



Our Lady of the Southern Cross Parish

Catholic Diocese of Bunbury Dunsborough, WA



<https://olotscparish.org.au>

olotscparish@gmail.com 08 97553944 0475746553

First Reading

He never commanded anyone to be godless.

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless; he has given no one permission to sin.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law! They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts. **R.**

You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care. May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. **R.**

Bless your servant and I shall live and obey your word. Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. **R.**

Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will keep them to the end. Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my heart. **R.**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began.

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him. These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel

Such was said to your ancestors; but I am speaking to you.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven. 'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven. 'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill, he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny. 'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell. 'It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery. 'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed with what they craved.

Pope's Intention for February 2026: FOR CHILDREN WITH INCURABLE DISEASES
Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families
receive the necessary medical care and support,
never losing strength and hope.



REFLECTION

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, . . . God has revealed to us. (1 Corinthians 2:9, 10)

That's quite a bold statement! St. Paul is saying that, through Jesus' death and resurrection, the Holy Spirit has revealed something that no one had ever seen or heard of before. Paul calls that something "God's wisdom, mysterious, hidden, which God predetermined before the ages for our glory" (1 Corinthians 2:7).

For our glory. That's not just a throwaway phrase. It's the actual revelation that God has made manifest: the promise that everyone who believes in Christ can be glorified, just as Jesus, "the Lord of glory," is now glorified (1 Corinthians 2:8)!

Sit with that truth for a moment. Prophets and kings from the past, great saints like Abraham, Isaiah, and Moses, all had amazing revelations about the Lord and his plans. But only now, after Jesus' resurrection, has our own resurrection become so clearly revealed!

It's easy to reduce the gospel to a message about right living and adherence to a moral code that we have to try hard to follow. It's easy to reduce it to a set of self-help principles that we can adopt. It's easy to reduce it to any number of things. But once you start hearing about God's plan "for our glory," you know that Jesus has done something for us that we could never do ourselves. His death defeated our death. And his resurrection has opened heaven—for all of us.

This is part of the "mysterious, hidden" plan that God has now revealed in Christ. Jesus, the risen and glorified Lord, is our true destiny. He has made us for heaven!

Today is the perfect day to ask the Holy Spirit to reveal this glorious plan to you a little more. Read today's second reading slowly and prayerfully. Let the words sink into your heart and fill you with hope. You were created for glory!

"Jesus, thank you for revealing your awesome hidden wisdom to me!"

- from *The Word Among Us*



PRAYER INTENTIONS

Special Intentions:

- For the intentions of our EMHC, acolytes, commentators, lectors, musicians, mass servers, sacristans, greeter, and 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):

- 14/02 - Valerie Casey; Pamela Elizabeth Page
- 15/02 - Dylan Robert Bellingham; William Henry Taylor
- 17/02 - Blair Malcolm; Phillip Moffitt
- 18/02 - Stanley Gordon Grant; Bryan Dwyer
- 19/02 - Darka Bacelich
- 20/02 - Norma Levitzke; Teodoro & Remedios Cue; Victor Tiu Jr.
- 21/02 - William Shannon



ADULT CATECHISM

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

Charisms, Vocations and Ministries for Mission

59. In doing so, they ask the Church not to abandon them but rather to enable them to feel that they are sent and sustained in mission. They ask to be nourished by the bread of the Word and the Eucharist, as well as by the familial bonds of the community. They ask that their commitment be recognised for what it is: Church action in light of the Gospel, and not merely a personal choice. Lastly, they ask the community to accompany those who, through their witness, have been drawn to the Gospel. In a missionary synodal Church, under the leadership of their pastors, communities will be able to send people out in mission and support those they have sent. Communities will, therefore, see themselves as primarily devoted to the service of a mission that the faithful carry out within society, in family and working life. They will, therefore, not remain focused exclusively on the activities that take place within their own communities and upon their own organisational needs.

