

Sunday Readings

Year C

First Reading - Mi 5:1-4

A reading from the prophet Micah

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old.

The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth.

Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel.

He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God.

They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land.

He himself will be peace.

Second Reading - Heb 10:5-10

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me.

You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, 'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

Gospel - Lk 1:39-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

100 Dean Rd Bateman WA 6150
Phone (08) 93101747 : Fax (08) 9310 8575
Website: www.batemancatholic.org
E-Mail: secretary@batemancatholic.org
Office Hours: Tuesday—Friday (9.00am to 2.00pm)



A house of welcome to all and a place of service to all

4th Sunday of Advent, Year C

December 20, 2015

A shared love

In five days' time, we celebrate the birthday of the saviour of the world. The gospel makes no mention of this event but instead, brings us back to the visit, nine months previously, of Mary to Elizabeth and Zechariah. This reminds us of the very close connection between Jesus and John the Baptist.

After hearing the amazing news of God's plan for her, Mary focussed on the final detail of the angel's message: that her elderly cousin, Elizabeth, was unexpectedly pregnant and was looking forward to the birth of her child in three months' time. Immediately, Mary made the practical decision that she should go to help Elizabeth. This shows us a side of Mary that many people are unaware of. They are used to seeing pictures of her looking up to heaven with her hands joined. Here we see Mary, aware of a problem and ready with a solution. She would stay with Elizabeth until the birth of Elizabeth's child. St Luke emphasises her down-to-earth approach to life when he says, "Mary . . . went as quickly as she could. There was a work of charity to be done and Mary wasted no time in setting off."

When Mary greeted Elizabeth, the Holy Spirit flooded Elizabeth with grace and also the baby in her womb. Thus God prepared John for his unique mission even before he was born.

Weekly Mass Times:

Monday:	7.00 am	Tuesday:	5.30 pm	Wednesday:	8.00 am
Thursday:	7.00 am	Friday:	5.30 pm	Saturday:	8.30 am
Saturday:	Vigil 6.30 pm (Novena 6.00 pm)				
Sunday:	8.00 am, 9.30 am, 11.00 am & 6.00 pm				

Reconciliation: Saturday: 11.00am - 12.00 noon and 5.00pm - 6.00pm



Fr. Phong Nguyen
Parish Priest



Fr. Jeronimo
Assistant Priest



Fr. Cyprian Shikokoti
Priest in Residence



Deacon Bruce
Parish Deacon

Just as God chose John for his mission, so He has chosen each one of us. John prepared the Jewish people for the coming of the saviour. God has now chosen each of us to continue the work begun by Jesus, that is, to share and spread the Good News of God's love for the entire world proved by the death and resurrection of Christ. This is easily forgotten, caught up as we are in the rat-race of life. No matter what we do in life, whether we are married or single, priests or religious, divorced or re-married, gay or lesbian, God has a place for each one of us in his master plan for the world.

God calls us to be His witnesses especially through the example of our lives: the way we speak to people, the way we interact with them. To be kind and thoughtful, to be generous with our time for those in need, to reach out to those in trouble, to show gratitude, these are small but effective ways of spreading the Good News. Remember what the pagans said in the very early days of the church: "See how these Christians love one another!"

Christmas is a powerful reminder to us of our mission. We celebrate the birthday of the One who died for love of each of us. What He asks of us in return is to share his love with all those we meet.

Reg Ahearn CSsR
© Redemptorists 2015

Copyright of the Majellan Publications

Baptisms:

We welcome Robert Wallace Xuan Kai Laird, Joyce Kueh Mou Yue into our Parish Community.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Deaths:

Please pray for Michele Giancola who passed away recently.

Anniversaries:

Please pray for Brian Foster, Cayden Ilich, Joao Correia, Peter Liebeck, whose anniversaries occur around this time.

