

November Newsletter

ST THOMAS
♦
the Apostle
Claremont Parish



Here's what has happened in the last month and what's to come!

It's been another busy and uplifting month around our parish!

In October maintenance has been a high priority. The church received some much-needed electrical repairs, and the Finance Committee has been hard at work progressing plans to appoint a builder to complete the repairs to the church façade.

On Wednesday the 22nd of October, 18 of our parish children received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time in a beautiful ceremony. Our heartfelt thanks go to our dedicated catechists, Silvia Kinder and Jenni Hutton, for their guidance and preparation of the children throughout this special journey.

This month, starting on the 14th of November, we are blessed to begin a new Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration each Friday. All are warmly invited to join in this time of silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. The first three sessions will be dedicated to praying for the complete healing of Fr Richard Rutkauskas.

We are undertaking a review of our safeguarding practices. If you are asked to complete training or provide documentation, we kindly ask that you do so promptly—your cooperation helps ensure our parish remains a safe and caring environment for all.

As cash becomes less common—particularly among the younger generation—we are exploring the introduction of “tap & go” donation options to make giving more convenient. Of course, all our usual collection methods will remain available for those who prefer to give in cash. We're also reaching out to nearby parishes who have already implemented these systems to learn from their experiences.

The planned giving envelopes have arrived (a little later than expected), and are now available for collection at the back of the church.

Finally, our safety and evacuation plans have been updated, we've arranged to have them printed and you'll notice the new signage appearing around the church in the coming weeks.

Parish team



Safeguarding at St Thomas

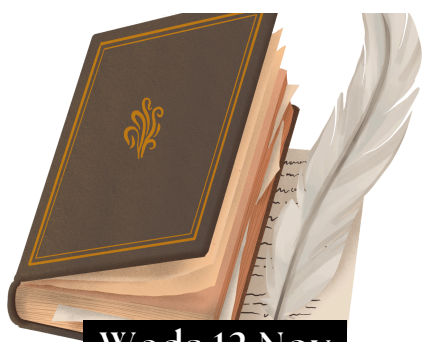
It is our collective responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults within the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth. As part of our commitment to this, St Thomas is reviewing our safeguarding practices.

Recent updates to the Archdiocese Safeguarding Policy has mandated that volunteers in most ministries including readers, acolytes, flower arrangers, chorists, extraordinary ministers, and even those who participate in the offertory procession are now required to undertake safeguarding training and complete a safeguarding declaration.

The training takes about 45 minutes to complete and can be done online, or in person. In the coming months we will be arranging in-person training at St Thomas, however, there is a training session at St Mary MacKillop Parish on November 15 (see details on the next page) for those who are available.

If you are asked to provide documentation over the coming months please do so promptly as we have a large amount of information to collate.

To complete training online please visit:
www.safeguarding.perthcatholic.org.au



Weds 12 Nov

RCIA - an Intro to the Sacraments

The next RCIA meeting will be on Wednesday 12th November 7pm to 8pm in the Parish Meeting Room. Parishioners are warmly welcome to come along and support those who are enquiring about the Faith. Next session is an Introduction to the Sacraments.

All enquiries:
silvia.kinder@cewa.edu.au

- Date: **12 November 2025**
- Time: **7-8pm**
- Location: **Parish Meeting Room**



Fridays

Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration

You are invited to a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration before Mass each Friday. Commencing on Friday 14 November, this will be silent prayer.

The first 3 Fridays will be dedicated to asking the Lord for complete healing for Fr Richard Rutkauskas.

- Date: **Fridays from Nov 14**
- Time: **11.30am**
- Location: **St Thomas Parish**



closes 24 Nov

Catholic Young Womens Scholarship

Applications are now open for the Australian Young Catholic Women's Fellowship for 2026/2027.

The Fellowship, which is offered over a two-year period, is a key initiative reflecting the Australian bishops' ongoing commitment to formation of women for missionary leadership.

Applications close 5pm AEDT Nov 24th.

For more info:
<http://bit.ly/4hwsTOO>

Events around the Archdiocese



Sat 15 Nov

Safeguarding Level 1 Training

The Safeguarding Office will be running Level 1 in-person safeguarding induction on **Saturday 15 November | 10-11am | St Mary MacKillop Parish, Ballajura.**

No prior booking required. Further info; Safeguarding Administration; safeguarding@perthcatholic.org.au or 08 9221 7762.



