



We are looking for Eucharist ministers to minister to people living in nursing Homes in our area and people who are house bound.

Please contact Margaret Sweetman or the office.



Pope Francis' Lenten message for 2024, [Through the Desert God Leads Us to Freedom](#) echoes the theme of freedom and liberation found in the Exodus story. He reminds believers that God's message is always one of freedom, as seen in the words given to Moses on Mount Sinai. The call to freedom, however, is not

an immediate answer but a journey of maturation. Like the Israelites in the desert longing for their past in Egypt, today's people can also cling to oppressive forces that hinder true freedom. Lent is a season of grace where the desert of our lives becomes a place of encountering God's love and experiencing a Passover from death to life.

The Pope emphasizes the importance of opening our eyes to reality, much like God did when He heard the cries of His people in Egypt. Today, the cries of oppressed brothers and sisters rise to heaven, challenging us to ask if we hear, are troubled sisters and brothers, and moved to action. Lent becomes concrete when we confront the modern-day Pharaohs that keep us weary and indifferent, such as systems of oppression and the pollution of our souls and environment. The call to leave behind compromises with the old and embrace a new world of justice and fraternity rings clear.

Pope Francis calls for actions of prayer, almsgiving, and fasting not as isolated acts but as a unified movement of openness and self-emptying. This Lenten season invites a pause in our busy lives to encounter God in prayer and our neighbour in love. He urges Christian communities to make communal decisions that counter the prevailing norms, transforming lives and neighbourhoods. As Lent becomes a time of conversion, the Pope sees a burst of creativity and hope on the horizon, inviting believers to have the courage to see the world not in its death throes but at the beginning of a great new chapter of history. In this journey from slavery to freedom, faith and charity take hope by the hand, guiding us forward into a promised land of renewed faith and fraternity.



THE WEDNESDAY LUNCH CLUB: Come & join us after the 12.30pm Mass on Wednesdays for a light lunch & friendly fellowship in the parish centre.

All welcome See you there.

THE ROSARY IS RECITED IN ST THOMAS' CHURCH

12.00noon followed with Mass 12.30 mass each Wednesday. If you have a special intention, please phone Stephanie 0408 798 174. You are welcome to come & join us in prayer.



This week's Sanctuary Lamp burns for;

Fr Wayne's family and loved ones. Peter Eyres

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



CLAREMONT WA

Parish Priest:

Priest Administrator:

Fr Richard Rutkauskas

Secretary: Prue Pupazzoni

Address: 2 College Road
Claremont WA 6010

Telephone: 9384 0598

Email: claremont@perthcatholic.org.au

Web: www.claremontparish.com.au

Office Hours: Tue, Wed, Fri 9.00am-2.00pm

Safeguarding Officers—Contact Nos:

Mr Ralph Goodman: 0419 740 443

Ms Janet Payton: 0438 212 053

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK:

Tue: 9.00am Mass

Wed: 12.30pm Mass

Thu: 9.00am Mass

Fri: 9.00am Mass

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm Kids' Mass

Sunday: 7.30am, 9.30am

RECONCILIATION:

Sat: 4.30-5.00pm



3rd Sunday in LENT year B
March 2/3 2024

Next Weekend's Readings:

4th Sunday of LENT Year B

2 Cron 36:14-16, 19-23 Psalm 136 Eph 2:4-10 18:8-11 1 Cor 1:22-25



Thank you all for your donations to SVDP of food etc for the poor and hungry. The donation box is always at the entrance of the church.

contact: Henry 0417 985 992. Thank you.

EASTER EGGS FOR ROMILY HOUSE....

It is time again to start donating Easter Eggs for the residents of Romily House. There will be a box at the back of the Church, which is checked regularly. Many thanks on behalf of the residents. **Maureen Gardner: 9389 8289**



SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY by Dianne Bergant CSA

The commandments provide a sketch of the God with whom the people were in covenant, and they outlined how these covenanted people were to revere their God and live with each other. Deliverance from bondage to Egypt is the basis of conformity to the commandments. Commitment to the one God is the reason the Israelites were forbidden to revere other gods. Since one's name contained something of one's own identity, the vain use of God's name was considered a profanation of God's divine being. Observance of the Sabbath was rooted in the creation of the world. All the commandments are meant for adults, including the one to honour parents. Murder, adultery, stealing, lying and coveting all threaten the social fabric of the group.

Although the general theme of the psalm is praise, its tone is didactic and exhortative. It describes the blessings that acceptance of the law can impart. It both describes the law and persuades the people to embrace it as the will of God and to live in accord with it. The qualities associated with the law found in this psalm are some of the most highly prized attributes of any tradition. Each one of the statements in this psalm identifies the law as belonging to the Lord. The law that is praised here is not just any religious law; it is uniquely Israel's, because in a very specific way it represents the will of the all-holy God of Israel.

