



# St Joseph's Church, Bassendean

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<https://stjosephbassendean.com>

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**Parish Priest :** Fr. Antony Suresh

Secretary Catherine Gordon

( Tue-Fri. 9:00am -12:30pm )

Perpetual Adoration Co-ord. : Tina Russo 0419 004 944

Liturgy Co-Ord. : Michael Knubley 0418 911 961

Safeguarding officers : Laura Roberts 0438 216 276

Nicola Gallagher 0424 108 223

## Mass Times

**Sat Evening:** Mass: 6pm

**Sunday:** Mass: 7am, 9am

**Tues - Sat:** Morning Prayer & Rosary: 6:45am  
Mass 7:30am

**Confessions :** 30 minutes before Mass

**Confessions, Baptism & Marriage by appointment**

**17TH MARCH 2024**

**5TH SUNDAY OF LENT**

## *St. Joseph: His life, his miracles and his legacy* <https://aleteia.org/2>

Even though he never spoke a word in the Bible, St. Joseph led a remarkable life, and his legacy lives on to this day. One of the most popular saints in Christianity is St. Joseph, husband of Mary. Even though the Gospel writers didn't record any words that he spoke, his life remains an inspiration to many, and countless souls have turned to him in their time of need.

### What did St. Joseph actually do as a carpenter?

The original Greek passage describes Joseph as a "tekton," which had various meanings in the ancient world. According to one scholar, "Etymologically, the Greek term tekton can be traced back to the Indo-European root tek- or teks- meaning to cut or fashion with an axe, but it also refers to weaving, building, fabricating and joining." Additionally, "passages from the Iliad and the Odyssey have shown that tektones work with all kinds of materials and tools."



### How old was St. Joseph when Jesus was born?

Many biblical scholars and historians believe Joseph was a young man, possibly even a teenager. The International Marian Research Institute states, "We believe that Mary and Joseph were both in their teens when Jesus was born, around 16 and 18 respectively. This was the norm for Jewish newlyweds at that time."

### The miracles of St. Joseph

The day St. Joseph built a staircase in New Mexico. Tradition claims the mystery of the identity of the carpenter has never been satisfactorily solved, and there is not even a delivery report that might help decipher where the wood came from. During those three months, no one saw anyone entering or leaving the chapel. As the carpenter left before the Mother Superior could pay him, the Sisters of Loretto offered a reward to anyone who could his make identity known, but no one ever showed up. So, yes: since then, the crafting of the staircase has been attributed to St. Joseph himself!



### When St. Joseph appeared in France he left a miraculous spring of water

One of those approved appearances of St. Joseph occurred in Cotignac, France, on June 7, 1660. On an extremely hot summer day, the humble shepherd Gaspard Ricard was parched with thirst. His flask of water was dry and he was no where near a stream or body of water. Ricard sat down on the grass in agony. At that point an older man suddenly appeared to him and said, "I am Joseph. Lift it and you will drink."

### Saint Andre Bessette and the intercession of St. Joseph

Brother Andre convinced the provincial to buy the land opposite the school, where he was permitted to build a small chapel in honor of St. Joseph. That chapel wasn't enough for Brother Andre, however. It only had space enough for a handful of people. So, Brother Andre began fundraising for a massive church – a shrine that would become the largest church in North America at the time of its completion. In 1924, the St. Joseph's Oratory was completed, and thousands of pilgrims began to come annually to venerate St. Joseph and seek his intercession. They came also to meet with Brother Andre – for the doorkeeper had created quite a commotion with a reputation as a miracle man.

### Why St. Joseph is called the "Terror of Demons"

St. Joseph played a pivotal role in the life of Bl. Bartolo Longo, a former Satanic priest. Calloway writes in an article for FOCUS that, "He was also very devoted to St. Joseph, prayed to him every day, and was particularly fond of his title 'Terror of Demons.' Bartolo had such a great love for St. Joseph that he told everyone to go to Joseph in their fight against temptations of any kind." Longo is reported to have said, "It is a great blessing for souls to be under the protection of the saint whose name makes demons tremble and flee."

### What is a Saint Joseph's Table?

Since the 15th century his feast day has been celebrated on March 19, a day that typically falls right in the middle of Lent, but that hasn't stopped the laity from orchestrating a great feast in his honor. In particular, Italians have had a special love of St. Joseph, and a famous miracle led the people of Sicily to begin a tradition known as the Tavola di San Giuseppe (Table of Saint Joseph).

St. Joseph has a deep affection for all of us and he desires above all else to bring us closer to his Son, Jesus Christ.





