

# ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH OF BUSSELTON

Our Lady of the Bay Church, off College Avenue, West Busselton

St. Joseph's Church, Kent Street, Busselton

PARISH OFFICE: Kent Street, Busselton

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***GROWING IN FAITH, INCLUSIVITY & OUTREACH,  
THROUGH OPENNESS.***

## The BAPTISM of the LORD (11 January)

### First Reading

Is 42:1-4,6-7

Thus says the Lord: Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom my soul delights. I have endowed him with my spirit that he may bring true justice to the nations. He does not cry out or shout aloud, or make his voice heard in the streets. He does not break the crushed reed, nor quench the wavering flame. Faithfully he brings true justice; he will neither waver, nor be crushed until true justice is established on earth, for the islands are awaiting his law. I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right; I have taken you by the hand and formed you; I have appointed you as covenant of the people and light of the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to free captives from prison, and those who live in darkness from the dungeon.

### Responsorial Psalm:

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

### Second Reading

Acts 10:34-38

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.

'It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ - but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.'

### Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

*Alleluia!*

### Gospel

Mt 3:13-17

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. 'It is I who need baptism from you,' he said 'and yet you come to me!' But Jesus replied, 'Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.' At this, John gave in to him. As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.'

### AND NOW YOU KNOW

At the end of the Gospel reading, the priest or deacon quietly leans forward and kisses the Gospel Book. It happens quickly, often without explanation, yet this small gesture carries centuries of faith, love, and reverence for the Word of God. This kiss is not directed at paper or ink. It is an act of love offered to Christ Himself, because the Church believes that when the Gospel is proclaimed, Christ speaks. The Gospel is not simply read; it is announced. When the priest kisses the book, he is responding to the living presence of Christ encountered through His Word. The kiss also echoes ancient customs. In both Scripture and tradition, a kiss is a sign of loyalty, devotion, and covenant. By kissing the Gospel, the priest silently professes: *"I believe what I have proclaimed, and I submit my life to it."* It is a public sign that the Word he preaches must first transform him. There is also a prayer hidden in this action. The priest quietly asks that the words of the Gospel wipe away his sins. Having just spoken God's Word aloud, he begs that it not condemn him, but cleanse him. The kiss becomes a plea for mercy, an acknowledgment that the Word of God is holy and demands integrity from those who proclaim it. This gesture teaches the faithful something powerful. The Word of God is not merely to be heard; it is to be loved, honoured, and lived. The kiss says what sermons sometimes fail to communicate: **reverence for the Gospel must move from lips to life.** So, when you see the priest kiss the Gospel Book, do not see ritual alone. See a man expressing love for Christ's voice and surrender to its demands. (Source: Catholic Dailies)

Next Week's Readings (Year A)

Is 49:3, 5-6; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

**PARISH MASSES & DEVOTIONS**  
12 January - 18 January

<b>Monday</b>	10.00am	Rosary Cenacle	St. Joseph's
<b>Tuesday</b>	9.00am	Mass	St. Joseph's
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.00am	Mass	St. Joseph's
<b>Thursday</b>	5.00pm	Mass	St. Joseph's
<b>Friday</b>	11.00am	Holy Hour	St. Joseph's
	11.30am	Reconciliation	St. Joseph's
	12 noon	Mass	St. Joseph's
<b>Saturday</b>	5.30pm	Reconciliation	St Joseph's
	6.00pm	Mass	St. Joseph's
<b>Sunday</b>	9.00am	Mass	Our Lady of the Bay
	5.30pm	Reconciliation	Our Lady of the Bay
	6.00pm	Mass	Our Lady of the Bay



**Parish Priest**  
**Fr Jess Navarra**  
0439 942 241

**Assistant Priest**  
**Fr Nathan Barrie**  
0420 711 769

**Deacon**  
**Rev Barry Cruickshank**  
0409 116 809



**REFLECTION**

Spiritual writers interpret Jesus' incursion in the water for John's baptism as his way of being in solidarity with sinners. Pope Francis comments, *'The Messiah asks to be baptised so that all righteousness be fulfilled, that God's design which passes through filial obedience and solidarity with fragile and sinful mankind, be fulfilled. It is the path of humility and of God's complete closeness to his children.'*

It is not the waters of the Jordan that cleanse Jesus; it is Jesus who makes the waters holy by immersing himself in it.