ROSTERS

for 27th DECEMBER

NEXT WEEK					
Bulletin:	Juliana Doss				
Flowers:	Advent				
Counter:	1. M Woolford	2. R SciaScia	3. T Huxtable		
	Saturday 6.30pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 11.00am	Sunday 6.00pm
Greeters	W Hadiano E Hadiano	M Golding P Golding	K Tan M Tan	A Scia Scia R Scia Scia	E Connolly B D'Mello
Acolytes	D Morais	P Cox	C Dowsett	D Klass	S Carrello
Altar Servers	J Robless T Robless B Mo	A Flexman B Boudville	E Hart O Fuderer C Fuderer	E Lau E Lau J Pinto	M Franye E Hasan E Hasan
Special Minister	C Reutens A Ruban P Ruban J See L Sequeria M Sequeria J Stephen P Taylor	R King Ira Kusnadi C Morzenti C A Norris R Norris P Pickersgii C Price P Price M Woolford	JM Papineau G Parkinson M Reutens A Sudjana G Sudjana F Sukmono C Sunich J Tan S Teo	Y Johan G Knight A Loo J Loo A Mascarenh N Mourad M O' Brien C Poore	Youth Special Minister
Catechists	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS		SCHOOL HOLIDAYS		
Readers	G Mascareha C Morais	M Golding P Golding	M Chong G das Neves	J Vincent K Vincenti	G Lynn D Talbot
Piety stall	Isabelle	Anne-Marie	Patrick	Rosemary	Ayenis
Readers' Coordinator:	Lilian Sequeria 9331 5552				

MORE CARE

Do you need help or know someone who does?

- † Geraldine 9332 8795 (Visiting)
- † Monica 9364 9358 (Meals)
- † Caroline 9313 5452 (Transport)
- † Silvia 9417 7131 (Transport)
- † Juliana 9310 1747 (General-office hrs)

Rose Garden
December 2015

Section A
Glenn Trim

Section B
Robyn Guyton

Youth

Parish Events:

Stronger Youth Group

Thank you for all of you who attended our Christmas party, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did! Sadly Stronger won't be on until next year! But remember to place it in your diaries that it will be back on again on Friday 12th of February 2016! Until then we hope you enjoy your holidays and have a blessed and joyful Christmas!



Join the Christmas Eve Youth Music Ministry

It's a wonderful time of the year for musicians and singers to join the Youth Music Ministry & create a massed choir and band for the Christmas Eve outdoor Mass. Young people – children, teens and young adults are all welcome to join. No experience is necessary, singers and musicians of all abilities are welcome to join us. Please add your contact details in the foyer & attend rehearsals held weekly on Monday's (commencing 23rd Nov) from 5:45-6:30pm in the Church. We'd love to have a huge music ministry this year – so all are welcome! If you have any further queries, please email anita.parker@perthcatholic.org.au

Community Events: CYM Holy Hour

There will be no Holy Hour on until next year so keep looking out for when you see that it starts on again so that you won't miss out!



Parish News

2015 Christmas Message

Every year at Christmas we joyfully celebrate the birth of the Child Jesus.

This is truly an exciting time for people throughout the world to remember the wondrous event that took place in Bethlehem more than 2000 years ago, when God humbly came among us as a little child. As we share the divine gift and enjoy the beauty of this festive season, we are reminded of the love and true joy the birth of Christ brings into our lives. We have just entered into the Jubilee Year of Mercy, proclaimed by Pope Francis and so in the next twelve months we are invited to unwrap the gift of God's mercy in His Son Jesus. We would like to use this wonderful occasion to express our heartfelt gratitude for the ongoing support and generous contributions you have given to the life and worship of our parish community throughout the year. Thank you for your Christmas wishes, cards, and the many beautiful gifts you have sent. We wish everyone and all the families of the parish a holy and peaceful Christmas!

