

In today's first reading, Joshua challenges the people to decide whom they will serve. Recalling God's faithfulness to them and to their ancestors, the people declare, "We also will serve the Lord, for He is our God." May we, too, be mindful of God's gifts to us and renew our commitment to serve Him with grateful hearts.

**Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Key words and phrases:** "[M]any of his disciples...no longer accompanied him."

**To the point:** In this gospel, Jesus's followers make a choice. Faced with teachings they find difficult, many who have followed him turn back, resuming the ordinary lives they lived before they were inspired to follow him. This can be a little disheartening; these are people who were lucky enough to live at the time of Jesus, hear his preaching, and witness his miracles. Surely his earthly presence with all its compassion and wisdom and power would have stirred a great deal of loyalty. But many heard his words, followed for a while, and turned back when they encountered something they could not understand. What hope is there for us, who do not have the same privilege of witnessing Jesus's human life? If nothing else, this reading can reassure us that following Jesus is hard sometimes. Its rewards are not always immediate or obvious. It takes a choice in fact, a series of ongoing choices to stay committed to this life.



**Between the readings:** The first reading foreshadows the gospel; the people of Israel are given the choice to abandon God. But like Peter, they have experienced something true and good and beautiful in following this God, so they choose to recommit. In both cases, this is a response not of mere obedience but of wonder and gratitude at all that God has done for them.

**To experience:** There are only a few moments when we officially choose to follow Christ; most of the time, the life of discipleship is made up of smaller choices. Every day brings countless opportunities to recommit our hearts and actions to Jesus. This can seem overwhelming at times, but it is also hopeful-it is never too late to change course, to make new choices, and to turn towards the God who gives us all things.



**Silent Adoration Monday 26 Aug, 7.30pm to 8.30pm**

Eucharistic Adoration is the spiritual practice of spending time in the presence of the exposed consecrated Host. Through this practice, we are invited to spend time alone with God in his real, physical form and to bring to Jesus all our cares, concerns, prayers, hopes and thoughts. We set aside a special time, a respite from our hectic modern lives, to create a personal space in which to meet our God. For Catholics, the Eucharist is no mere symbol of Jesus; we believe that the consecrated Host is actually the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Christ. We take great joy in having this amazing gift that we can see, touch, and even taste. Everyone finds their own ways of spending time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. The most important thing is that it is characterised by reverence and times of silence. Some read from Scripture prayerfully, others sing a hymn of adoration, others simply open themselves to Jesus' loving them and adore him back. The point is to make time for Jesus as you make time for your spouse, your children, your friends any important relationship.

**ARISE Charismatic Prayer Group**

This **Wed, 28 Aug, at 11.30am start**, we will have Dan Hewitt leading in the praise and worship time. Elena Reidy from Deepwater Ministries will be presenting on "He's after our hearts". The meeting will end around 1.30pm with a shared lunch. Prayer ministry is available. **Catholic Charismatic Renewal is running a live-in weekend retreat on Fri, 11-13 Oct at Orchard Glory Farm Resort, Bindoon, all meals and accommodation, twin sharing at \$160 per person. Any enquiries, please call Dan Hewitt at 0409 849 049**



DATE	CHURCH	Parish Centre
Mon 26 Aug	9:00am Mass / 9:30am Rosary 7:30pm Silent Adoration	7:00pm PA Advocate 9 – Rm 3
Tue 27 Aug	9:00am Mass / 9:30am Rosary	4:00pm RE Classes – Hall & All Rooms 7:00pm RCIA – Rm 3 & Kitchen
Wed 28 Aug	9:00am Mass / 9:30am Rosary 11:30am Arise Charismatic Pray Group	9:30am Craft – Rm 3 & Kitchen 11:00am ARISE – Hall & Kitchen
Thu 29 Aug	9:00am Mass / 9:30am Rosary	1.45pm Legion of Mary—Rm 2 7:00pm Meditation Group – Rm 9 7:00pm PA Advocate 9 – Rm 3
Fri, 30 Aug	11.20am Rosary / 12:00noon Mass	9:30am Growing Vine - Rm 3 & Kitchen
Sat 31 Aug	9:00am Mass / Recon / Rosary 5:30pm Vigil Mass	10.30am Men's Group Bible Sharing—DWWJ
Sun 01 Sep	7.30am Mass 9.00am Mass 10.30am Mass 2.30pm Divine Mercy	1st Reading Deut: 4: 1 – 2, 6 - 8 2nd Reading James: 1: 17 – 18, 21 – 22 27 Gospel Reading Mk: 7: 1 – 8,14 –15,21 – 23 7:30pm SVdP – Rm 1

