



# Our Lady of the Southern Cross Parish

Catholic Diocese of Bunbury

Dunsborough, WA



<https://olotscparish.org.au>

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## First Reading

**Isaiah 7:10-14**

### ***The virgin will conceive.***

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.' Then Isaiah said: 'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too? The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Emmanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

The Word of the Lord.

## Responsorial Psalm

**R.** Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples. It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm. **R.**

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place? The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things. **R.**

He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

## Second Reading

**Romans 1:1-7**

### ***Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.***

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures. This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach

the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The Word of the Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation

### ***Alleluia, alleluia!***

A virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.

### ***Alleluia!***

## Gospel

**Matthew 1:18-24**

### ***Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.***

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, and said 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## Communion Antiphon

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

Pope's Intention for December 2025: FOR CHRISTIANS IN AREAS OF CONFLICT  
Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East,  
might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.



## **REFLECTION**

**Matthew 1:18-24**

He was a righteous man yet unwilling to expose her to shame.  
(Matthew 1:19)

What an interesting thing to say about Joseph: he was "righteous" yet "unwilling to expose" Mary "to shame" (Matthew 1:19). It seemed as if there were two different impulses in Joseph as he struggled to decide how to respond to Mary's pregnancy.

Today's Gospel tells us that Joseph was a righteous man and a devout observer of the Mosaic law. He was just in his intention to break his union with Mary—she seemed to have violated their betrothal, after all. But still, he didn't want Mary to become an object of ridicule and shame. So, he was merciful in his desire to find a quiet solution that avoided public scandal.

Justice and mercy: these two noble instincts revealed the depth of Joseph's holiness. And yet God had something better in mind. He wanted to bring Joseph even further along the path of righteousness.

When the angel appeared to him in a dream, he reassured Joseph that he didn't need to divorce Mary. The child she carried was part of God's plan to redeem the world. He was Emmanuel, God-with-us, who would fulfill both justice and mercy in himself. Joseph accepted the angel's words. He came to see that God's plans were bigger and better than his own, righteous though they were. So, Joseph let the Lord redirect his ideas and strategies.

This is a lesson for us. God is always calling us into a deeper relationship with him. He might ask us to set aside our plans or take a step in a direction we don't understand. But he leads the way for us. Joseph's yes to the Lord not only protected Mary and Jesus, but it also transformed his own life. Even though Joseph didn't understand, he was willing to obey. It made all the difference for Joseph, and it can do the same for you!

"Lord, help me to trust in the goodness of your plan so that I can grow closer to you!"

*- from The Word Among Us*



## **PRAYER INTENTIONS**

### **Special Intentions:**

- For the intentions of our EMHC, acolytes, commentators, lectors, musicians, mass servers, sacristans, greeters, collectors;
- For the intentions of our PPC members, Parish Finance Committee members, bookkeeper, and bankers;
- For the intentions of our church and ground cleaners, morning tea manpower and food donors;
- For the intentions of God's Farm & Bove Farm; and for all the residents of Cape Care Dunsborough;
- For the intentions of our RCIA candidates and our RCIA Team;
- We also pray for some members of our parish, and our families who are sick - we pray for their speedy recovery.

## **We Pray for the Repose of Souls (Death Anniversaries):**

- 21/12 - Peter Walker; Peter Stewart
- 22/12 - David Plowman; Eannon Harrison
- 26/12 - Robert Clements
- 27/12 - Moira McMullen



## **ADULT CATECHISM**

The Catholic Church is Synodal Church  
[snippets from the Final Document of the Synod on Synodality]

40. The appreciation of contexts, cultures and diversities, and of the relationships between them, is key to growing as a missionary synodal Church and to journeying, prompted by the Holy Spirit, towards the visible unity of Christians. We reaffirm the commitment of the Catholic Church to continue and intensify the ecumenical journey with other Christians by virtue of our common Baptism and in response to the call to live together the communion and unity among disciples for which Christ prayed at the Last Supper (cf. Jn 17:20-26). The Assembly welcomes with joy and gratitude the progress in ecumenical relations of the past sixty years, as well as the dialogue documents and declarations expressing the common faith. The participation of the Fraternal Delegates enriched the proceedings of the Assembly, and we look forward to the next steps on the path towards full communion through the incorporation of the fruits of the ecumenical journey into ecclesial practices.

41. In every place on earth, Christians live side by side with people who are not baptised yet serve God by practising a different religion. We pray solemnly for them in the liturgy of Good Friday, and we strive together with them to build a better world, imploring the one God to free the world from the evils that afflict it. Dialogue, encounter and exchange of gifts, typical of a synodal Church, are calls to open out to relations with other religious traditions so as "to establish friendship, peace and harmony and to share spiritual and moral values and experiences 17 in a spirit of truth and love" (Catholic Bishops' Conference of India, Response of the Church in India to the Present-day Challenges, 9 March 2016, cited in FT 271). In some regions, Christians who engage in building close relationships with those of other religions are subjected to persecution. The Assembly encourages them to persevere with a sense of hope.