60. By virtue of Baptism, women and men have equal dignity as members of the People of God. However, women continue to encounter obstacles in obtaining a fuller recognition of their charisms, vocation and place in all the various areas of the Church's life. This is to the detriment of serving the Church's shared mission. Scripture attests to the prominent role of many women in the history of salvation. One woman, Mary Magdalene, was entrusted with the first proclamation of the Resurrection. On the day of Pentecost, Mary, the Mother of God, was present, accompanied by many other women who had followed the Lord. It is important that the Scripture passages that relate these stories find adequate space inside liturgical lectionaries. Crucial turning points in Church history confirm the essential contribution of women moved by the Spirit. Women make up the majority of churchgoers and are often the first witnesses to the faith in families. They are active in the life of small Christian communities and parishes. They run schools, hospitals and shelters. They lead initiatives for reconciliation and promoting human dignity and social justice. Women contribute to theological research and are present in positions of responsibility in Church institutions, in diocesan curia and the Roman Curia. There are women who hold positions of authority and are leaders of their communities. This Assembly asks for full implementation of all the opportunities already provided for in Canon Law with regard to the role of women, particularly in those places where they remain underutilised. *[to be continued next week]*

The Financial Report for the 2024/2025 FY is based on the Profit and Loss data compiled on MYOB by the Parish Bookkeeper Mrs. Kathleen Lim; and was prepared by the OLOTSC's Parish Financial Committee (Fr Archie Carampanan, Mr. Tony Smurthwaite (Chair), Mr. Jack Robinson (Secretary), and Mr. & Mrs. Jim Triglone (Bankers) for a presentation to the Parish Pastoral Council; and for consideration by the entire Parish community via the Parish Bulletin.

Financial Assets:

On 30 June 2025 the parish's financial assets comprise the following: A Fixed Term Deposit of \$100,000 which at 5.3% interest, earned \$5,300. Bequest Deposit of \$22,499.85 which at 4.25% interest, earned \$1,175.85, and was re-invested into this account. The \$5,300 was added to the Working Account which now stands at \$39,491.50.

Acknowledgements:

This excellent surplus owes much to Father Archie's business acumen and his ability to obtain gifts and donations as well as help from those parishioners with trade skills to carry out minor repairs to reduce maintenance expenses. We are grateful to Mrs. Lim's skills and her advice. They were invaluable.

Our Parish Income was sustained by receipt of regular weekly contributions and direct deposits; the generosity of our visitors, together with the use of the Tap and Go facility - initiated by Fr Archie - for use by people who do not carry cash. These are the reasons for our parish's healthy financial situation. Note however that OLSC receives no financial support from the Bunbury Diocese. Crucially the parish community has a beautiful church and presbytery, and has no debt to service. Choirs highly regard the church's acoustics and pay us for its use.

The Committee's sincere thanks to our collectors and bankers; and to the cleaners of the church and its columbarium; and appreciated those many volunteers who give their time and own equipment to weed and prune the vegetation in the church precinct; and records the clever builders of Father's vegetable garden. The OLSC Pastoral Council's support is very appreciated.

Fire-Risk Reduction and Protection Strategy:

Because of the work what was carried out in October 2024 by our four-person maintenance crew in unison with that of paid contractors, the Parish was able to meet the City of Busselton's much revised standards to mitigate the risk of fire to lives and property. Our duty is to safeguard the large area of woodland and its habitats in which our church buildings are located.

The woodland is held in trust for the Bishop of Bunbury Diocese. It can never be used for commercial purposes. Furthermore, the Parish is obliged to act with our neighbours on a mutually beneficial strategy to guard against fire. Each year we hire all contractors to remove fallen timber from fire-breaks and to cut down over-hanging tree limbs and clumps of dead trees. These preventive measures paid off handsomely against the dangerous wildfire in February 2025.

Conclusion and Recommendations:

Although the 2024/2025 surplus (\$37,418) is in sharp contrast to the 2023/2024 deficit (\$21,229) - caused by major repairs and equipment replacements, the Parish Finance Committee cannot rest on its oars but has to find ways and means to increase income (for example by recruiting new and youthful parishioners who are prepared to use direct debits); and crucially for the Parish Pastoral Council to accept that all fresh proposals will need to be specifically funded from their efforts rather than coming out of the working budget.

