Jesus, to whom he gave the name revealed by the angel: “You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins” (Mt 1:21). As we know, for ancient peoples, to give a name to a person or to a thing, as Adam did in the account in the Book of Genesis (cf. 2:19-20), was to establish a relationship.

In the Temple, forty days after Jesus’ birth, Joseph and Mary offered their child to the Lord and listened with amazement to Simeon’s prophecy concerning Jesus and his Mother (cf. Lk 2:22-35). To protect Jesus from Herod, Joseph dwelt as a foreigner in Egypt (cf. Mt 2:13-18). After returning to his own country, he led a hidden life in the tiny and obscure village of Nazareth in Galilee, far from Bethlehem, his ancestral town, and from Jerusalem and the Temple. Of Nazareth it was said, “No prophet is to rise” (cf. Jn 7:52) and indeed, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” (cf. Jn 1:46). When, during a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, Joseph and Mary lost track of the twelve-year-old Jesus, they anxiously sought him out and they found him in the Temple, in discussion with the doctors of the Law (cf. Lk 2:41-50).

After Mary, the Mother of God, no saint is mentioned more frequently in the papal magisterium than Joseph, her spouse. My Predecessors reflected on the message contained in the limited information handed down by the Gospels in order to appreciate more fully his central role in the history of salvation. Blessed Pius IX declared him “Patron of the Catholic Church”, Venerable Pius XII proposed him as “Patron of Workers” and Saint John Paul II as “Guardian of the Redeemer”. Saint Joseph is universally invoked as the “patron of a happy death”.

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

FAREWELL TO BR SHELDON

Brother Sheldon Burke has been transferred to the community of Sydney to continue his studies. Br Sheldon has been a great help to our community and a great influence to the youth. Br Sheldon will be leaving St Jeromes Parish on 22nd December 2020. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers. We will be having a Farewell morning tea on Monday 21st December after the 9am mass. It would be greatly appreciated if parishioners could please bring a plate of food to share. 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

Sat 19/12/20	6pm	Soul of Ken Orr Soul of Laretta Yon Soul of Jaka Bacich	Tues 22/12/20	5.30 Int. Maria Cardoso 7am Int. James Parker 9am Soul of Ante Stojin
Sun 20/12/20	5.30 8am	Int. Delores Abreu Soul of Teresa Della Madalena Soul of Mile Baskovich	Wed 23/12/20	5.30 Int. Maria Jose Da Silva 7am B'Day Int Vitoria Correia 9am Int. of Freitas & Yukos families
	10am	Soul of Uncle Harold Dick Soul of Manuel Canada	Thurs 24/12/20	5.30 Int. Ligia & Joao Luis De Sousa 7am Souls of George & Hilario De Oliveira Souls of Aires & Celena Abreu Soul of Helen Rocha
	6pm	Souls of Peter, Jerolima & Frana Oreb Soul of Ratomir Bacich	Fri 25/12/20	NO INTENTIONS
Mon 21/12/20	5.30 7am 9am	Souls of Irene, Raul & Jorge - Helder Henriques and Sandra Faria Soul of Nathan De Abreu Soul of Pasquale Piccoli	Sat 26/12/20	9am Soul of Vince Fonti-Bonese Soul of Lino Seno B'Day Int Giovanna Howell

Remembrance Funerals



Remembering Families

Remembering Life

Pre paid available at today's
affordable prices

Burials & Cremations
any time, all areas

Portuguese & Italian Spoken

Contact Susie Lombardi

1300 799 093



Saving families thousands

without compromise!

ABC _____

Blinds and Awnings

Edwin Pinto 0413 914 918

- * VERTICALS
- * VENETIANS
- * TIMBERS * AWNINGS
- * ROLLER BLINDS
- * SUNSCREEN BLINDS
- * PANEL BLINDS
- * ROMAN BLINDS

Free measure and quote in your own
home.

Special discounts for parishioners

Installation in 10 Working Days

Generations of
experience *and*
innovation

For all your funeral requirements,
including information on pre-paid
funerals, or female funeral directors
please call our Head Office 92315199.

Chapels located at Cannington,
Cottesloe, Dianella, Fremantle,
Mandurah, Medina, Midland, Perth and
Westminster.

BOWRA & O'DEA
FUNERAL DIRECTORS