

St. Thomas

THE Apostle

CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH OF CLAREMONT



2nd Sunday of Lent, Year C
16 March 2025

Parish Priest: Fr Richard Rutkauskas
Email: claremont@perthcatholic.org.au
Web: <http://claremontparish.com.au>
Address: 2 College Road,
 Claremont WA 6010
Telephone: 9384 0598
Office Hours: closed at present

Safeguarding Officer: Jenni Hutton

MASSES AND DEVOTIONS

Sunday	7:30 am	Mass
	9:30 am	Mass
Monday	--	
Tuesday	9:00 am	Mass
Wednesday	12 noon	Rosary
	12:30 pm	Mass (and lunch in Meeting Room)
Thursday	9:00 am	Mass
Friday	9:00 am	Mass
Saturday	4:30 pm	Reconciliation
	5:30 pm	Vigil Mass

THANKS!!

To the generous parishioner who donated the beautiful new table in the Parish Meeting Room!



Entrance Antiphon (Ps 26:8-9)

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face.
 It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
 hide not your face from me .

Pray with Pope Francis.

[The holy father's prayer intention for March](#)

For families in crisis

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

Let us all pray for the Holy Father, that he may know the loving closeness of the Lord in these times of trial, and may be restored to health as the Lord wishes. Let us pray as he has taught us, "May your will be done".

OUR PARISH CATECHUMENS

Those preparing to be received into the Church at Easter took an important step last week. They took part in the Rite of Election, in a ceremony in St Mary's Cathedral.

Now they journey with us during Lent, looking forward to Easter and the new life that it will bring. Let us all accompany them with our prayers.



PARISH SECRETARY

The parish is in need of a part time secretary (hours negotiable) Skills needed would be a knowledge of Windows Operating System, Microsoft Office, Basic Book Keeping and a basic understanding of the Catholic Archdiocese the Parish and its Mission . Also a knowledge of Sacraments and the data entry required for the recording of these. Coordinating volunteers and the data recording surrounding them. A Working With Children Card and a Police Clearance are Vital.

Contact Fr Richard for more details

Prayer to St Thomas the Apostle

Almighty and everlasting God, who strengthened your apostle Thomas with sure and certain faith in your Son's resurrection: Grant us so perfectly and without doubt to believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord and our God, that our faith may never be found wanting in your sight; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen



Jubilee 2025
 PILGRIMS OF HOPE

“ We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision.
”

POPE FRANCIS



IN THE PARISH

COMMUNION AT HOME

If you or someone you know is not able to attend church and would like a Eucharist Minister to visit please contact Margaret Sweetman or email claremont@perthcatholic.org.au.

Each month Father visits Montgomery House, Alfred Carson and Queenslea, in our area, for Anointing and Communion. If you have friends or family members who reside in any of these care facilities please let them know.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL ENROLMENTS 2025

Enrolment is open for the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation. Enrolments close at the end of March. Students attending non Catholic schools can enrol for the Parish preparation classes. Students in this Parish, attending a Catholic school, can enrol to receive the sacrament in the Parish. For an enrolment form please contact: silvia.kinder@cewa.edu.au

ST THOMAS' PRIMARY SCHOOL - ENROLMENTS

St Thomas' Primary School is excited to offer families a holistic Catholic education in the heart of Claremont. Limited vacancies are available for 2025 enrolments. For more information please visit <https://www.stthomas.wa.edu.au>

To book a tour of the school contact us at 9286 9500 or admin@stthomas.wa.edu.au.



New to the parish

11 March 2025

Dear parishioners

This is to introduce myself to you. I'm Deacon Paul Reid. My wife Charmianne and I recently moved to Mount Claremont from Chidlow in the eastern hills.

I was ordained as a permanent deacon for the Archdiocese of Perth 18 years ago and appointed to Mundaring parish.

For the past 7 years I was the diocesan director for Caritas Australia, retiring from that role at the end of October last year.

I have now been appointed as the deacon to assist Fr Richard in serving St Thomas the Apostle Parish. For those unfamiliar with the role and responsibilities of a deacon, here is a brief description:

A deacon is an ordained minister who is tasked with various responsibilities that help support the spiritual and practical needs of the Church by:

- assisting with the celebration of Mass, including proclaiming the Gospel and preaching, when invited by the celebrant
- administering sacraments such as Baptism and Marriage conducting prayer services and leading the faithful in prayer
- providing pastoral care and support to members of the community.

My contact number is: **0437 978299**

Blessings

Deacon Paul

This week's Sanctuary Lamp burns for:

Aida De Jesus Clancy (past pupil and parishioner of St Thomas)

If you would like the lamp to burn for a week, for a special intention, please put the details and \$10 in an envelope and place in one of the collections.



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 to receive a set of planned giving envelopes to be issued to you, or this one to make your contributions by direct debit.

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM: You are invited to join St Thomas' Parish Planned Giving Program? You can contribute by Direct Debit or through the weekly envelope system. The Programme helps the Finance Committee plan for the Parish's future. If you would like to lend your support in this way, please fill in one of the direct debit forms available at the back of the church. **Just a reminder: the first collection is for the Priests in the diocese including Fr Richard; the second collection is for our Parish upkeep and costs. Thank you all.**



AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

Catholic Archdiocese of Perth — Employment Opportunities

The Archdiocese has employment opportunities for suitably qualified persons to join its team and continue the good work of the Church. For details and how to apply, refer to <https://www.perthcatholic.org.au/Employment.htm>.