Tony Smurthwaite
 Chair, OLOTSC Finance Committee
 14 February 2026

Overview:	
Income:	
Direct Deposits, Cash, EFPOS -----	71,925
Donations and other sources of income -----	29,040
Interest from two fixed-term deposits -----	6,752
Fund Raising -----	<u>2,544</u>
Total Income:	<u>110,261</u>
Expenditure:	
Priest Expenses -----	37,679
Church Expenses -----	11,399
Presbytery Expenses -----	3,175
Pastoral Expenses -----	6,886
Parish Administration Expenses -----	6,710
Building Maintenance Expenses -----	4,696
Insurance Expenses -----	<u>10,568</u>
Total Expenditure:	<u>72,844</u>
Net Surplus:	<u>\$37,418</u>

PARISH NOTICES

Initial Parish Activities to Celebrate our 35th Anniversary of Consecration of the Church Building and Altar

- 28th Feb, Saturday - Vigil Mass with Bishop George Kolodziej. Simple dinner follows after our 6 pm Mass. Requesting our Vigil Mass regular Mass-goers to please bring a plate to share.
- 1st March, Sunday - 8:30 Mass; morning tea; photo exhibit; video presentation; etc.
- Renewal of Baptismal Promises in April.
- Marian devotion event in May.
- Renewal of Marriage Vows in June.
- Parish & School Fun Day in November.
- Coming up with a commemorative photo book; etc.

Mission Challenge to All Parishioners

You might know a family whose children are in our public schools. Please reach out to them, and gently suggest to the parents to consider sending their kids to our church's After-school Program to help prepare them for their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Some Catholic children may not have yet received the Sacrament of Baptism.

Calling for More Liturgical Volunteers

Our parish is still in need of more volunteers to take on the following roles at our liturgical celebrations:

- Commentators
- Acolytes
- Lectors or Readers
- Collectors
- Mass Servers
- Choir members

Please approach Father Archie.

Our Parish Finance Committee is in need of One More New Member

Please share your talent and skill and be part of our Parish Finance Council. Please approach Father Archie or message him on 0475746553.

OLC NOTICES

Each year, at the request of the Bishop, school staff are commissioned by the Parish Priest to carry out their roles as educators in a Catholic school. New staff are introduced and continuing staff re-commit to carrying out their important roles. This year, we welcome Nikki Rush, Jayde McKenzie, Tahlah Howard, Amy McGinnity and Jessica Bromley. Also at this Mass, students whose families would like to be part of the Sacramental preparation programs this year for Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation will make their commitment in readiness for participation in the celebration of sacraments this year.

This week we welcomed our youngest students to OLC, 3 year-old Pre-Kindy students. Little Seedlings playgroup started again for the new year and students in Years 4-6 had swimming trials in preparation for the upcoming Swimming Carnival.

Last Friday we had our Opening of School Year Mass and in the afternoon, a Welcome Sundowner was enjoyed on the school oval. It was great to see old and new families connecting and having fun.



Opening of School Year Mass

DIOCESAN NOTICES

We welcome and pray for the Diocesan Synodal Team

The team is composed of Kerrie Merritt (Chair), Aaron Faure (Secretary), Helen Brown, Vanessa Dicker, Fr. Pierre Repuyan, Fr. Tony Chiera, Fr. Victor Lobo, and Fr. Archie Carampatan.



COMMUNITY BILLBOARD



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."



Barbershop & Hair Salon in Duns located at Centrepoint Shopping Centre, next to the butcher shop. Call Leo on 08 9756 8699.

CHURCH COLLECTION 7th—8th Feb 2026

Mass Collections : \$ 1,171.45
Direct Deposit : \$ 100; \$10; \$10
EFTPOS : \$ 220.00
Planned Giving : \$
10-c Recycling : \$ 57.10

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!