

Sunday Readings

Year C

First Reading - Malachi 3:1-4 ; A reading from the prophet Malachi

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

Second Reading - Hebrews 2:14-18 ; A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

Gospel - Luke 2:22-40 ; A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

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 turtle-doves 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.

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

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E-Mail: bateman@perthcatholic.org.au

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday (9.30am to 2.30pm)



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

The Presentation of the Lord, Year C

February 2, 2025

A child to light up the world

Have you ever wondered what God looks like? Various images might come to mind, but why not turn to the person next to you who is made in the image and likeness of God? But, what if God looks like this baby? A child whose crying wakes us and worries us at moments as we hold them close, a child who depends on us for life.

Forty days after Christmas, Mary and Joseph travel to Jerusalem, where she is to present herself and her child, as the Law required. But there, in the Temple, something unexpected happens. They are amazed at what Simeon and Anna have to say about their baby, but it's not clear to them what it might mean – how could it be? – because God's ways often upend our way of doing things.

Before he utters his prophetic words, Simeon takes this baby in his arms and gives praise to God. That's what we're asked to do: to take Him in our arms, take God to heart, and give thanks. But often we're not too sure about this. We're open to it, but we hesitate, and Simeon reveals why, when he speaks of Him as being rejected by many in Israel and of a sword piercing Mary's soul.

Perhaps we find it difficult to imagine His birth and His death at the same time. In-

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Saturday: 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday: 8:00 am and 10:00 am

Tuesday: 5:30 pm

Wednesday: 9:00 am

Thursday: 9:00 am

Friday: 5:30 pm

RECONCILIATION

Friday: 4:30 pm – 5:15 pm

Saturday: 5:00 pm – 5:45 pm

DEVOTIONS

Eucharistic Adoration:

Wednesday: 9:30am - 11:00am

First Friday : 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Divine Mercy Chaplets

Second Wednesday: 7:30pm

Novena

Saturday: 5:30 pm

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Phong Nguyen
Priest in Residence: Rev. Fr. Anibal Leite Da Cunha
Parish Secretary: Heidy Lu

deed, we may prefer to put any thought of the cross out of our minds for a while and think fondly of the baby in his crib or his mother's arms.

Of course, none of us is anticipating grief, but when grief enters our lives, how to respond? As the aunt of a baby who died soon after birth once said, "It's tough to believe that we will emerge from the darkness." Later she reflected, "In each of us we harbour both the living and the dying Christ." Recalling her words on first seeing her niece - "You are so beautiful. I love you so much" - she realised that's what God says to us ... always.

Taking to heart her words, when we hear of the Lord suddenly entering his Temple, not in power and might, as in the first reading, but in weakness and need as a baby, we see in this child a light to enlighten the world.

This child is our salvation. So today, which is also known as Candlemas Day, we might light a candle and give thanks for His coming amongst us. For He comes to free us from our fear of death, as the second reading says, so that, in time, we may find ourselves sharing the gift of His life with others. We're invited to take Him into our hearts and accompany Him as He grows in maturity, wisdom and grace.

Whatever the future holds, God is with us.

Damian Coleridge
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PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased:

Please pray for Cameron Andrew Bedford and Francis Xavier Huong Nguyen (Father of Fr Francis Nguyen, the Rector of St Charles Seminary) who passed away recently.

Death Anniversaries:

Please pray for Peter Keenan, Brian Taylor, Kevin John Leonardo, Maverick Lim, Theresa Lau, Olive Marley, Alain Geoffroy, Andrian Tanuadji, Abe Mourad, Wilhelm Van Dijk and Kenneth John Kelly whose anniversaries occur around this time.

R O S T E R S

FOR 9TH FEBRUARY

Bulletin: Ratinda Oetomo
 Flowers: Khuyen Hoang
 Counters: 1. C Correia 2. P Murray 3. J Pereira

	Saturday 6.00pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 10.00am
Acolytes	J Nonis	C Goh	M Braganza
Altar Servers	C Vahala K Lee J Lee	J Cherian A Evans S Evans	A Demberger E Gatchalian A Hadiyanto
Extra Ordinary Minister Of Holy Communion	A De Souza G Lopez J See J Doss L Morzenti L McMinn P McMinn	J Sciorilli M Saji M Ch'ng G Dunsford R Margawani W Goh B D'Cruz	G Prasetyo J Lim J Mohan J Louie L Saverimutto M Sugijono M Davis M Doray
Catechists			CHILDREN'S LITURGY Michelle Lowth
Readers	A Fernandes K A King	G Dunsford J Kearney	G Das Neves M Costello

Readers Coordinator: Lilian Sequeira - 9331 5221

Piety Stall OPEN OPEN OPEN

Safeguarding Officers:

1. Gerard Joseph (Gerard.safeguarding@gmail.com)
2. Derek Choo (Derek.Choosafeguarding@gmail.com)
3. Mary Anthony (lima.eleeza@gmail.com)
4. Michelle Lowth (michelle.safeguarding@gmail.com)

MORE CARE - DO YOU NEED HELP OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO DOES?