**MINISTRY TEAM**

**Parish Priest:** Fr John Daly ([john.daly@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:john.daly@perthcatholic.org.au))

**Asst Priest:** Fr Carmine-John Millen (Fr C.J) ([cj.millen@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:cj.millen@perthcatholic.org.au))

**Baptisms:** Mary de Wever (9310 2426)

**R.E. Co-Ordinator:** Magdalene Heldt (9312 6952)

**Safeguarding Officers:** Geraldine Richards (0405319824); Lorna Forster (0408886015); [sgo@willettoncatholicparish.org.au](mailto:sgo@willettoncatholicparish.org.au)

**Secretary:** Lyna Chan (9332 5992)

**John Paul Care:** Rosa Pasquale (0417 994 676)

**RCIA:** John Richards (0417933470)



**We welcome into God's family at Sts John & Paul**  
Theodore Augustine Thomas

**RCIA is on Tuesday 27 Aug @ 7pm. The sharing for this week will be "How Catholics pray?"**

Prayer can be formal or informal, verbal or nonverbal, active or contemplative. Prayer is communicating with God. Just as we talk and share with our best friends what is happening in our lives, so we talk and share with God. Just as we listen to our friends, so we listen to God. One of the characteristics of prayer we as Catholics believe is that with the right intention every moment of the day—all our hopes, works, joys, and sufferings—can become our prayer. Catholics pray in different ways. The *Catechism* names three major expressions of prayer: vocal prayer, meditation, and contemplative prayer.



The **2024 Rosary Bouquet** commences Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 6 pm and concludes Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm. All are invited to take part in this Birthday Rosary Bouquet, praying the Rosary anywhere, any time during the 48 hrs. **Please record your name in the timeslot of your choice in which you will be praying the Rosary.** Parish and individual names will be placed with the scroll which will be presented to Bishop Justin Bianchini Emeritus, Bishop of Geraldton during **Mass at St. Joachims, Shepperton Rd, Victoria Park, on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 11am.** **Boards for recording your names in the timeslots have been placed in the church foyer!**

**Volunteers needed to help maintain our beautiful parish gardens. If you can spare some time please contact Alba 08 9310 5484.**

**Ignatian Prayer/Reflections and 'conversations in the spirit'**

Monthly Ignatian prayer exercises and 'conversations in the spirit' in the Willetton Parish hall as follows:

<u>August:</u> Sunday 25 3:00pm – 5:00pm	<u>Prayer focus:</u> Delight and meaning in Mary
<u>September:</u> Sunday 8 3:00pm – 5:00pm	<u>Prayer focus:</u> Breathing in the Creator and an
Thursday 19 10:00am – 12:00pm	Ecological Examen

**The Sunday sessions are a repeat of the Thursday sessions. Participants are encouraged to register in advance at [ignatianspiritualitywa@gmail.com](mailto:ignatianspiritualitywa@gmail.com) or contact Rom Cirillo on 0408 915 235.**

**Hi Fr CJ & Parish,**  
Hope all is well praying for you all.

Week 1: After my arrival in Ireland I celebrated Mass on top of Croagh Patrick on the Wednesday 7th August and again in the Shrine of Knock on Thursday.

Week 2: On the Feast of the Assumption I Stayed overnight in a convent and celebrated Mass that night and again next morning.



Heading into week 3 Sunday was a tough day, where I walked 30KM. Last night I stayed in the ruins of an old priory from the 13th century. So very beautiful.

Say hi to everyone for me including Fr Vincent and let them know I'm praying for them all.

**Fr John**