Fri 14 Nov

CYM Hype Night

The ultimate Friday night for youth is happening soon — don't miss it! 🔥

Games, DJ, Dancing, Nerf Wars, Chill Zone, Food, Good people, big energy.

Just a fun space to hang out, meet new people, and have a good time.

14 Nov | 6.30-9.30pm | 6 Kurrajong Blvd Banksia Grove | 12-25yrs | \$7.50pp

<https://bit.ly/4nVZwJE>



Sat 8 Nov

Charismatic Healing Service

CCR Perth will be conducting a Healing Service after the 6:00pm Mass at Holy Family Church, Como, on Saturday, November 8th. Come one and all who seek the healing touch of Jesus, whether the need be physical, psychological or spiritual!

All queries to Dan 0409 849 049

8 Nov | 6pm | Holy Family Church Como



Marian Pilgrimage

Anawim Journey's presents the Marian Pilgrimage. Visiting France, Spain and Portugal, directed by Fr Joel M Villanueva OSJ. Hosted by English speaking tour guide. For more information email Sheila Mohgan on sheila@anawimjourneys.com

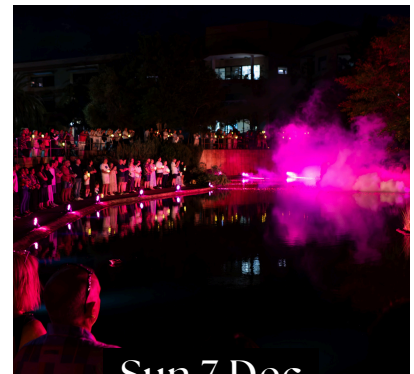


Bosco Youth Summer Camp

Are you between 11½-15 yrs or starting Year 7 in 2026?

Come and join us for this 5 day fun filled camp at Nanga Bush Camp, Dwellingup. From only \$315. contact Graham Maher on 0418 979 600.

www.boscoyouth.com



Sun 7 Dec

Light up the Lake with Love

An evening to commemorate lost loved ones at SJOG Murdoch lake. Featuring a string quartet and the symbolic lighting of the lake. 7pm at SJOG Murdoch Lake For more info or to purchase commemorative candles see: bit.ly/lightupthelake-2025



Lifelink Christmas Appeal

Pope Leo XIV will launch the ninth 'World Day of the Poor' to Catholics around the world on 16 November 2025. This global appeal occurs the week after the launch of the annual Christmas Appeal for LifeLink in this Archdiocese.

Both the World Day of the Poor and our own LifeLink Christmas Appeal offer us a wonderful opportunity to truly embrace and express our faith in a very real and tangible way.

Archbishop Timothy Costelloe will launch the Christmas Appeal for LifeLink on the weekend of 8 and 9 November 2025.

Please give generously and help raise a minimum of \$700,000 this Christmas. Let us fill rejoice in God's love and give the gift of HOPE to our brothers and sisters in need.

Donation envelopes are available at the back of the church or visit www.lifelink.com.au to donate online.

Planned Giving Envelopes

Our new planned giving envelopes have arrived, albeit slightly behind schedule.

Please collect your set at the back of the church. All assigned envelopes have been labelled, so please be sure to collect the correct box.

If you would like to participate, please write your details on the form

provided and take a box that has not been labelled.

If you have any queries regarding planned giving please contact the parish office. We also have options for direct deposit as well as bank transfer.

Ministry Contacts

Acolytes

John Cranford 0412 912 769

Readers

Margaret Sweetman 0488 938 539

Extraordinary Ministers

Margaret Sweetman 0488 938 539

Musicians

Eric Hudson-Smith (7.30am Mass)

emhsmith01@outlook.com

Jane Courtney (9.30am Mass)

0419 241 450

Sacramental Preparation

Silvia Kinder

silvia.kinder@cewa.edu.au

Weekly Rosary

Stephanie Tew 0408 798 174

Altar Flowers

contact Parish Office

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Henry Simmons 0417 985 992

Finance Committee

Leo McManus 0417 414 951

Safeguarding Officers

Jenni Hutton 0400 708 512

Margaret Carmen 0406 663 354

Counters

Jeannette O'Keefe 0431 501 989

St Thomas Primary School

Natalia Thomson - Principal

08 9286 9500

Thank you for reading!

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE	08 9384 0598
www.claremontparish.com	8 Warden St, CLAREMONT WA 6010