



St Lawrence and Mary Immaculate Parish, Balcatta

Parish Priest: FR EMIL CIECIEREGA SDS Assistant Priest: FR ADAM BABINSKI SDS

Parish Secretaries: ARLENE LIM AND ROSALIA CARBONE

Parish Office: 9344 7066 Open Tues & Wed 9am-2.30pm, Thurs & Fri 9am-1pm

PO Box 159 Northlands WA 6905 Emergency Ph: 0408 447 062

Email: balcatta@perthcatholic.org.au Websites: www.stlawrence.org.au & www.sds.org



St Lawrence and Mary Immaculate Church 392 Albert Street Balcatta WA 6021

Masses Mon to Sat 9am; Sat 6pm (Vigil);
Sun 8.30am, 10am (Italian), 12pm (Croatian) and 5pm
1st Fri of Month: 7pm

Reconciliation (also by appointment)

Tue to Sat 8.40am-8.55am, Sat 5.15pm-5.50pm

1st Friday 8.30am-8.55am and 6.40-6.55pm

Rosary prayed at St Lawrence Mon to Sat 9.30am

Perpetual Adoration Chapel 24hr access, contact office

Piety Shop & Parish Library Lovely gifts & resources



St Theresa Church 678 North Beach Road Gwelup WA 6018 (In Mt La Verna Retirement Village)

Masses Wed 10.30am & Sun 11.30am

Reconciliation After Sun 11.30am Mass

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Wed 11am-12pm,

1st Sunday of the month 11am-11.30am

Rosary prayed at St Theresa Mon to Sat 4.15pm

Parish Meetings from Monday 28th February

Mon 3.30pm	Parish Line Dancing
Tue 9.30am	Padre Pio Prayer Group (Italian)
Wed 9.30am	Healing Prayers in Chapel
Wed 7.00pm	Personal Advocacy
Thur 10.00am	Incontro con Gesù e Maria (Italian)
Thur 2.00pm	Legion of Mary
Thur 8.00pm	Italian committee
Sat 2.00pm	Secular Franciscans Regional Council
Sun 10.00am	Rosary League (Malayalam/English)

ALL PARISH DONATIONS

**INCLUDING FOR PLANNED GIVING CAN BE MADE
VIA DIRECT DEBIT TO THE BANK ACCOUNTS BELOW:**

1st Collection: Fr Emil Ciecierega
BSB: 086 006
Account No: 687 813 269

2nd Collection: St Lawrence Church
BSB: 086 006
Account No: 665 794 749

Thank you for your generosity and support!

PARISH NEWS 27 Feb—6 Mar

Liturgical Calendar

Wed 2 Mar Ash Wednesday—Fast and Abstinence

Sun 6 Mar First Sunday of Lent

The Church Year—Lent

As early as the end of the 1st century, the *Didache*, a book that describes liturgical practices in the early Church, speaks of Wednesdays and Fridays as being fast days. Rome then added Saturday as a further fast day, in preparation for the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist. Soon all of Christian antiquity without exception kept these three days of fasting and penitential prayer each week.

Friday, of course, commemorated the Lord's death. Wednesday was considered the day when Judas arranged to betray Jesus. Saturday was variously seen as the Sabbath, the day of Christ's burial, and the vigil of the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist. The Wednesday, Friday and Saturday before Easter Sunday became the nucleus of our Lenten season, which was brief but very intense; only bread and water were taken as nourishment. The fast was gradually extended to the other days of that week, which was called "Great Week" or "Holy Week".

During the 4th century, a three-week preparation for Easter became the norm, beginning on what is now *Laetare* (Rejoice!) Sunday, our 4th Sunday of Lent. Sometime between 354 and 384 AD, the fast of 40 days came to Rome, perhaps influenced by a similar observance that had begun in Egypt at the end of the 3rd century. This fast was seen less as a preparation for Easter than as an imitation of Christ's 40-day fast in the desert after his baptism.

Jesus linked fasting to prayer and almsgiving (Mt 6:1-18). Once the catechumenate (program of instruction of converts) was well-organised in the 4th century, this 40-day period offered an opportune time to conduct the final weeks of preparation of candidates for Baptism during the Easter Vigil. Meanwhile, penitents who had been excluded from receiving Holy Communion for various offences were readmitted to the Eucharistic assembly at the Easter Vigil in some Churches, or on Holy Thursday in Rome. Thus Lent took on the character of preparation for this reconciliation. Today, communal celebrations of the sacrament of Penance, with individual confession and absolution, are a feature of Lent in many parishes.

All of these developments have come down to us as the Lent we know today: a 40-day period of prayer, self-denial and charity, beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Holy Saturday. Sundays are not included, since they are never days of penance. During this season catechumens prepare for the sacraments of initiation and most of the baptised approach the priest for reconciliation, moving toward the intense Triduum celebration of the Lord's passion, death and resurrection.

Parish Lenten Program 2022 "Remember"



One way to prepare for Easter, is to join one of the **5 sharing groups** that will be meeting during Lent. If you are interested please add your name to one of the lists at the back of the church. The groups will meet on the following days:

Starting **Tuesday 1st March** at 9.30am in the Alverna meeting room; **Wednesday 2nd March** at 9am in the Community Centre, Gwelup or 7.30pm in the Alverna Centre or 7.30pm at 31 Landrail Rd, Stirling; **Thursday 3rd March** at 7.30pm at 36 Glenwood Way, Balcatta. The book called "Remember" containing short daily Lenten reflections and longer Sunday reflections will be available for \$10 from group leaders.