At the Jordan River, Jesus stands shoulder to shoulder with people who greatly desire to be cleansed interiorly. He is in their midst to present them to the heavenly Father as his brothers and sisters who sincerely want to obey and love God, yet at the same time disappoint God by falling back into sin.

A voice from heaven is then heard: *'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'* To whom is this addressed? If to John the Baptist—and through him, to the people - then it is God's proclamation, a divine assurance that indeed Jesus is the sinless one, God's own beloved Son. If to Jesus, as in the version in Mark (1:11), it serves as God's approval of Jesus' choice to be in solidarity with sinners. After all, he has come among people, not to call those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners and need to repent (Luke 5:32).  
(God's Word 2026)

**At a graduation ceremony**, a father in the audience stands, visibly emotional, as his child walks across the stage to receive their degree. As the applause rings out, he turns to those near him and says with pride, *"That's my child."* It's a small sentence, but it carries the weight of years of sacrifice, hope, encouragement – and love.

**To be named in love is one of the most powerful experiences a human being can have.** It's a moment of deep affirmation, of being seen and valued. Whether it comes from a parent, a mentor or a friend, being named and claimed in love tells us: ***"You matter. You belong."***

But not everyone hears those words in life. Many people move through their days wondering if they are seen or valued at all. For them, words of affirmation are not just welcome; they are deeply healing. And so, when we hear the Father's voice over Jesus in today's Gospel – *"This is my Son, the Beloved"* – we are not only witnessing something about Jesus; we are being reminded of the power of being named and loved.  
(The Living Word)

**PARISH SECRETARY**

Do you love your Parish? Then please consider the part-time position of Parish Secretary which becomes vacant at the end of January. If you are interested, please contact Trish in the Parish Office for further details.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
OF COUNTRY**

We acknowledge the Wadandi people of the Noongar nation as the traditional custodians of this land on which we gather. We recognise their continuing connection to the land protecting this coastline and its ecosystems since time immemorial. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and extend that respect to all First Nations people who might be present today.

**NEW TO THE PARISH?**

Please introduce yourself to Father and our greeters. They will be able to give you our Parish **Membership Form**, and **'Welcome Booklet'** which will help you to know what is happening in and around the Parish. Please feel free to drop into the Parish Office on Kent Street (next to St Joseph's Church) when next you pass by. Trish, the secretary, would love to meet you.

**JANUARY INTENTION**

**For prayer with the word of God :**

Let us pray that praying with the word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

**GENTLE REMINDER**

**Please turn off your mobile phone.**

**You have the right to remain silent .....**

## FROM FR JESS



### HOLY COMMUNION UNDER BOTH KINDS:

Parishes in the Diocese of Bunbury are now able to make available to those who attend Mass reception of communion under both species. Bishop George has lifted the restrictions due to covid pandemic. We, as a Parish, are preparing for the implementation of the norms. I am inviting all the ACOLYTES and EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION for a meeting after Sunday Mass on the **25 January**. The aim is to re-orient and prepare us as we re-introduce the Holy Communion both Body and Blood of the Lord. I envisage to start this practice in February.

**rites of acceptance for catechumens and candidates:** will be on the **18 January** at both Sunday Masses (9 am and 6pm). Let us pray for the ENQUIRERS as they advance to their journey of faith.

**PARISH COLUMBARIUM COMMITTEE:** Meeting will take place after Mass on Sunday, **18 January** at OLB. We hope to finalise the design so we can start the project.

