



CLAREMONT WA

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Secretary: Prue Pupazzoni  
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Office Hours: Tues, Wed & Fri  
9.30am-2.30pm

Safeguarding Officers—Contact Nos:

Mr Ralph Goodman: 0419 740 443

Ms Janet Payton: 0438 212 053

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**MASS TIMES THIS WEEK:**

Tue: 9.00am Mass

Wed: 12.30pm Mass

Thu: 9.00am School Graduation Liturgy

Fri: 9.00am Mass

Saturday: 5.30pm Family Mass

Sunday: 7.30am, 9.30am Mass

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4.30-5.00pm

**Welcome to Our Parish!** We welcome to our parish this week **Fr Richard Rutkauskas** who will be the parish administrator whilst Fr Wayne is going through chemotherapy. Fr Richard will begin celebrating the weekday masses once again as well as the weekend masses. I am sure you will all welcome him and make him feel at home in our parish family. Fr Richard has been a priest for many years in the Archdiocese and Fr Wayne has known him for many years. If you see him say hello and make him welcome.

**The First Sunday of Advent Year B  
DECEMBER 2-3 2023**



This week's Sanctuary Lamp burns for;

**Palestinians and Israelis**

If you would like the lamp for a week, please put the details and \$10 in an envelope and hand to Prue in the Parish Office or in the mail box.

Please keep taking precautions by washing your hands with the sanitizer provided in the church. If you are feeling unwell please wear a mask.



**THE ROSARY IS RECITED IN ST THOMAS' CHURCH** at 12.00 noon each Wednesday. If you have a special intention, please phone Stephanie 0408 798 174. You are very welcome to come and join us in prayer to Our Lady.

**THE WEDNESDAY LUNCH CLUB  
CHRISTMAS LUNCH WEDNESDAY**

**DECEMBER 13:** Come & join us after the 12.30pm Mass on Wednesdays for a light lunch & friendly fellowship in the parish centre. All welcome to come along.



**ADVENT WREATH BLESSING AND PRAYER**

**Fr Richard:** O God, bless this Advent Wreath, may it help us prepare to welcome Jesus, your Son into our world and lives, may the light of his love shine through us. Amen.

[First candle is lit.]

**All pray:** We believe in you, Lord, we know that you can help us to love and respect each other more. You are our light, the light that overcomes darkness. Come Lord Jesus.



**PLEASE NOTE  
NO REGULAR MASS ON  
THURSDAY  
DECEMBER 7**

cancelled due to the Primary School celebrating Year 6 Graduation Liturgy at 9.00am. All are invited to attend. We wish the Year 6 Children all the best for the Future.

**Next Weekend's Readings: 2nd Sunday Advent Yr B**  
Is 40:1-5,9-11 2 Pet 3:8-14 Mk 1:1-8

**WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS:** We take this opportunity to welcome all new parish members. We hope that you find St Thomas the Apostle a friendly parish community. Please join us after the 7.30am and 9.30am Masses for a 'cuppa' in the parish centre. Say hello to Father, meet some new/old friends, sit down and have a chat. Please become part of the family of St Thomas the Apostle.

See you here!



Christmas is approaching and we will be preparing food hampers for the needy of our area and will probably also send some supplies to the Parish of Moora which serve a large area and has no Vinnies Conference. We would be grateful for some Christmas items but also the usual nutritious, simple foods like stews, soups, baked beans, tinned fish, long life milk etc. Blessings Vinnies group.



**PLEASE remember to turn you phone off or on silent when in the church.**

**Thank you.**

Do we have your email address? If you have changed your email address, please let us know by contacting us at our email address: [claremont@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:claremont@perthcatholic.org.au) If you would like to receive the parish bulletin each week please email us and we will place you on the email list. The bulletin is emailed out each Friday



**CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR ROMILY HOUSE....** As in previous years, we are once again asking for donations of wrapped Christmas gifts for Romily House noting the gender. There are 40 men and 10 females. Please place your gifts in the basket in the foyer of the Church.

We invite parishioners to join our little choir on Friday December 22 at 4.30pm at Romily House 19 Shenton Road, Claremont . Enq: Maureen Gardner 0435836647 or

[gardnerm@inet.net.au](mailto:gardnerm@inet.net.au)

### PARISH BUSY BEE SATURDAY DECEMBER 9

We welcome as many volunteers as possible please to come along to the parish bi- annual clean up, the floors and pews need cleaning also the flower room and Fr's sacristy. The church needs to be cleaned to the best you can do, also the church yard needs sweeping and tidying up. Please bring along your garden tools blower vac and sucker vac for the outside. *Thank you all for your kind help.*

