



Est. 1956

St Paul's Catholic Church / Mt Lawley Parish

We warmly welcome you to
106 Rookwood St / Menora WA 6050
telephone: (08) 9271 5253
email: secretary@stpaulsmtlawley.com
website: www.stpaulsmtlawley.com

Rev Fr **Mariusz Grzech**, Parish Administrator
ppriest@stpaulsmtlawley.com

Leona McNulty, Parish Secretary

Parish Office Hours TUESDAYS and THURSDAYS 10am-2pm.
New Parishioners Please complete a census form, found in the church foyer, and return it to the office or sacristy.
Baptism Sunday afternoons. Please contact Fr Mariusz to make an appointment for instruction.
Reconciliation WEDNESDAY 6.15 - 7pm and SATURDAY, 8 - 9am, 4.30 - 5.15pm, or please ring for an appointment.

THE LAST WEEK OF ADVENT / and CHRISTMAS

Monday	5.45 pm - Mass	Late Advent weekday	† Iain Robertson - <i>anniv.</i>
Tuesday	5.45 pm - Mass	Late Advent weekday	† Wanda Sitko & Stanislaw Grzech
Wednesday	9.00 am - Mass 5.30 pm - Mass	Late Advent weekday THE VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS (<i>counts for Christmas Day obligation</i>)	† faithful departed † Lilian Moncrieff - <i>anniv.</i>
Thursday	12.00 Midnight - Mass 9.00 am - Mass	THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST "	for the parish
Friday	5.45 pm - Mass	ST STEPHEN, <i>the first martyr</i>	persecuted Christians
Saturday	9.00 am - Mass	ST JOHN, <i>apostle, evangelist</i>	

The HOLY FAMILY of JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

Saturday	5.30 pm - Mass		
Sunday	9.00 am - Mass		for the parish

PARISH MINISTRIES ROSTER

MINISTRY	Saturday 5.30pm		Sunday 9.00am		Last Sunday's Giving 14/12
Readers	F Jones	L D'Orsogna	S Horgan	J Sluchniak	Online donations \$ 663.00
Acolytes / Snr Svr					Loose 724.20
Altar Servers	E & D Samanta	G & M D'Orsogna	J Cherry	M Budiono	Tap & Go 726.36
Musicians	A Loiacono	S Simmonds	A Loiacono	C Postmus	Votive candles 218.70
Counters			E White	E Menon	Containers for change 17.10
					TOTAL \$2,349.36
					** WEEKLY TARGET \$2,500.00 **

Here are our parish account details:

Support our Parish: *Second Collection* * 086 006 * 66717 2345
Supporting Priests: *First Collection* * 086 006 * 70782 9728
Direct Debit: *Make arrangements with your bank to make regular deposits*

Thank You

...to our volunteers,
and for your generous support of our parish!

Please pray for
parishioners who are unwell: Tony Bonavita, Terry Merchant, Blanche Pereira, Lori Valerio, Frank Genovese, Bernadette Taylor, Angelina Mule, Maria Odorisio.
parishioners whose anniversary of death occurs at this time: Francis Knuckey, Rose Goss, Bertha McDermott, Con Migro Snr, James Byrne, Robert Hearne, James Patterson, Lillian Moncrieff, Willian Casten, Camillus Urquhart, Patricia Tranter, John Lyons, Doris Annie Cavanagh, Jack Kennedy.



Liturgical Ministries			Parish Ministries & Activities		
Acolytes	John Pereira	0401 623 521	Finance Committee	Michael Agostini	0416 376 793
Altar Linen	Lori Valerio * Maria Odorisio		Community Care	Francine Jones	0423 214 882
Altar Servers	Lilian Bellandi	0412 980 261		Maree Clune	0429 722 846
Collectors & Counters	Dianne Smith	0408 569 969	St Paul's Primary School	Nicola Lee, <i>Principal</i>	9462 6000
Roster Coordinator	Simon Hehir	043 778 6023	RCIA	Fr Mariusz Grzech	9271 5253
Flowers	Jasmin Biagioni	0411 123 575	St Vincent de Paul Society	Peter Quinn	0403 803 919
Parish Social Committee	TBA		Parish Catechist	TBA	
Music	Alessio Loiacono	0466 461 892	Bible Study	Fr Mariusz Grzech	9271 5253
Readers	Genevieve Saldanha	0405 806 848	PREP Co-ordinator	Susan Brown	0403 441 525
Menora Gardens Chapel	Roslyn Robins	0457 969 057	Safeguarding Officer	Stephen Cain	0412 277 994
			Safeguarding Officer	Linley Plowman	0407 383 914

Community News

**** DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ****

Wed 24 Dec 9am Mass in church
- end of Advent
5.30pm Christmas Eve Mass
- 5.20pm Blessing of the Crib

**NOTE: No 9am Wednesday Mass at Acacia
No Holy Hour on Wednesday evening**

Thu 25 Dec Midnight Mass
- Carols prior at 11.30pm
9am Mass

Fri 26 Dec 5.45pm St Stephen, martyr
Sat 27 Dec 9am St John, evangelist
- Blessing of wine after Mass

PRE-CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS

Additional Confession times before Christmas: Mon 22nd 6.30-7.30pm, Tue 23rd 6.30-7.30pm.

PRAYING FOR OUR CHILDREN

Tue 9.30am: Join us in praying for our children and grandchildren. Rosary & Litany in church, then delicious morning tea in the Undercroft. *All are welcome!*

RCIA / FAITH FORMATION

RCIA sessions have concluded for the year, we will resume on Wed, 28 January. Do you know someone who wants to become Catholic? Do you want to grow in knowledge of your Faith?