Fr. Phong, Fr. Jeronimo, Fr. Cyprian, and Deacon Bruce.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE

CHRISTMAS EVE THURSDAY 24TH DECEMBER 2015

- 6.30pm Children's Outdoor Mass (grown ups welcome too!)
- 9.00pm Vigil mass in Church
- 12.00am Midnight Mass of Christmas in Church

CHRISTMAS DAY FRIDAY 25TH DECEMBER 2015

- 8.00am Christmas Mass in Church
- 9.30am Christmas Mass in Church
- 11.00am Christmas Mass in Church



CHRISTMAS MASS ROSTERS

The rosters for SPECIAL MINISTERS, ALTAR SERVERS and COLLECTORS for all our Christmas Masses are in the Church foyer. Please write your names down where you would like to help out.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP

Our group will meet early, at 7.00pm on Monday 14th December followed by a Chinese meal at 7.45pm to celebrate Christmas and the end of the year. Monday 21st December will be our last meditation session for the year at the usual time of 8.00pm. We recommence in the New Year on Monday January 11. Enquiries: Leonie Gillett 9332 1904.

Wishing you a very Happy and Holy Christmas

Parish News (continued)

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?

If you have recently moved into this area and have not registered with the parish, please register in the foyer and make yourself known to the priest after Mass. We warmly welcome you to our Parish.



WA YOUNG SALESIAN SUMMER CAMP

The WA Young Salesian Summer Camp is on again from the 4-8th January 2016. The camp is run for 12-15 year olds and is founded on the teachings of Don Bosco Salesian founder. The camp includes indoor and outdoor games including arts and crafts and mini Olympics, as well as team building and camp masses. See the foyer for camp forms or contact admin@wayoungsalesians.com

JEWELS OF EUROPE PILGRIMAGE LED BY FR PHONG FROM 29TH AUGUST TO 12TH SEPTEMBER 2016 WITH OPTIONAL EXTENSION TO ROME FROM 11TH SEPTEMBER TO 15TH SEPTEMBER 2016

A total of 15 days/nights including Singapore, Spain, Portugal and France. Places of interest include Lisbon, Santarem, Fatima, Nazare and Batalha, Santiago de Compostela, Santander, Garabandal, Barcelona, Montserrat and Lourdes. The estimated cost is \$5,189, based on 30 persons or \$5,480 based on 20 persons for the Europe sector only. Additional cost for Rome extension is \$1,595 based on 15 persons. The fare does not include airport and fuel tax estimated at \$350 per person. Most meals are provided. For details, please contact Serina at 0420 991 868, email: wongs@inet.net.au, or Sheila/Sue at 6189 8771, email: info@alternative-events.net or Fr Phong.



Joy to the World!

Diocesan Notices

PREMISES URGENTLY NEEDED

Abortion Grief Australia achieved a **WA Mental Health Grant** to integrate the community into the healing, early intervention and prevention of abortion related mental illness. AGA has also received an international award for its ground breaking initiatives from the *International Alliance of Catholic Knights*. Further, AGA is increasingly attracting professional/gifted volunteers for its projects eg. Men & Abortion Trauma, Education Through Compassion—targeting youth, Making A Difference team & Crisis Lines. However, we urgently need a suitable premises from which our volunteers can operate. If you can help, Phone Julie 9313 1784.

MMF BREAKFAST IN THE GARDEN

Announcing the 2016 **"BREAKFAST IN THE GARDEN"**. Come and join the fun, meet old friends and make new ones...

When: 8am Saturday 12 March 2016

Where: GARDEN VENUE—at the Mary MacKillop Centre, 16 York St, South Perth (St Joseph's Convent)

Bring: \$15 for breakkie, byo chairs, tables, blankets, umbrellas, sunscreen, smiles!

RSVP: Before Friday 9th March to Laurie Mayne 9271 5649, lmayne@optus.net.com.au or John McCormack 93832615, johnmccormack@westnet.com.au

All proceeds go to the Mary MacKillop Foundation