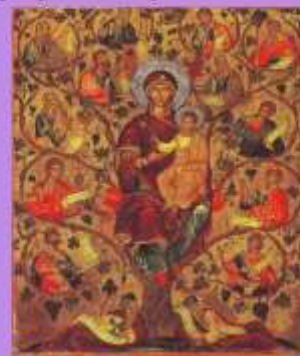


### Parish Prayer to St Thomas the Apostle

O St Thomas, the Apostle, Father of our faith, you spread the light of Christ in the hearts of all. You humbly confessed "My Lord and My God" and sacrificed your life for love of him. We pray to you to strengthen us with love and faith in Jesus Christ so that we may dedicate ourselves totally to the cause of the kingdom of justice, peace and love. We pray that through your intercession we may be protected from all trials, dangers and temptations and be strengthened in the love of the Triune God, Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### The Road to Bethlehem

Nine Readings and Carols in preparation for Christmas



Thursday 7 December 2023 at 7pm

and

Sunday 10 December 2023 at 2pm

St Thomas the Apostle Church  
College Road Claremont



The December edition of "The Record" is now available at the side entrance and main entrances on the tables. Please take your copy home today. Good reading about the Archdiocese.

**GLORIA....** Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

**Dear Parish family,** After the 3rd round of chemo this week, I am praying it won't be so wearing as the last round. I felt very weary and tired, and just want to sleep and rest. It seems that the chemo is master of this dance and not me. On the good side Dr Baker the hematologist was very happy with my progress, it seems the white blood cells are up slightly as is the hemoglobin. So I am taking that as a win. I also had a CT Scan this week to see how the treatment is going, so fingers crossed for those results. I want to take this opportunity to thank Mr Heath Nankivill deputy principal from the school and my dear friend Suzy who have been my drivers this week. Much appreciated. I would like to welcome Fr Richard to our Parish Family, I have known Fr Richard for over 36 years and I know he will take good care of you all, as I am sure you will of him. Please make him feel welcome.

Don't forget the wonderful celebration of Christmas being held here in the church on December 7th at 7pm and on December the 10th at 2pm where the choir will tell the Christmas story through Sacred Scripture and ancient Carols. I am remembering you all in my prayers each day. My sister Maureen and her husband Graeme are coming over early January 2024. I am counting the days. **Fr Wayne**



**ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES—  
DECEMBER 2023**

**Saturday 23rd December** 5.30pm Mass  
**Sunday Morning 24th December** 7.30 and 9.30am Mass  
**Sunday Evening 24 December—CHRISTMAS EVE:**  
 5.00pm Christmas Carols 5.30pm Children's Mass  
 7.30pm Christmas Carols then 8.00pm Family Mass  
**Monday 25 December—CHRISTMAS DAY:**  
 7.30am Family Mass and 9.30am Family Mass

**Saturday, 30 December** 5.30pm Mass  
**Sunday 31st December— New Years Eve** 7.30, 9.30am Mass 6.30pm Mass  
**Monday 1st January— NEW YEAR'S DAY:** 8.00am Mass

Please Note: There will be no weekday masses from 2nd January through to 5th January to allow Fr Richard a bit of a rest. Mass will return on Saturday 6th for the 5.30pm evening mass.

**Historical Context – The Advent Wreath** - One of the major symbols of the Advent season is the wreath. The encircling wreath is symbolic of God without beginning or end and the green foliage represents our hope in God. There are usually five candles in the wreath, a central white candle representing the light of Christ that came into the world and then four outside candles that are usually purple and rose coloured. The first candle is generally symbolic of Hope and Expectation. The third candle – the rose or pink candle – celebrates the Joy that is anticipated in the coming of Christ. The lighting of the candles marks the journey towards the Nativity. Do you have a wreath at home? They are easy to make and the children enjoy lighting them each week.

**New Parishioners, and those not so new, who wish to update their census details:** Please put your name and address in the space below and drop into the collection basket or email to the office. Thanks!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Residential Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ No of People in household \_\_\_\_\_

**PS:** If you would like to join the St Thomas' Parish Planned Giving Programme and give your financial support to the Parish, please tick this  box and Prue Pupazzoni (Parish Secretary) will organise for a set of planned giving envelopes to be issued to you. Alternatively, she can arrange for you to make your contributions by direct debit.

## **THIS WEEKEND'S SCRIPTURE READINGS....**

### ***First Reading: A reading from the prophet Isaiah***

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down – at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand. **Word of the Lord**

### ***Responsorial Psalm (R.) Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.***

1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne.  
O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help. **(R.)**
2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. **(R.)**
3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen, the man you have given your strength.  
And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. **(R.)**

### ***Second Reading: A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians***

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace. I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

### **Word of the Lord**

### ***Gospel Acclamation***

### **Alleluia, alleluia!**

Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation. **Alleluia!**

### ***Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark***

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!' **Gospel of the Lord**



**APOSTLES' CREED....** I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. **Amen.**