

MOST REV. TIMOTHY COSTELLOE SDB  
ARCHBISHOP OF PERTH

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The Cathedral parish acknowledges the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation, the Traditional Owners who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation

**OUR MISSION**

We strive to be an inspiring Catholic community in the heart of our city, welcoming everyone and providing sanctuary for the marginalised, the sorrowful and the seeker of Jesus' love

**Safeguarding Officers**

1300 011 102 - smc.tiny.us/safe

- Joan Lim joan.lim@perthcatholic.org.au
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- Josephine Cabagyo josephine.cabagyo@perthcatholic.org.au

23 DECEMBER - 29 DECEMBER

**SATURDAY**

8:00 am	Mass
5:00 pm	Confession
6:00 pm	Vigil Mass

**SUNDAY**

8:00 am	Mass
9:30 am	Mass
11:00 am	Mass
5:00 pm	Mass

**MONDAY - FRIDAY**

11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Confession
12:10 pm	Mass

**WEDNESDAY**

7:30 pm	Miraculous Medal Novena
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**FRIDAY**

11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Holy Hour
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**Parish Pastoral Council**

Jessica Patterson (chair)  
Jet Bautista (secretary)  
jet.bautista@perthcatholic.org.au

Damien Bowen, Ann Brown,  
Anna Rowe, Fr Sean, Joan Lim,  
Tony Meyrick,  
Isaac Ramshaw-Attard

This day was made by the Lord;  
we rejoice and are glad.  
Psalm 117 (118)



Next Weekend's Roster

**SATURDAY 30 DECEMBER**

6:00 pm	Fr Richard Smith (C) Helen Sisto (R) Ronellie Lenon
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**SUNDAY 31 DECEMBER**

8:00 am	Fr Sean Fernandez (C) Jessica Patterson (R) Michael Carren (R) Godfrey Bonavia
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9:30 am	Fr Kenneth Acosta (C) Colette Shack (R) Pam Mattes (R) Brendon Norris
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11:00 am	Fr Sean Fernandez (C) Emelyn Nana (R) Lolita Hegarty (R) Anne Rowe
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5:00pm	Fr Kenneth Acosta (C) Sean Keane (R) Christine Stewart (R) Julie Nyirashuri
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St Francis Xavier 9:30 am	Fr Richard Smith (R) Hector (R) Lourdes
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**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE**  
**Sunday 24th December 2023**  
**Christmas Eve**

- 6:00pm Children & Families' Nativity Mass
- 9:00pm Christmas Vigil Mass
- 10:30pm Lessons & Carols

**Monday 25th December 2023**  
**Christmas Day**

- 12:00am Midnight Solemn Pontifical Mass
- 8:00am Christmas Dawn Mass
- 9:30am Christmas Day Mass
- 11:00am Solemn Pontifical Mass
- 5:00pm Christmas Evening Mass

**Other Christmas Day Masses**

9:30am Christmas Mass at St. Francis Xavier's Church

**THANK YOU FROM VINNIES!**

Huge thanks for donating to the biggest ever Vinnies Christmas Appeal at St Mary's Parish! Over 100 bags of food and toys were donated which has created 80 Christmas hampers and stocked our pantry ready for a big 2024. Your donations have brightened many people's Christmas'. Heart-felt thanks to all!

**Feast of Blessed Pauline Jaricot**

Catholic Mission invites you to celebrate the feast day of Blessed Pauline Jaricot on Tuesday 9 January 2024. Reflect upon the inspirational life of the founder of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith through prayer, refecton and discussion from 10am to 2pm on Tuesday 9 January. Attend in person at the Spirituality Hub at the Church of the Holy Family in Kirup, or online via Zoom. Fr Brian Lucas, National Director of Catholic Mission - Australia, will share the Pauline Jaricot story, and a celebration of the Eucharist will conclude the event. For more details or to register, please contact Bunbury Diocesan Director, Shendelle Mullane, on 08 6234 1767 or email: [bunbury.director@catholicmission.org.au](mailto:bunbury.director@catholicmission.org.au).

A reminder that the downstairs toilets and most parts of the Cathedral are open to the public. Please ensure that children and others at risk are accompanied at all times.   
Ilsang paalala na ang mga banyo sa ibaba at karamihan ng bahagi ng Katedral ay bukas para sa publiko. Pakisiguro lamang na ang mga bata ay nasa direktang superbisyon ng mga magulang; at para sa iba pang nangangailangan ng kalinga, na may kasama ang mga ito sa lahat ng oras. Maraming salamat po.

On 18 December the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith issued a declaration, *Fiducia Supplicans*, on the pastoral meaning of blessings. It has caused something of a stir because it reflects anew on the meaning of blessings in the life of the church which leads to a development in church teaching on blessings:

'It is precisely in this context that one can understand the possibility of blessing couples in irregular situations and same-sex couples without officially validating their status or changing in any way the Church's perennial teaching on marriage.' So there is no change to the church's teaching on the nature of marriage, but there is a desire to be close to everyone in whatever situation they may find themselves.

'One who asks for a blessing show himself to be in need of God's saving presence in his life and one who asks for a blessing from the Church recognizes the latter as a sacrament of the salvation that God offers.'

I welcome the declaration. I think an Italian priest, don Tonio Bartimeo Dell'Olio, expressed it well: the decision to bless those who may be in an irregular relationship or gay couples brings blessings back to their original meaning, 'freeing it from the censorious, almost police-like control of the clergy'. We are not policemen of grace, but servants of God who is present to his people in all the complexity of life and relationships.

'The Church is thus the sacrament of God's infinite love. Therefore, even when a person's relationship with God is clouded by sin, he can always ask for a blessing, stretching out his hand to God, as Peter did in the storm when he cried out to Jesus, "Lord, save me!" (Mt. 14:30). Indeed, desiring and receiving a blessing can be the possible good in some situations. Pope Francis reminds us that "a small step, in the midst of great human limitations, can be more pleasing to God than a life which appears outwardly in order but moves through the day without confronting great difficulties.'

In whatever situation we are in, Christ calls us in love to follow him and pours his blessing on us.

**THE CATHEDRAL MORNING TEA**

The Cathedral morning tea will be taking a break over the Christmas and New Year period. We look forward to welcoming our Parishioners back again on 04 February 2024. Wishing everyone a Blessed and Merry Christmas!

You may use the devices near the baptismal font and piety stall or the QR codes below to give to the first and second collections. Thank you for your continued support



FIRST COLLECTION



SECOND COLLECTION