- ♦ Stephen 0408 167 400 (Coordinator) Christine 0412 887 950 (Transport)
- ♦ Monica 0419 945 005 (Meals)
- ♦ Serina 0420 991 868 (Visiting)
- ♦ Angela 0418 953 992 (Bereavement Support)
- ♦ Parish Office 9310 1747 (General Enquiries)

PARISH NEWS

Please note: In 2025, there will be Masses for the following Solemnities, Holy Week, Octave of Easter, and Octave of Christmas that will fall either on Monday or Saturday:

- Monday 17th March 2025 at 9.00am: Solemnity of St Patrick
- Monday 14th April 2025 at 9am: Monday of Holy Week
- Monday 21st April 2025 at 9am: Monday within the Octave of Easter
- Saturday 26th April 2025 at 9am: Saturday within the Octave of Easter
- Saturday 1st November 2025 at 9am: All Saints
- Monday 8th December 2025 at 9am: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Monday 29th December 2025 at 9am: Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

2025 SACRAMENTAL DATES

First Holy Communion: **Saturday 21st June 2025**

Confirmation: **Saturday 6th September 2025**

First Reconciliation: **Saturday 25th October 2025**

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

Or do you know someone who is interested in becoming a Catholic?

If so, we would love to hear from you. The parish runs a program for people who may be interested in becoming a Catholic.

Please contact the parish office on 9310 1747 for more details.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL BATEMAN - SUNDAY 16TH FEBRUARY 2025

On behalf of SVDP Bateman Conference, I would like to thank our Bateman parishioners, Corpus Christi College and Bateman Primary School for their generous donations & support of non perishable food during the Christmas season and throughout the year 2024. Our clients have expressed their gratitude for your generosity and spirit of charity.-

We will be having our first **Vinnie's coffee & cakes sales** for this year on **Sunday 16th Feb 2025**. We look forward to your continued generous support for the coffee and cake morning. Those who are looking at supporting our Vinnie's coffee & cakes sales by donating their food can contact Winnie Goh on mobile # : +61 421 601 095, Vincent Tan President SVDP Bateman Conference.

PARISH EMAIL ADDRESSES

Please be advised of our parish email addresses at St Thomas More Catholic Church, Bateman Parish:

1. Bateman Catholic Parish (Secretary): bateman@perthcatholic.org.au
2. Bateman Planned Giving: pgiving.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au
3. Bateman Pastoral Care: bateman@perthcatholic.org.au
4. Bateman Catechist: catechist.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au
5. Bateman Safeguarding Officer: sgo.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au
6. Bateman Youth: youth.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au

PARISH NEWS

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE 2025

There will be weekly summarised statements from Pope Francis to help parishioners prepare for the experience of Jubilee.

https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/bulls/documents/20240509_spes-non-confundit_bolla-giubileo2025.html

2024 YEAR OF PRAYER: To reinforce Pope Francis' call for prayer to be intensified in preparation for the 2025 Jubilee year, the archdiocesan Centre for Liturgy has posted 38 catechesis on prayer by Pope Francis.

Summaries of these teachings will be published weekly in the bulletin.

Details of the catechesis can be found in this link:

<https://liturgy.perthcatholic.org.au/year-of-prayer-2024/>

2024 YEAR OF PRAYER: POPE FRANCIS GENERAL AUDIENCE

POPE FRANCIS GENERAL AUDIENCE Paul VI Audience Hall,

Wednesday, 5 May 2021 Catechesis on prayer: **32. Contemplative Prayer**

We now consider contemplative prayer. For Christians, contemplative prayer is an act of the heart by which we fix our gaze in faith upon Jesus, quietly pondering his word and his saving mysteries. As the simple farmer of Ars told Saint John Vianney: in praying before the Tabernacle, "I look at him and he looks at me". By gazing on our Lord in this way, we come to feel his loving gaze upon us and our hearts are purified. This in turn enables us to see others in the light of that truth and compassion which Jesus brings to all. Christ himself is the model for all contemplative prayer: amid the activity of his public ministry he always found time for a prayer that expressed his loving communion with the Father. At the Transfiguration, Jesus prepared the disciples for his coming passion and death by enabling them to contemplate his divine glory. Through our prayer, may we persevere in union with him on the path of love where contemplation and charity become one. For, as Saint John of the Cross, the Church's great master of contemplative prayer teaches us: one act of pure love is more useful to the Church than all the other works put together.

JUBILEE PRAYER FROM POPE FRANCIS

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen

QUOTE - HOPE:

In this holy Jubilee Year, may we unite as Pilgrims of Hope, one in the Body of Christ, to rejoice in the love and goodness of our Saviour to transform lives, and draw endless hearts into deeper relationship with Jesus.

(Letter to the people of God diocese of Bunbury; Bishop elect Father Goerge Kolodziej SDS 8th January 2025)

PARISH NEWS

JUBILEE: The spirit of Jubilee 2025 is to have eyes, hearts and thoughts of **hope**. We have a blessing of candles this weekend. Parishioners are encouraged to light their candles with eyes of **hope** and be reminded that *Christ is light and in Him there is no darkness* (1 John 1:5).