March

- Sun 17th March Parish cuppa after 9am Mass  
 Tue 19th March Legion of Mary @ 9:00am  
 DVD group @ 11:00am  
 Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> March 2<sup>nd</sup> Rite of Reconciliation @ 7:00pm  
 Fri 22nd March Stations of the Cross @ 7:00pm  
 Sat 23rd March Confessions/Reconciliation @ 5:30pm

**Liturgy Roster for 23th / 24th March 2024**

Mass	6:00pm	7:00am	9:00am
ACOLYTES:	J.Calleja	A.Dzieciol	C.D'Monte,M. Knubley
READERS:	P.Antoni	I.Kendall	V.Hall
COMMS:	Stef. fam	A.Greenfield	F.Johnson
Passion R:	M.D'Cunha	P.Nguyen	N.Menda
	D.Stefanelli	I.Darch	S.De Luca
SERVERS:	Sref. fam		H Louise; A.Roberts
Counters	Team 3 - G Brown, J.Calleja		
Cleaners	P Batchelor		

**Mass Remembrances/Anniversaries/Sp. Int.**

*RS=repose of the soul /TG=thanksgiving / SP=special intention*

- SAT 16-Mar 6:00 PM TG-Keith & Pat Lobo  
 RS-Alfred ( 100 years birth ann. )  
 & Mary Bastian  
 SUN 17-Mar 7:00 AM Sp-Simon Foo- healing  
 Sp-Greg O'Connar  
 RS-Connie Sciberras  
 9:00 AM RS- Fr. Wayne Davis, Giuliano Nobili,  
 RS- Dec fam of John Calleja  
 TUE 19-Mar 7:30 AM RS -Geoff Gordon, Dominic Lai Cheung,  
 RS- Jane Leung Chin Chun, Holy Souls  
 WED 20-Mar 7:30 AM RS-Claude & Olga Fernandes  
 THU 21-Mar 7:30 AM RS - Kaye & Michael Ogden  
 FRI 22-Mar 7:30 AM RS-Derrick Burnaby; Holy Souls  
 SAT 23-Mar 7:30 AM RS-Fr. Wayne Davis  
 6:00 PM TG -D'Cunha fam  
 SUN 24-Mar 7:00 AM RS-Joseph D'Cunha; Rino Rossi  
 9:00 AM TG-Amber, Ebony & Vinita

**Pray for :-**

Those who are suffering in wars, in natural disasters, in religious persecutions and the sick, Simon Foo, Francisco Paterniti, Ventura Ramos-Nunez, Maria Pacca, Geraldine O Sullivan, Ermelina Vescovo and Clara Pound.

**PRAYER FOR THE SICK**

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in your healing presence. Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make broken bodies whole and free downcast spirits. May these special people find lasting health and deliverance, and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts. We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed. Amen.



**Five Good Things**

<https://odb.org/2024/04/07/>

According to research, people who are intentionally grateful for what they have report better sleep, fewer symptoms of illness, and more happiness. Those are impressive benefits. Psychologists even suggest keeping a "gratitude journal" to improve our well-being, writing down five things we're grateful for each week.

Scripture has long promoted the practice of gratitude. From meals and marriage (1 Timothy 4:3-5) to the beauties of creation (Psalm 104), the Bible has called us to see such things as gifts and to thank the Giver for them. Psalm 107 lists five things Israel could be especially grateful for: their rescue from the desert (vv. 4-9), their release from captivity (vv. 10-16), healing from disease (vv. 18-22), safety at sea (vv. 23-32), and their flourishing in a barren land (vv. 33-42). "Give thanks to the Lord," the psalm repeats, for these are all signs of God's "unfailing love" (vv. 8, 15, 21, 31).



Do you have a notepad handy? Why not write down five good things you're grateful for now? It might be the meal you just enjoyed, your marriage or, like Israel, God's rescue points in your life to date. Give thanks for

the birds singing outside, the smells from your kitchen, the comfort of your chair, the murmurs of loved ones. Each is a gift and a sign of God's unfailing love.

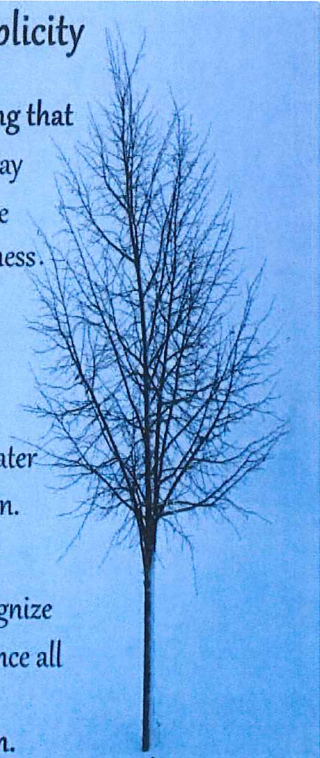
**Reflect & Pray**

Why do you think Scripture so often calls us to be thankful? What five good things are you grateful for today?

Father God, I'm grateful for every good thing You've brought into my life. And most of all, I'm grateful for You.

**A Prayer for Lenten Simplicity**

Free me, Lord Jesus, from anything that obstructs my way to you. Clear away the clutter of petty grudges. Remove smudges of resentment and bitterness. Cleanse me of thoughts filled with anger envy, or self-pity. Create space in my life for more kindness and less spitefulness, greater generosity and stronger compassion. Enlarge my heart with a spirit of gratitude this Lent, so that I recognize the simple gifts that lay in abundance all around me. In your sacred name, I pray. Amen.