Administration Officer (Archives and Information Governance Office) – Permanent, Part-time

Payroll Officer (Catholic Archdiocese of Perth Administration Centre) – Permanent, Full-time

Casual Administration Assistant (Catholic Archdiocese of Perth Administration Centre) – Casual



19 March – Tough Questions for Young Adult Catholics: Building Faith and Understanding

Wednesdays 19 March, 16 April, 21 May, 18 June, 7:00pm – 8:00pm, Catholic Pastoral Centre - 40A Mary St, Highgate (enter through Harold St). . Presenter, Joe Tedesco

20 March - 10 April: Lent with St Joseph: An Ordinary Man Living God's Sacrificial Love

Thursdays, 7:30pm – 8:30pm (4 sessions), Online. This course explores the interior workings of

St Joseph's lived experience of God's sacrificial love. St Joseph understood the meaning of Lenten sacrifice as the key to Easter Resurrection. Cost: \$20.00. Presenter, Ms Natalie Thomas.

Further info or register, cfe@perthcatholic.org.au or 08 9278 0261.

“PRAISE, PRAYER & PAINT” - A WORKSHOP FOR WOMEN

Ladies come join Godly Women with Faith Catholic Ministry on Sunday 30 March from 11am at Good Shepherd Parish Kiara, for a divine “Praise, Prayer & Paint” workshop—a sacred experience beyond a typical art class. In a peaceful setting, guided by the Holy Spirit, you will connect with your creativity and paint Psalm 23, allowing the Inspiration of the Holy Spirit to flow. Whether you are an experienced artist or a beginner, this session will deepen your connection with God, inspire your soul, and renew your spirit. Visit godlywomenwithfaith.com/eventstalkscourses/events/ to purchase your ticket .

Men's Mental Health Talk with Derek Boylen

A men's only session to provide valuable insights and support for mental well-being: **Monday, 17 March , 5:30-8:00pm**, St. Mary's Cathedral Parish Centre, Victoria Square, Perth. <https://go.kscwa.au/kscwa-mens-mental-health-17-march-2025>.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL—EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST NOW OPEN

Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) is a national gathering of Catholic young people established by the Australian Bishops more than ten years ago. Run over three days. ACYF 2025 will be hosted in November-December by the Archdiocese of Melbourne. If you are interested please visit the official website acyf.org.au or email cym@perthcatholic.org.au

MARIAN PILGRIMAGE & ROME FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR 25 September 2025 - 20 October 2025

We will visit the Shrines of *Our Lady of Fatima*, *Our Lady of Garabandal*, *Our Lady of Lourdes*, the *Shrine of the Miraculous Medal* and *Our Lady of Medjugorje*. Other pilgrimage sites are the *Church of St. Anthony*, *Sanctuary of the Eucharistic Miracle of Santarem*, the *Cathedral of Santiago de Compostella*, the *Basilica of Sacré Coeur* and *Notre Dame*. We fly from Medjugorje to Rome. We will walk through the four Holy Doors of St. Peter's Basilica, St. John Lateran, St Mary Major and St. Paul Outside the Walls to end our pilgrimage.

Spiritual Director - Father Jean-Noël Marie, Parish Priest of St. Emilie's Canning Vale.

Pilgrimage Coordinator - Edman Anthony at 0424 437 251 / edmanpilgrimage@gmail.com

A Lenten reflection from Pope Francis: 'Let us journey together in hope'

Dear brothers and sisters, I would like to propose a few reflections on what it means to *journey together in hope*, and on the summons to conversion that God in his mercy addresses to all of us, as individuals and as a community. First of all, *to journey*. The Jubilee motto, “Pilgrims of Hope”, evokes the lengthy journey of the people of Israel to the Promised Land, as recounted in the Book of Exodus. This arduous path from slavery to freedom was willed and guided by the Lord, who loves his people and remains ever faithful to them. We are all pilgrims in this life; each of us is invited to stop and ask how our lives reflect this fact. Am I really on a journey, or am I standing still, not moving, either immobilized by fear and hopelessness or reluctant to move out of my comfort zone? Am I seeking ways to leave behind the occasions of sin and situations that degrade my dignity? It would be a good Lenten exercise for us to compare our daily life with that of some migrant or foreigner, to learn how to sympathize with their experiences and in this way discover what God is asking of us so that we can better advance on our journey to the house of the Father.

Next Weekend's Readings
3rd Sunday of Lent Year C
Exodus 3:1-15
Psalm 102
1 Corinthians 10:1-12
Luke 13:1-9

2nd Sunday of Lent, Year C

First Reading (Genesis: 15:5-18)

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 26)

(R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

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|---|--|
| 1. The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life
before whom shall I shrink? (R.) | 3. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek,
hide not your face.
Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help. (R.) |
| 2. O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken:
'Seek his face.' (R.) | 4. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! (R.) |

Second Reading (Philippians 3:17-4:1)

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

Gospel Acclamation (Matthew 17:5)

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel (Luke (:28-36)

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.