

ST JEROME'S CATHOLIC PARISH

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



THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH YR B- 27th 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: *Genesis 15:1-6;21:1-3*
The Word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great'. 'My Lord,' Abram replied 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless ...' Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir'. And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be of your own flesh and blood'. Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised her. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *PS 104:1-6, 8-9. R. vv. 7, 8*
R. The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name,
Make known his deeds among the peoples.
O sing to him, sing his praise;
Tell all his wonderful works! **R.**

Be proud of his holy name,
let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.
Consider the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face. **R.**

Remember the wonders he has done,
His miracles, the judgements he spoke,
O children of Abraham, his servant,
O sons of the Jacob he chose. **R.**

He remembers his covenant for ever,
his promise for a thousand generations,
the covenant he made with Abraham,
the oath he swore to Isaac. **R.**

SECOND READING: *Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19*
It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore. It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test,

offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Heb 1:1-2*
Alleluia, alleluia!
In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: *Luke 2:22-40*
When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said: 'Now master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.' As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.' There was a prophetess also, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem. When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

The Gospel of the Lord.
R. Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Father's message

God was and is at work in the details of the story of each family member.

This passage of the Gospel is part of the family story of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Like in all families, they might have recalled these events with other family and friends and wondered at what it all meant. We do not believe in chance. Nothing happens by chance. We believe in God's plan, even when we struggle to understand it. God was at work in all details of the family of Jesus. God's plan unfolded through those ordinary and extraordinary circumstances, until it was fulfilled with the Ascension and Pentecost - passing through the passion, death and resurrection.

We too have a family story. We love to recall it, share it, and every time it evokes the same strong emotions, tears, laughter, concern.

In the story of our own family, too, God is at work in all details. Nothing happens by chance.

Like Mary, we need to ponder those details in our heart with humility, cherish them with love, until their potential and meaning is completely revealed and understood.

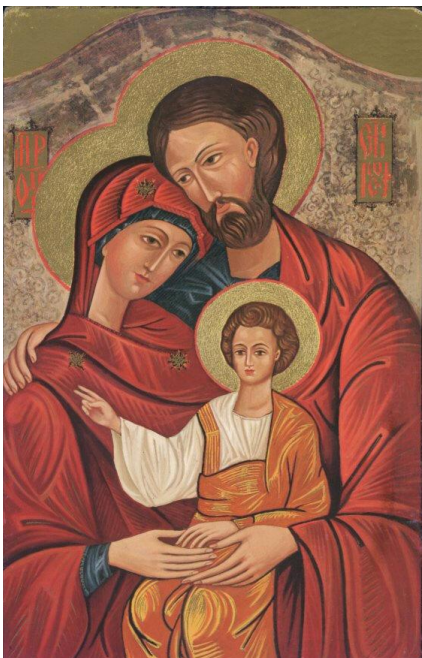
God was and is at work in the details of the story of each family member.

Recall the stories and the details, share them and contemplate God's work in your family.

THE HOLY FAMILY PRAYER

Dear Lord,
Bless our family.
Be so kind as to give us the unity, peace, and mutual love that You found in Your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

Saint Joseph,
pray for the head of our family.
Obtain for him the strength, the wisdom, and the prudence he needs to support and direct those under his care.



Mother Mary,
pray for the mother of our family.
Help her to be pure and kind, gentle and self-sacrificing.
For the more she resembles you, the better will our family be.

Lord Jesus,
bless the children of our family.
Help them to be obedient and devoted to their parents.
Make them more and more like You.
Let them grow, as You did, in wisdom and strength and grace before God and man.

Holy Family of Nazareth,
by your intercession, love, and holy example, make our family and home more and more like Yours, until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with You.



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:

Now, one hundred and fifty years after his proclamation as Patron of the Catholic Church by Blessed Pius IX (8 December 1870), I would like to share some personal reflections on this extraordinary figure, so close to our own human experience. For, as Jesus says, “out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks” (Mt 12:34). My desire to do so increased during these months of pandemic, when we experienced, amid the crisis, how “our lives are woven together and sustained by ordinary people, people often overlooked. People who do not appear in newspaper and magazine headlines, or on the latest television show, yet in these very days are surely shaping the decisive events of our history. Doctors, nurses, storekeepers and supermarket workers, cleaning personnel, caregivers, transport workers, men and women working to provide essential services and public safety, volunteers, priests, men and women religious, and so very many others. They understood that no one is saved alone... How many people daily exercise patience and offer hope, taking care to spread not panic, but shared responsibility. How many fathers, mothers, grandparents and teachers are showing our children, in small everyday ways, how to accept and deal with a crisis by adjusting their routines, looking ahead and encouraging the practice of prayer. How many are praying, making sacrifices and interceding for the good of all”.^[6] Each of us can discover in Joseph – the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence – an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble. Saint Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation. A word of recognition and of gratitude is due to them all.

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

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.)

Recently Deceased

Giuseppa Fedele

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 26/12/20 6pm	Soul of Ken Orr Soul of Lauretta Yon	Tues 29/12/20 7am	Int. Win Brown Int. Alan Seno 9am Int James Parker
Sun 27/12/20 8am	Soul of Horacio Malho Soul of Elio Boni	Wed 30/12/20 7am	Int. Bartram Family 9am Int. of Freitas & Yukos families
10am	Soul of Tindara Merenda Soul of Manuel Canada Soul of Virgilio Loreto B'Day Int. Jose Correia Ascenso	Thurs 31/12/20 7am	Soul of Maria Can
6pm	Soul of Angelina Ingrilli Int. for the Miraculous Medal	Fri 01/01/21 7am	Soul of Maijan Fatovich (1 st anni) Soul of Mavis Crosby
Mon 28/12/20 7am	Soul of Jacinta Seno Int. of Lolita Seno B'Day Int. Hilary Dobson	Sat 02/01/21 9am	Int. James Parker
9am	Soul of Leo Mezzina Soul of Giuseppe Dolzadelli Soul of Daniel McCloskey		

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