**HOLY PILGRIMAGE SEPT/OCT 2026:** Let us journey to EASTERN EUROPE SHRINES: CZECH REPUBLIC, SLOVAKIA AND POLAND. The Pilgrim Directors will visit Busselton for the presentation of the itinerary on **Sunday, 8 February** after the 9am Mass at OLB. For more information, talk to Fr. Jess.

### CRAFT AND COFFEE GROUP

Will be restarting their catch-ups this Tuesday in the Ned Kenny Centre from 1-4pm.

## LADIES SUNDOWNER



This annual Sundowner will be held on **Friday, 30 January**, in the outside area of the Our Lady of the Bay Community Centre between **5pm - 7pm**. Proceeds from the Sundowner support the CWL scholarship to a student to attend SMMC. **Cost \$10** which includes food and drinks and a ticket in the door prize. Bring some coins for the raffle and games. Please come along and enjoy some 'girl time', lots of laughs and a chance to forge new friendships.

### ROSTERS

Could all who minister at our weekend Masses, please advise the Parish Office of weekends **available/not available** in **February**.

### Anniversary Ordinations

*I HAVE CHOSEN YOU ..... John 15:16*

**Fr Mathew 14.01.2008**

### Baptism

*With joy we welcome :*

**Lake Mezger**



### Prayers For The Sick

**Shane Williams**  
**Lorraine Wielgomasz**  
**Sr Eileen Johnson**  
**Fr Hugh Galloway**  
**Bob Tebbit**  
**Meg Helyar**  
**Norma Chester**  
**Merle Teal**  
**Michael Damjanovic**

### Memorial Anniversary

**1995: Stella Samuel**  
**2008: Harold Cargeeg**  
**Jean Wright**  
**2011: Eunice Happ**  
**2012: Alfred Cooper**  
**2016: Rachael McGlinn**  
**2018: Betty Annal**  
**2024: Doris Ritter**  
**Wolfgang Adler**  
**Midge Reynolds**

### Church Collections

*(Weekend 3/4 January)*

**Envelopes: \$ 583.00**  
**Loose: \$ 1,857.45**  
**EFT Machine: \$ 625.00**  
**Direct Debit: \$ 315.00**  
**Containers for Change: \$ 10.90**

Tap and pay machines are now located in the foyers of both churches for the convenience of parishioners and visitors. Direct Deposits can be made to our account: Busselton Catholic Parish, quoting your surname and/or envelope number: BSB: 086-006 ACC: 846789113

## WEEKEND ROSTER FOR 17/18 JANUARY

### Saturday 6pm

**Acolyte:** Murray  
**Greeters:** Di, Lorraine  
**Commentator:** Trish T  
**Readers:** Rosemary, George  
**Musicians:** Carmelina  
**Projectionist:** Carla  
**EMHC:** -  
**Cleaning:** Janet, Di, Aileen  
**Laundry:** Di

### Sunday 9am

**Acolyte:** Joe  
**Altar Servers:** Regan, John, Louis  
**Greeters:** Greg & Fran  
**Commentator:** Pat  
**Readers:** Patricia, Barb  
**Musician:** John G  
**Projectionist:** Peta  
**Recorded Music:** -  
**EMHC:** Kaye C  
**Sacristan:** Julie  
**Children's Liturgy:** -

### Sunday 6pm

**Acolyte:** Kevin  
**Altar Servers:** Adriana, Grace, Esther  
**Greeters:** Joan, Roz  
**Commentator:** Joan  
**Readers:** Nicolle  
**Projectionist:** Jo  
**Recorded Music:** Jo  
**EMHC:** -

**ALL ARE WELCOME!*****Divine Mercy***

First Sundays: 8.45am Our Lady of the Bay Church

***Rosary Group***

Monday, 10am: St. Joseph's

***Legion of Mary***

Tuesday, 9.30am Ned Kenny Centre

***Pilgrim Statue***

Escorted to a Parishioner's home. To schedule a visit call Loly 0411 080 141

***Craft & Coffee Group***

Tuesday, 1-4pm Ned Kenny Centre.

