



Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Lesmurdie

207 Lesmurdie Road, Lesmurdie 6076 PO Box 3160, Lesmurdie 6076

Ph: 9291 6282 Website: www.ololesmurdie.org.au

Parish Office: Tuesday and Friday 9.00-3.30pm

Please Note: Monday is **Father Mathews DAY OFF** so, unless it is urgent, please wait until Tuesday to contact him. Thank you.

Parish Priest: Father Mathew Raj O.M.I. pp.lesmurdie@perthcatholic.org.au Parish Finance Officer: Mrs. Helen Chew (Tuesdays only) lesmurdie@perthcatholic.org.au	Pastoral Committee: David Vallis 0408 922 456 Safeguarding Officers: Ann Page: annpage66@gmail.com Christine Gibson: christineg968@gmail.com Kristine Griasch: bambigriasch22@gmail.com	Catholic Schools: St. Brigids College: 9290 4200 Mazenod College: 9291 1500 Parish Religion Education Program (PREP) Sue Di Marco: preplesmurdie@gmail.com
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Second Sunday of Advent B / 10th December 2023

<u>SUNDAY MASS TIMES</u> OUR LADY OF LOURDES Saturday Vigil 6.00pm Sunday 8.00am and 9.30am OUR LADY OF GRACE Sunday 8.00am	<u>WEEKDAY MASS TIMES</u> <u>REFER TO MASS TABLE BELOW</u> NO Monday Mass Tuesday: 8.00am Wednesday: 8.00am Thursday: 8.00am Friday: 9.00am	Volunteers are needed for Mass linen washing, Church cleaning, dusting, and watering the garden. Please see Fr. Mathew
<u>RECONCILIATION</u> OUR LADY OF LOURDES Saturday 5.15pm - 5.45pm OUR LADY OF GRACE Sunday Before 8.00am Mass	<u>CELEBRATIONS</u> <u>Baptisms:</u> Contact Parish Office <u>Weddings:</u> Contact Father	<u>FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK</u> 13/12 St. Lucy, virgin, martyr 14/12 St John of the Cross, priest, doctor

PARISH EVENTS:

Next Advent Program by The Prayer Group will be on Thursday 14th December at 11:00am. For more information please contact Kathy 0407 777 387. Everyone is welcome!!

<u>WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS</u>			Planned Giving
Sat 9	6.00pm	Holy Souls	The Planned Giving program is an important part of the Parish as it allows us to maintain all aspects of the Church, Presbytery and Parish Centre. In order to keep the Parish viable we must maintain a target of 95% and above each week. Last week's giving was 82% of target. Thank you!
Sun 10	8.00am	Marie Mason RIP	
	9.30am	Mario Scaravilli RIP	Safeguarding of our children in the Parish The Archdiocesan Safeguarding Project was started in 2016 by Archbishop Timothy Costello SDB with the aim of providing a safe and secure environment for all its members, leaders and especially children and vulnerable adults. Our Lady of Lourdes is committed to creating a safe parish.
Tue 12	8.00am	Holy Souls	
Wed 13	8.00am	Holy Souls	
Thu 14	8.00am	Holy Souls	
Fri 15	9.00am	Holy Souls	
PRAYER FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE IN THE WORLD God of peace and justice, who change the hardened heart and break the power of violence, we entrust to you the people of Ukraine, Israel, Palestine and all peoples who suffer from injustice. Protect them all in this time of peril. Let them know not death but life, not slavery but freedom. You are Father of all. We are brothers and sisters. Give us the strength to live that truth in love, choosing peace not war. Through Christ our Lord. Amen. Mary Our Mother, Queen of Peace, Pray for us.			St Vincent De Paul The Lesmurdie Vinnies conference has placed a Christmas collection box in the Church foyer for donations of appropriate foodstuff to be distributed to the needy over Christmas time. Due to the circumstances this year our Christmas hampers will be made up only from our generosity of non-perishable foods as they are no longer supplied by head office. Please have your donations in by Friday 15th December. Should you'd like to make a cash donation please deposit it in the Poor Box. May the Lord bless your generosity.