Chinese New Year gives us the opportunity to celebrate in the spirit of Jubilee. We bring **hope** to each other when we gather in friendship, support each other and build community. *Details in the bulletin.*

Discovering Sacraments of Initiation: Christ instituted the sacraments as a means of restoring man's relationship with God - bringing **hope** to mankind. Come to the faith formation sessions to learn more about the sacraments from the wonderful speaker Sister Luka. Information on this talk series is in the bulletin.

USEFUL LINKS ON JUBILEE:

- <https://liturgy.perthcatholic.org.au/jubilee-year-2025/>
- https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/tribunals/apost_penit/documents/rc_penitenzieria-ap_20240513_norme-indulgenza-giubileo2025_en.html
(Vatican link on gaining plenary indulgence in Jubilee Year of Hope)

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT CHAPLAINCY AT FIONA STANLEY HOSPITAL

The Catholic chaplain at Fiona Stanley Hospital is unable to visit a catholic patient unless requested to do so by the patient or next of kin. This is hospital policy. If your loved one is in FS hospital and wishes to have a visit from a Catholic priest, please direct the request to the hospital chaplaincy. (This policy may apply to other hospitals as well).

BLESSING OF CANDLES - SAT 1ST & SUN 2ND FEBRUARY 2025

It is church tradition to bless candles on the Feast of the Presentation. Please bring your candles for a blessing on **Saturday 1st February (6pm Mass)** and **Sunday 2nd February 2025 (8am & 10am Mass)**.

COFFEE GET-TOGETHER - FIRST SAT 1ST & SUN 2ND FEBRUARY 2025

1. **First Saturday Evening Coffee - Saturday 1st February 2025**
(Immediately after 6pm Mass)
2. **First Sunday Morning Coffee - Sunday 2nd February 2025**
(Immediately after 10am Mass)
3. **Every Sunday morning after 8.00am Mass**, coffee and tea will be in the Parish Hall.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION - FRIDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 2025 AT 6 - 9PM.

Why not spend some time with the Lord in silence and give Him the opportunity to speak to you?

CHINESE/LUNAR NEW YEAR MASS - SUNDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2025

Join us for a special celebration of the Chinese/Lunar New Year with a Thanksgiving Mass on **Sunday, 9th February 2025 at 10:00 AM**.

We encourage all parishioners to wear their cultural clothing as we gather in unity to give thanks for the blessings we have received. The Mass will be followed by a vibrant **Lion Dance performance**, bringing joy and excitement to our celebration.

We also invite you to contribute to our community feast by bringing a plate of shared food to enjoy with fellow parishioners after the performance.

Let us come together in faith, culture, and fellowship to mark this special occasion. We look forward to celebrating with you!

PARISH NEWS

REDISCOVERING THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION: BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION AND THE EUCHARIST - TUES 11TH FEB - 4TH MAR 2025

On: Tuesdays 11th February - 4th March 2025

From: 7:30pm – 8:30pm (4 sessions)

With: Sr M Luka Juenemann ISSM

At: Bateman Parish - Corner of Dean & Marsengo Roads

Suggested Donation: \$20

The building blocks of a Christian life within the Catholic Church are built upon a personal and communal relationship with God through the person of Jesus Christ. This relationship is expressed sacramentally and ritually within the Initiation Sacraments. The sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist call Christians to discipleship of Christ and to be visible signs of God's presence in the world. What does our personal and communal relationship with God mean for our lives? How is our church leadership or ministry seen as flowing from the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist?

ST THOMAS MORE PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP)

Our 2025 PREP classes will commence on **Wednesday 5th February 2025**.

The online enrolment is now open via this link:

<https://stthomasmorebateman.formstack.com/forms/prep2025>

The classes run from Pre-Primary to Year 6 including sacramental classes (First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation) every Wednesdays from 4-5pm during Term 1 to Term 3. Special arrangements can be made for High School children and children who attend Corpus Christi College and surrounding catholic schools who may not have celebrated their age relevant Sacrament. Please note that Confirmation is a 2-year program.

Children from within Parish boundaries who attend government schools are warmly welcomed to attend.

If there is any question on the enrolment, please contact the RE Coordinator via email catechist.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au or call 9310 1747 (available Tue/Wed).

CHAPLETS OF THE DIVINE MERCY - WED 12TH FEB AT 7.30PM

A beautiful, prayerful, sung devotion held in our church on the second Wednesday of each month. The next devotion will be held on Wednesday 12th February 2025 commencing at 7.30 pm. Enquiries to George Lopez on 041 991 0039.

DIOCESAN NEWS

EUCHARISTIC PILGRIMAGE - SATURDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2025

Eucharistic walk St Brigid's Church Northbridge to Saint Mary's Cathedral: Come Follow Me.

A Eucharistic walk to the Cathedral will take place beginning with Mass at **Saint Brigid's Church, Northbridge at 2.30pm on Saturday 1 February 2025**.

The procession will be led by a priest, with Our Lord in the Monstrance and will conclude with Benediction at the Cathedral at 4.15pm.

This is an opportunity to give public witness to our Catholic faith during the Jubilee Year of Hope. All are invited to participate. The distance is 2.2km.