***Meditation***

Wednesday, 10am Ned Kenny Centre

***Eucharistic Adoration***

Resumes Thursday, 5 February.

***Catholic Women's League***

2nd Friday of the month after the 12 noon Mass. Ned Kenny Centre

***Catenian Koffee Klub***

Meets the **4th Sunday** of each month at 11.30am at 'The Esplanade' for coffee and/or a meal.

**CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE**

There are several options if you wish to donate the proceeds from your eligible bottles and cans (**showing the 10c refund logo**) to the Parish.

- **Take them to the Wright Street Depot and quote the identification Code C10344169.**
- **Bring the cleaned bottles and cans into the Parish Office. BOTTLE TOPS OFF and please leave the labels on. (They will not accept them otherwise.)**

Many thanks to those getting behind this Parish Fundraising initiative.

**FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION, MISSION*****Snippet from the Final Document: Part I - The Heart of Synodality***

63. In promoting co-responsibility for the mission of all the Baptised, we recognise the apostolic capacities of people with disabilities who feel called and sent out as active agents of evangelisation. We appreciate the contribution that comes from the immense wealth of humanity they bring with them. We acknowledge their experiences of suffering, marginalisation, and discrimination, sometimes suffered even within the Christian community due to attempts at showing compassion that can be paternalistic. In order to encourage their participation in the life and mission of the Church, we propose the establishment of a Church based research initiative or observatory on disability.

64. Among the vocations that enrich the Church, that of married persons stands out. The Second Vatican Council taught that "in their state and way of life, they have their own particular gift within the People of God" (LG 11). The Sacrament of Marriage assigns a distinctive mission that concerns, at the same time, the life of the family, the building up of the Church and a commitment within society. In particular, in recent years, there has been a growing awareness that when it comes to the pastoral care of families, families themselves are active participants and not just passive recipients. For this reason, families to meet and network together, and Church institutions focused on the education of children and young adults may help assist them in doing so. The Assembly once again expressed its closeness to and support for all those who accept being alone as a choice made in fidelity to the Church's Tradition and Magisterium on marriage and sexual ethics, which they recognise as a source of life.

**LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH**

The Catholic Parish of Augusta invite you to join them for their 40th Anniversary on Sunday, 25 January for the 8am Mass which will be followed by morning tea. Bishop George will be there. RSVP Lynne-Maree on 0466930303 or yorkelynnemaree@gmail.com

**MINISTRIES****SAFEGUARDING OFFICER****LITURGICAL LIFE**

E.M.H.C.  
Musicians/Choir  
Sacristan

**CO-ORDINATOR**

Tim Murphy

.....  
John Grace  
Jo Cammilleri (OLB)  
Di Mas (SJ)

**EMAIL ADDRESS**

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.....  
.....  
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.....

**PHONE**

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.....  
9752 1034  
0403 535 682  
9752 2720

**SPIRITUAL LIFE**

Legion of Mary  
Rosary Group

Pauline Caldwell  
Judy Mason

pauline.caldwell@hotmail.com.au  
judymason39@gmail.com

0428 173 924  
0402 461 373

**FAITH FORMATION LIFE**

Catenians  
Catholic Women's League  
RCIA  
RCIC  
Catechists  
Christian Meditation

George Bazzica  
Fran Smith  
Karen Crutchlow  
Vanessa Philp  
Jo Cammilleri  
Kaye Middleton

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9751 1609  
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0421 436 639

**JOSEPH CARE**

St Vincent de Paul

Maria Parkinson

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**Parish Finance Committee**

Tony Wheeler

ajandmmwheeler@westnet.com.au

0407 988 160

**Parish Pastoral Council:** Alexandra Lewis (Chair), Gay Cooper (Vice Chair), Mona Damjanovic (Secretary), Tim Murphy (Asst. Secretary), Mark Browning, Marsha Motos, Rhona Breitschalt, Nicholle Achmad, Heather Mead, Pauline Caldwell, Jo Cammilleri, Frs Jess & Nathan.