Paul criticises the Jews for their demand for signs and the Greeks for their preference for knowledge. He insists that the crucified Christ is the standard against which everything is judged. Though both traditions would reject a humiliated man, he argues that the vulnerable and debased Christ is in fact the power of God; the ridiculous and despised Christ is really the wisdom of God. In this light, it becomes clear that what the Jews and the Greeks rejected as foolishness was actually authentic wisdom, and what they cherished as wisdom was really misguided and folly. Those who are called and who are open to this call will be able to recognise it.

Jesus' actions in the temple are acted-out prophecy and his words are prophetic forthtelling. With his actions and his words, Jesus makes a double claim. By driving the merchants out of the temple precincts, he announces that the time of fulfilment has come. Then, identifying God as his Father affirms his right to make such a claim and to act in accord with it. The Jews, most likely the temple authorities, demand that Jesus justify his actions. Playing on a word for temple, he predicts his death and resurrection. This corresponds to the earlier allusion to Zechariah and the replacement of the temple sacrifice by his own suffering. Only after the resurrection will the disciples understand this last saying.

The Shenton Christian YouthCARE Council is having its first **Movie film fundraiser at the Windsor on Friday, 8th March at 6 for 6.30pm.** The Great Escaper (M) starring Sir Michael Cain and the late Glenda Jackson. At the Windsor Theatre Pre purchase your ticket and help support our Chaplains contact Catherine 0429 307 445.



John XXIII College: Kindergarten 2026 and Year 7 2027 Applications Closing Soon

A reminder to all families who are interested in a John XXIII College education for their child, to please ensure their application form has been submitted by Friday 15 March 2024. Kindergarten applications are open for children born July 2021 – June 2022. Year 7 2027 applications are open for children born July 2014 – June 2015 and currently in Year 4. John XXIII College seeks to develop people of competence, conscience and compassion who are committed to seek justice and serve others. Our vision is for all students to strive for excellence for themselves, their peers, and their community. To find out more visit:

www.johnxxiii.edu.au/enrolments or email enrolments@johnxxiii.edu.au



Not having access to a reliable source of clean water was very difficult for Leaia and her family. But with the support of Caritas Australia, a water tank was installed at their home. Improving their health and living conditions.

Please donate to Project Compassion. 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 or by calling 1800024413

THE EASTER TRIDUUM



EASTER TIMETABLE 2024

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH, CLAREMONT

March 28 : Holy Thursday Mass of the Last Supper 7.00pm

March 29 : Good Friday Stations of the Cross 10.00am
Solemn Liturgy 3.00pm

March 30 Easter Vigil Mass—Saturday: 6.30pm

March 31 Easter Sunday Masses: 7.30am & 9.30am

NO 5.30pm Saturday Mass NO 6.30pm Sunday Evening Mass



OUR TRIBUTE COLLECTION IN HONOUR OF FR WAYNE

Next weekend, we will have a retiring collection (as you leave the church), which will become our parish community donation to *Lymphoma*

Australia: the only charity in Australia dedicated to providing free support

for lymphoma patients. This is a heartfelt display of admiration and gratitude from the community

Fr Wayne has served for many years. Please come prepared to donate generously next weekend.

Many thanks, Fr Richard.

LENT IS HERE! It is a time for us to go deeper in our walk with God.

At Holy Rosary Parish 46 Thomas St Nedlands we have **Eucharistic Adoration** every Tuesday 9am – 10pm and every Thursday 4-7pm in Holy Rosary church. On other days the church is always open by the side door. At the Carmelite Monastery, every first Friday of the month from after the 7am Mass 7.30 am till 1 pm. All are welcome to 'come and see'. If you'd like to take a regular holy hour at Holy Rosary Adoration please call Juliana 0423 864 054. For four years we have had faithful weekly adorers who 'watch and pray' for an hour each week; your commitment will keep it going strong. You can also just pay a visit.



Do we have your email address? If you have changed your email address, please let us know by contacting us at 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 afternoon.

Thank You.



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

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 book of Exodus

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

'You shall have no gods except me.

'You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work on that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, not your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you. 'You shall not kill. 'You shall not commit adultery. 'You shall not steal. 'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. 'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm: (R.) Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul. The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple. (R.)
2. The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart. The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to eyes. (R.)
3. The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever. The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. (R.)
4. They are more to be desired than gold, than the purest of gold and sweeter are they than honey, than honey from comb. (R.)

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

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said. During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

The Gospel of the Lord



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.