42. The plurality of religions and cultures, the diversity of spiritual and theological traditions, the variety of the gifts of the Spirit and of the tasks of the community, as well as the diversity of age, sex and social affiliation within the Church, are an invitation to each person to recognise their particular situatedness, resist the temptation of being at the centre, and open oneself to the acceptance of other perspectives. Everyone can make a particular and indispensable contribution to completing our common task. The synodal Church can be described using the image of the orchestra: the variety of instruments is necessary to give life to the beauty and harmony of music, within which the voice of each one retains its own distinctive features at the service of the common mission. Thus, is manifested the harmony that the Spirit brings about in the Church, the One who is harmony in person (cf. St. Basil, On Psalm 29:1; On the Holy Spirit, XVI: 38). [to be continued next week]

LITURGICAL ROSTERS

DECEMBER	Acolyte	EMHC	Greeter	Commentator	Reader	Altar Servers	Music
20 <sup>th</sup> , Sat	Steve Carmody	TBA	Jenny Huembs	Jude Kelly	Gerry Travers	TBA	Fr. Archie
21 <sup>st</sup> , Sun	Tony Smurthwaite	Angela Corrigan Diane Richards	Joan Embry	Carmen McFaul	Loellen Clark	Ivy Hoang Andy Hoang	Richard Clark
24 <sup>th</sup> , Wed 6 pm		Fran Lamotte			Trish Mothersole		Mary Cooper
8 pm		Loellen Clark Jude Kelly	Irene Hughes	Jude Kelly	Loellen Clark		Richard Clark
25 <sup>th</sup> Thu 8 am			Judy Malcolm	Carmen McFaul	Jenny Huembs		Richard Clark
10 am	Tony Smurthwaite		Loellen Clark	Alicia Higgins	Joan Smurthwaite		Mary Cooper
27th, Sat	Steve Carmody	TBA	Kath Rooney	Jude Kelly	Gerry Travers	TBA	Fr. Archie
28th, Sun	Tony Smurthwaite	Joan & Tony Smurthwaite		Angela Corrigan	Mary Ann McMullen	Ivy Hoang Andy Hoang	Richard Clark

Mass Schedule		
Monday 22nd Dec	2:00 PM	NO MASS Group Meditation
Tuesday 23rd Dec	9:00 AM	Mass of the Day
Wednesday 24th Dec	6:00 PM	Children’s Christmas Mass
	8:00 PM	Christmas Vigil Mass
Thursday 25th Dec	8:00 AM	Christmas Day Mass
	10:00 AM	Christmas Day Mass
Friday 26th Dec		NO MASS
Saturday 27th Dec	5:00 PM 6:00 PM	Confession Vigil Mass
Sunday 28th Dec	8:30 AM	Mass of the Day Holy Family Sunday

LITURGIES & DEVOTIONS

**Rosary:** You are invited to come and join in praying the Holy Rosary every Wednesday at 9 AM, just before the 9:30 AM Mass.

**First Friday Devotion:** We expose the Blessed Sacrament right after the 9 AM Mass; Adoration continues until 3 PM when we pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. We end this devotion with the Benediction.

**Healing Mass:** Mass on the First Tuesday of the month is a Healing Mass. You may receive the anointing oil at Mass.

**Group Meditation:** Every Monday at 2 PM.

**Group Prayer Session:** Every Wednesday after the 9:30 AM Mass.

**Second Friday of each Month:** Catholic Men's Prayer Fellowship at 9:30 AM.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** One hour of Adoration immediately after the 9 am Mass on 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays.

**Special Intention:** We pray for all affected by the recent antisemitic attack on the Jewish Community at Bondi in Syndey, that healing will be for injured and traumatised, comfort for all who grieve, and eternal rest for those killed.



**OUR LADY OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS PARISH**  
36 Naturaliste Terrace, Dunsborough, Western Australia 6281  
P.O. Box 401, Dunsborough, WA 6281

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**  
We acknowledge the Wadandi people of the Noongar nation as the traditional custodians of the land on which we live and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

**OUR PARISH VISION:** To be a thriving Catholic community, engaging and welcoming.  
**OUR PARISH MISSION:** Journeying together with God; growing in FAITH, HOPE and LOVE, through fellowship, outreach and service.

Parish Pastoral Council: Angela Corrigan (Chair), Martin Bain, Steve Carmody (Secretary), Carmen McFaul,

Safeguarding Officer: Angela Corrigan

Parish Finance Committee: Tony Smurthwaite (Chair); Jack Robinson; Jim Triglone; Father Archie

Joan Smurthwaite, Fran Lamotte, Amie Meyer, Angela Hegney, Father Archie.

Sacristans: Robyne de Garis, Mary Cooper, Rebecca Channing, Diane Richards

Parish Bookkeeper: Kathleen Lim

Parish Priest: Fr. Roberto Archie R. Carampatan



## PARISH NOTICES

### Morning Tea & Christmas Carols

We will have our traditional Christmas Morning Tea right after our 8:30 AM Mass today. And while we are enjoying our coffee and tea, we will sing our favourite Christmas carols.