YOUNG SALESIANS SUMMER CAMP

Mon 5 Jan - Fri 9 Jan 2026 at Nanga Bush Camp, Murray River, Dwellingup. Registration details: standard price: \$320 or \$350 after 15 Dec. Lots of fun indoor and outdoor games and activities including: Swimming, Amazing Race, Bush Walks, Arts & Crafts, Gold Rush, Mini Olympics, Capture the Flag, Camp Masses and many fun challenges. Bus there & back from St Joachim's Church in Victoria Park. See poster and flyers in church entry. Further info: 0418979600 boscoyouth.com

PARISH MASS DIARY - 2026

The Parish Mass Diary for 2026 is open! Submit your Mass intentions for the coming year: thanksgiving, wedding & death anniversaries, birthdays, etc.

ONGOING EXPENSES

THIS WEEK roof inspection - \$396.00 * Christmas flyers - \$290.00 * candles - \$273.88 * copier - \$73.76 **TOTAL \$1,033.64**

NEXT WEEK Insurance (Inst 6 of 6) - \$2,020.00 * rates - \$539.15 * church cleaning - \$374.00 * confession cards - \$275.00 * catholic weekly - \$94.60 * cross/book/voucher - \$94.05 **TOTAL \$3,396.80**



The Wisdom of the Saints: St Augustine on Christmas

So that we might journey more trustfully toward the truth, the Truth Itself - the Son of God - assumed our human nature, and established and founded our Christian faith.

Nothing was so necessary for raising our hope as to show us how deeply God loves us. And what could give us a stronger proof of this than that the Son of God should become a partner with us of our human nature?

What greater reason is there for the Lord to come to us than to show us God's love? If we have been slow to love, at least let us hasten to love in return.

Let us celebrate the birthday of the Lord with a joyous gathering and appropriate festivity. Let men and women alike rejoice, for Christ, the Man, was born, and He was born of a woman; thus, each sex was honoured.

We celebrate the Lord's Nativity, when the Wisdom of God revealed Himself as a speechless Child, and the Word of God wordlessly uttered the sound of a human voice. Every year we celebrate this day which saw the fulfillment of the prophecy: 'Truth springs out of the earth: & justice looks down from heaven.'



The Angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream.

A Meditation
from The Imitation of Christ
by Thomas à Kempis (1379-1471)

Chapter 18
That We Should Bear Our Hardships
Patiently after Christ's Example

Jesus: My dear friend, I came down from heaven to save you. I took your troubles upon myself not because I had to, but because I was drawn by love. I did so in order that you might learn patience and bear life's miseries without complaint. From the hour of my birth until my death on the cross I was never without sorrow. I sadly lacked the material things of this world. I often heard many complaints against me. I meekly endured anxiety and shame. For my kindness I received ingratitude; for my miracles, blasphemies; and for my teaching, rebukes.

Disciple: Lord, because You were patient during your lifetime, in this perfectly fulfilling your Father's command, it is right that I, a poor sinner, should patiently put up with myself according to your will. As long as it pleases You, I should bear the burdens of this life for my salvation, for although this present life feels heavy, it already has been made deeply worthwhile through Your grace.

Pastoral Ponderings

In the busyness of last Sunday afternoon, with Christmas decorations and the Nativity being set up in the Church, a summer storm gathering - horror was unfolding on Australia's iconic Bondi Beach. Late Sunday afternoon I was receiving texts about power blackouts and questions whether Lesson & Carols would go ahead (fortunately we did have power at the parish), and at the same time following updates on what was happening at Bondi. Gaudete - rejoicing - Sunday 2025 had the joy wrenched out of it.

Our absolutely splendid Festival of Lessons & Carols went ahead, and we remembered the Bondi victims in our prayers. Lessons & Carols gets better and better every year. We had a good turnout of parishioners from St Paul's and the Ordinariate, plus some visitors. Our speaker, Tom Gourlay, encouraged us in our patient waiting. Special thanks to our fantastic cantors, guided and accompanied so well as always by Alessio Loiacono. The music and singing was first class! Thanks, too, to Fr Scot Armstrong and all the readers and servers who ensured that the service was dignified and moving for all who attended. My sincere thanks to the ladies who provided us with a splendid supper after the service in our beautifully decorated Undercroft. Our guests were very impressed.

On Sunday evening, the full impact of the devastation at Bondi had not yet become apparent, but deep down I felt that the darkness which can overtake the human heart, had struck our nation like never before. On Monday I reached out to our nearest Jewish neighbours, Perth Hebrew Congregation and Temple David, with condolences and prayers on behalf of the parish. Our Local member, Frank Paolino MLA - who attended our Lessons and Carols - sent a thoughtful email to all faith leaders in our local area, inviting us to prayer and mutual support. On Monday evening I offered Mass for the victims, reminding those present that darkness will never overcome the Light - that's why God sent His Son, the Saviour, Who's grace and mercy we need so urgently right now!

On a different note, weekday Masses, during the month of January, will be at 8am. January is a quiet month, it's a warm month, and I think 'summer hours' are appropriate. Masses at 8am will commence on January 5th. The Ordinariate currently have Mass on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, I will say Mass on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The Mass at Acacia will remain unchanged at 9am on Wednesdays. Holy Hour and Confessions will also remain unchanged on Wednesdays, 6.15-7.15pm.

A reminder that the Advent Stall by the Clare and Yap families will run this weekend, raising funds for Aid to the Church in Need which supports persecuted Christians. It's your last chance to buy a delicious home-made product or religious Christmas gift.

Finally, please note the additional Confession times before Christmas. Come, let us adore Him with pure hearts!