# OUR PARISH FAMILY...

## Holy Weeek Schedule



Palm Sunday



Maundy Thursday



Good Friday



Easter Sunday

- **Sunday 24th March Palm Sunday**  
Palm Procession Sat 6pm and Sun 9am
- **Tue 26th March Chrism Mass**  
St. Mary's Cathedral, 7pm
- **Holy Thurs 28th March Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm**  
- Collection for the Holy Land  
- followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 11:00pm
- **Good Friday 29th March (Fasting & Abstinence)**  
**Stations of the Cross 10:00am**  
**The Passion of Our Lord 3:00pm**  
- Collection for Caritas Project Compassion
- **Easter Vigil Mass Saturday 30th March 7:00pm**
- **Easter Sunday Masses 31st March 7:00am & 9:00am**
- **Confessions**  
available 15-30 minutes before Mass

### Fifth Sunday of Lent 16 & 17 March



The work of Caritas Australia is only possible with generous supporters and the dedication, passion and tenacity of our local partners who implement the programs. They are the heroes on the ground working tirelessly behind-the-scenes every day to create a better future for their communities.



Please donate to Project Compassion 2024. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, for all future generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.



### EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING - COMMON GROUND – FAITH EDUCATION FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Wednesdays 6pm to 8.30pm, Catholic Pastoral Centre, 40A Mary St, Highgate. Common Ground is a space where Young Adults who share similar values and beliefs come together and belong. Through faith formation, prayer, mission, ministry and social activities, to grow in faith, deepen your relationship with God and explore what it means to live a life of purpose and meaning. Come along! Visit [cym.com.au](http://cym.com.au), email [cfe@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:cfe@perthcatholic.org.au), 08 9278 0261.

### \*\* Celebrating St Joseph Feast this Sunday -



In honour of and to celebrate the feast of our patron Saint, St Joseph, the parish would like to invite everyone to join us the weekend Masses and the parish cuppa after the 9am Mass this Sunday for the celebration. Please bring a plate to share.

**\*\* Stations of the Cross with Benediction** during Lent every Friday @ 7:00pm, Acolytes who are serving at the weekend Masses are reminded to serve at the Stations.



**\*\*Note : change of time for 2nd Rite of Reconciliation-** To prepare yourself for Lent, a second rite of Reconciliation will be held **coming Thurs March 21 @ 7:00pm instead of 6:30pm.** There will be communal prayers and individual confession. Fr Suresh will be assisted by Fr Marcellinus and Fr. Bill Ousley. Join us for an hour for this quietly reflective celebration of healing and reconciliation as part of your preparation for Lent.



## Chrism Mass

I Invite you to attend the Annual Archdiocesan Chrism Mass  
**St Mary's Cathedral Victoria Square, Perth on Tuesday 26 March at 7.00pm.**

On this occasion the Holy Oils of the Sick and Catechumens are blessed.

The Oil of Chrism is consecrated.

The Priests of the Archdiocese will renew their Ordination Commitment.

*Most Reverend T Costelloe SDB  
Archbishop of Perth*

# The Living Word

Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year B

17 March 2024

## First Reading Jer 31:31-34

*The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.*

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive - it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest - it is the Lord who speaks - since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 50:3-4. 12-15. R. v.12**

*(R.) Create a clean heart in me, O God.*

1. Have mercy on my, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt.  
and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)
2. A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)
3. Give me again the joy of your help;  
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,  
that I may teach transgressors your ways  
and sinners may return to you. (R.)

## Second Reading Heb 5:7-9

*He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.*

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

## Gospel Acclamation Jn 12:26

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be.**

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

## Gospel Jn 12:20-33

*If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.*

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus.

Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!'

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

'Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

## Communion Antiphon

Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.



## Reflection by Greg Sunter

This week's first reading from Jeremiah is a very powerful image and a foreshadowing of the message and ministry of Jesus. In the Jeremiah reading, the Lord announces that (yet again) a new covenant will be made between the people and their God. This time, however, the covenant will not be a collection of rules written in stone as was the case with the covenant of the Ten Commandments after the people had been led out of slavery in Egypt. The people have demonstrated that they are not able to uphold that covenant. This time, God declares that the covenant will be 'planted deep within them' and 'written on their hearts'. This is a wonderful image: I will write my covenant on your heart! It is the message that Jesus tried to convey over and over again - the Law of God is not to be found in a multitude of rules and regulations but it is a Law of the heart, calling for compassion and love.

This message is no better demonstrated than in this week's gospel passage. Jesus declares that, 'unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.' He is speaking of course about his own life, but he is speaking also to those around him and those of us who read the words today. Unless we are prepared to let go of our ego, our status, our 'reputation', for the sake of others and respond to them from the heart then we can never experience the breadth and depth of what it means to belong to a community. When we are prepared to let go of our hang-ups and reservations to make a difference in the lives of others then the 'harvest' that will be gathered from those actions will be great indeed!