### A Night to Remember: 16th December

Those who attended our celebrations last 16th of December had a taste of bilingual Mass (English/Filipino) when our parish hosted the 2nd Day of the novena Mass offered by the Filipino communities of Dunsborough and Busselton. The occasion was made more memorable with the lighting of the Christmas lights installed all over the parish grounds. The lights are switch on at 8 pm until 10 pm. The installation will remain until the Solemnity of the Epiphany (4 January).



### Christmas Eve/Christmas Day Masses

24th of December:

6 pm - Children's Christmas Mass

8 pm - Christmas Vigil Mass

25th of December:

8 am - Christmas Day Mass

10 am - Christmas Day Mass

### Church Cleaners Roster for 2026

We thank some parishioners who signed up for the 2025 Church Cleaning Roster. We now request our other parishioners to please consider signing up for Church Cleaners Roster for 2026.

Please keep visiting/surfing our parish website. Just scan the QR code on page1

## Training for New Acolytes

Our diocese will soon be calling parishes to submit names of male parishioners who are interested to be trained and become acolytes. The ministry of the acolyte is important in the liturgical life of the parish because, in the absence of the priest, the acolyte is tasked to preside over the Liturgy of the Word and distribute the Holy Communion.

## NEWS FROM OLC

OLC school community is on holiday break. And they left us with this greeting:



## DIOCESAN NOTICES

### Invite from Kirup Spirituality Hub

Our first event for 2026 is Celebrating the Feast Day of Blessed Pauline Jaricot, foundress of what we now know as Catholic Mission in Australia. We will reflect on this year's diocesan theme "Connected in Christ, walking together as one", celebrate Eucharist, and share a light lunch (provided). Further info Deborah 0419939864 and on flyer.

### Early Invite from Catholic Mission Office of the Diocese

Please mark your calendar: 1st October 2026, Thursday for the Annual 16 kilometre Kirup Camino. See poster at the foyer for details.

### From the Office of Evangelisation

*Connected in Christ– Diocesan Summer Camp 2026*

8th - 11th January 2026 | Catholic Youth Camp Busselton | Ages 13 – 18

Connect with us this Summer! In a world full of noise, distraction, and busyness, Jesus invites us to return to the Vine—the One who gives life, strength, and purpose. Join us for the 14th annual Diocesan Summer Camp where adventure meets faith and lifelong memories are made. Summer Camp is designed to ignite your faith, be lots of fun, build deep friendships, and inspire you to live with hope and purpose in the world!

## COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

**SWEET  
STYLIN**  
WEDDINGS PARTIES EVENTS

At Sweet Stylin we style, design and create couture cakes & sweets for any Special Occasion: cupcakes, naked cakes, Macarons, donuts, dessert bars, and ice cream bars. 0411 438 639 / love@sweetstylin.com.au or visit our Website: sweetsylin.com.au  
**WEDDINGS PARTIES EVENTS**



"Discover God's gifts of the earth through pure doTERRA essential oils, natural supplements, and self-care products — gentle, safe wellness support for sleep, immunity, energy, & emotions. You're warmly invited to connect with Stacey Smart on 0418903658."

## CHURCH COLLECTION

**13th—14th December 2025**

Mass Collections : \$ 781.00  
Direct Deposit : \$ 100.00; \$20.00  
EFTPOS : \$ 305.00  
10-c Recycling : \$ 29.70

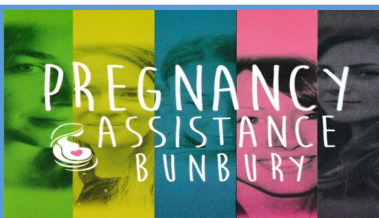
A Tap & Donate machine is located in the foyer for the convenience of parishioners and visitors who may prefer to use the EFTPOS Machine.

If you wish to make a DONATION, please deposit it directly to our Parish Bank Account:  
BSB: 086-006 ACCT: 848054647

**Acct. Name: The Roman Catholic Bishop of Bunbury Dunsborough Parish**

Parish Bulletin Editorial Staff:

Jude Kelly, Joan Smurthwaite, Fr. Archie



## FREE CONFIDENTIAL SERVICES INCLUDE:

**free pregnancy tests**  
**emotional support:**  
before, during and after pregnancy  
**material assistance:**  
maternity clothing, baby clothing, baby items (nappies & toiletries, prams, cots etc.)  
**pre-natal and post-natal information**  
assistance with access to other resources/services

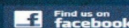
## PREGNANCY ASSISTANCE BUNBURY

9792 4759

pregnant@westnet.com.au

151 Spencer Street, South Bunbury

Hours: 11am-5pm Tuesdays & Thursdays  
or by appointment



**OLOTSC Parish supports Pregnancy Assistance Bunbury.**

**Please share the information above and donate any items for babies. God bless!**