SPECIAL PARISH INFORMATION AND ARCHDIOCESAN EVENT

Today's Gospel is taken from the beginning of Mark. Unlike Luke and Matthew, Mark does not include any details of Jesus' birth. Instead Mark begins with the appearance of John the Baptist in the desert. On this the Second Sunday of Advent, we are invited to reflect upon the role of John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus and the salvation that he would bring to us. Mark's description of the appearance of John the Baptist highlights John's continuity with the Jewish prophetic tradition. Mark combines quotations from the Old Testament books of Malachi, Isaiah, and Exodus. Mark's description of John as an ascetic, living in the desert, clothed in camel hair, and eating locusts and wild honey, is reminiscent of the description of the prophet Elijah found in Second Kings. The people of Judea and Jerusalem flock to him, listening to his message of repentance and forgiveness; they also come to him to be baptized. Mark's Gospel is clear, however, that John the Baptist's role is only to prepare the way for another who will come, one who is greater than John.

Many scholars believe that the Gospels reflect the tension that likely existed between followers of John the Baptist and disciples of Jesus. Each of the four Evangelists report on John's preaching and baptizing, and they each emphasize the importance of Jesus' baptism by John. The four Gospels also explain that John was sent to preach in preparation for another. In the Gospel of Luke, the question is raised as to whether John the Baptist was himself the Messiah. Just as in today's Gospel, however, John speaks quite explicitly that the Messiah was to come after him.

In today's Gospel we hear John the Baptist contrast his baptism of repentance with the baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John says that he has baptized with water, but that the one who is to come will baptize with the Holy Spirit. John's baptism was not yet a Christian baptism, but a preparation for the Sacrament of Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.

John the Baptist is presented to us as a model during Advent. We, too, are called upon to prepare a way for the Lord. Like John the Baptist, we are messengers in service to one who is greater than we are. Our Baptism commissions us to call others to life as disciples of Jesus. (Source: Loyola Press)

Choir rehearsals for Christmas 9:30 pm. Vigil Mass.

We will start practising on Wednesday 6th of December at 7:30 pm in the church. Please bring your singing voices, and new members are welcome to join us. Please direct your enquiries to Shirley Spencer at 0448391819.

We will hold a **Christmas Cake and Produce Stall fundraising event** on Sunday, December 17th, after the 8 am and 9:30 am Masses. We are requesting donations of cakes and slices. All proceeds will go towards **upgrading the portable sound system**. Please direct your enquiries to Shirley Spencer at 0448391819 and Kathy Young at 0407777387.

Christmas Busy Bee -next weekend Sat 16th Dec. 8am Volunteers required to help prepare church and garden areas for Christmas celebrations. Please bring your own tools and come along to give the church a Christmas sparkle. Thank you.

Christmas Mass Times

Saturday 23rd 6:00pm. Sunday 24th Christmas Eve Day 6:00pm & 9.30pm
Monday 25th Christmas Day 8:00am & 9:30am

Pickering Brook Masses: Sunday 8:00am & 8:00pm Vigil. Christmas Day 8:00am

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK : Mark Blackwell, Louise Miller, Elvin Fernandez, Matt Don, Pekka Marttinen, Ann Elliott, Barbara Chodorowski, Jim Everett, Colleen Searle, Ralph Leon Mendoza, Olive Ferguson, Emma Newman, Oliver Reid, Marc Fernandes, Mary J Wilson, Reece McCuthcheon, Herman Z, Rita Z, Beatrix Zureich, Phillip Everett, Liz Lennon, Lin Sole, Ryan Campbell, Fiona Ball, Jill Turner, Marjorie Bly, Lucy Barranca, June McGinnity, Katie Searlle, Tom Ryan, Len Brajkovich, Bruno Toffoli, Annemarie Domican, Michael Gillum, Ron Byrnes, Josephine Rondena, Cecilia Norris, Fr. Paul Raj, Fr. Vittorio Ricciardi, Delta & Eris Toop, Patrick M., Blair Richards, Fr. Wayne Davies, Theo Oorschot, Jenny Conti, Mary R., Fevziye R., and those battling with illness ***and all those who have asked for our prayers.***

RECENTLY DECEASED:

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: Marie Mason, Mario Scaravilli. ***Eternal rest unto them O Lord and may Perpetual Light shine upon them.***

DECEMBER	16	17	17		23	24	24
MASS	6PM	8AM	9.30AM		6PM	8AM	9.30AM
PROCLAIMER	Pam	Ellita	Aida		Melanie	Leon	Sue
ACOLYTE	Terry	Richard	George		George	Lou	Dermot
COLLECTION	Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteers		Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteers
MUSIC	S. Spencer	Quiet Mass	Mark & Eddie		S. Spencer	Quiet Mass	Mark & Eddie
CHURCH CLEANER	Pam				Steph B.		