Project Compassion 2022

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "**For All Future Generations**". Your generosity will assist some of the world's most vulnerable communities to lift themselves out of poverty. Donations can also be made by phone 1800 024 413 or online www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

If you would like to give yourself and your spouse quality time over a weekend that will focus on love, caring and relationship, you are invited to the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on **29th to 31st July** at Atrium Hotel, Mandurah. This may be the best gift you can give to each other in a long time. To book your place, please contact Valerie and Brendon on 0424 220 625 or email WAb bookings@wwme.org.au. Visit the website www.wwme.org.au for more information.



Children's Liturgy Volunteers Needed

Calling all teacher's assistants, university students studying education, teachers and parishioners! Your help is needed so that we can resume the Children's Liturgy Program on Sundays at 5pm Mass. We also need helpers to assist with supervising the children in the hall during the first half of the Mass. If you can help please call or email the parish office. Training provided. No experience needed!

Parish Youth Group Sundays 6-8pm in the Parish Hall

Inviting all youth in Years 6-12 to join us for spiritual enrichment, fellowship, food and fun in the Alverna Hall after the 5pm Mass. If you're interested in finding out more about the Youth Group call Stephen on 0456 821 749.



Parish Planned Giving Envelopes Program

Offering Envelopes
This program is very important to the parish. It allows parishioners to pledge a weekly donation and helps the Parish to budget and plan for future expenses. If you would like more information or wish to join the program please contact the parish office on 9344 7066. If it is more convenient Direct Debit is also available.



Ash Wednesday—2nd March

This is a day of Fast & Abstinence
St Lawrence: Masses 9am & 7.30pm
St Theresa: Mass at 10.30am

Stations of the Cross

Tuesday 7 pm: (Italian) at St Lawrence, Balcatta followed by Mass at 7.30pm.

Friday 4 pm: St Theresa, Gwelup followed by Communion Service.

Friday 7 pm: St Lawrence, followed by Mass at 7.30pm.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 26 February

9am
6pm +Sarina Mazzella

Sun 27 February

8.30am +Gentilina Rechichi
10am (Italian) +Antonio and Carmela Scarvaci, Francesco and Benedetta Bassetti, and Michelangelo and Maria Di Cesare
11.30am (Gwelup) +Rae Bellgard 2nd anniversary 5pm

Mon 28 February

9am
Tues 1 March
9am For members of the Padre Pio Prayer Group
Wed 2 March (ASH WEDNESDAY)

9am
10.30am (Gwelup)
7.30pm

Thurs 3 March

9am
Fri 4 March
9am
7.30pm +Sarah and Marcos D'Costa

Sat 5 March

9am
6pm
Sun 6 March
8.30am +Arthur Hart
10am (Italian) +Peppino Scurria
11.30am (Gwelup)
5pm +Cesare Di Silvio

NOTIZIARIO ITALIANO

Incontri della Settimana

Gio 10.00	Incontro con Gesù e Maria
Gio 20.00	Comitato Italiano

Calendario Liturgico

Mer 2	Le Ceneri
-------	-----------

Baptism Prayers



We pray for Jay Barber who receives the Sacrament of Baptism this Sunday and for his family. We welcome them to our Parish Community.



Perpetual Adoration Chapel Open 24hrs 'Are You Not Able to Stay With Me One Hour?'

Please join the roster and commit to a Holy Hour with Jesus every week. Vacant time slots are:

Sun: 12am-2am, 5.30am-11am, 1-3pm, 4-5pm, 6-7pm	Mon: 12am-2am, 4-7am, 11am-1pm, 2-3pm, 4-5pm, 6-7pm, 10-11pm
Tue: 6am-7am, 11am-12noon, 5-8pm, 9pm-12am	Wed: 12am-5am, 3-7pm, 10pm-12am
Thur: 12am-4am, 8am-9am, 12pm-1pm, 4pm-7pm	Fri: 1-2am, 4-6am, 7-8am, 12pm-2pm, 3-4pm, 5-7pm, 9pm-12am
Sat: 12am-2am, 6-7am, 9-10am, 11am-3pm, 4pm-12am	

Pastoral care of the sick: Contact the Parish office if you know anyone who would like to be included in the bulletin for our prayers during Mass or if they would like a priest to visit them at home or hospital.

Please pray for our sick parishioners: Maria Antoniazzi, Sandra Vilardi, Mariella Caroe, Lily Comande, Roger Pipe, Joanne Di Loreto, Ada, Maria Gotti, Patricia Lewin, Bayley Starr, Ric Jarvis, Dorothy Lewin, Robyn Dodd, Tennille Stokes, Anna, Belinda Forster, John Glamuzina, Scott, Terry Scoby-Smith, Zoe Dawson, Michelle Glover, Joseph, Frances Morley, Jude, Joclyn D'Silva, Bevan, Richard M, Bernadine Rodrigues, Colleen Player, Gaetona Mordini