



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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Third Sunday of Advent B / 17th 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 put your name and contact number in the church foyer.
<u>RECONCILIATION</u> OUR LADY OF LOURDES Saturday 5.15pm - 5.45pm OUR LADY OF GRACE Sunday Before 8.00am Mass	<u>CELEBRATIONS</u> Baptisms: Contact Parish Office Weddings: Contact Father	<u>FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK</u> 21/12 Collect of St. Peter Canisius, priest, doctor 23/12 Collect of St. John of Kanty, priest

PARISH EVENTS:

Next Advent Program by the Prayer Group will be on Thursday 21st December at 11:00am. For more information please contact Kathy 0407 777 387. Everyone is welcome!!

<u>WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS</u>			Planned Giving
Sat 16	6.00pm	Therese Ouwendyk RIP	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 72% of target. Thank you!
Sun 17	8.00am	Albina Spatara RIP	
	9.30am	Bryan Wylie 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 19	8.00am	Holy Souls	
Wed 20	8.00am	Holy Souls	
Thu 21	8.00am	Holy Souls	
Fri 22	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.			Thank you from St Vincent De Paul The Lesmurdie Vinnies would like to thank Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Mazenod College and St Brigid's College for the generous donations of Christmas hampers and finances. So far we have received 64 hampers this year and over 100 families were assisted throughout the year. Should you'd like to make a cash donation please deposit it in the Poor Box. May the Lord bless your generosity. We are looking for more volunteers to help with SVDP.

SPECIAL PARISH INFORMATION AND ARCHDIOCESAN EVENT

This Sunday's Gospel invites us to continue our reflection on the person and mission of John the Baptist. Today we depart from the Gospel of Mark and read a selection from the Gospel of John. The Gospel for today combines a brief passage from the prologue to John's Gospel with a report about John the Baptist. As in Mark's Gospel, the Gospel of John contains no birth narrative. Instead, John's Gospel begins with a theological reflection that has come to be called the "prologue." This prologue places the story of Jesus in its cosmological framework. It speaks of Jesus' existence with God since the beginning of time. In John's Gospel, Jesus is presented as the fulfillment of the Old Testament and the culmination of the Word, the light that is coming into the world's darkness.

Following this prologue, John reports on the ministry of John the Baptist. We learn about the attention that John the Baptist received from the Jewish authorities. Messengers from the Jewish priests, the Levites and the Pharisees question John about his identity and the meaning of the baptisms that he is performing. John's Gospel uses these questions to establish the relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist. John the Baptist is not the Messiah, nor is he Elijah or the Prophet. In John's denials, we hear echoes of the kind of messianic expectations that were common in first-century Palestine.

The only affirmative response that John the Baptist gives is when he quotes the prophet Isaiah. Upon answering the next question, John announces that the saviour they seek is already among them, but as yet unrecognized. John's response highlights for us an important Advent theme: Jesus has already come into the world as our saviour. During Advent, we pray that we will be able to recognize Jesus' presence in our midst. Advent also reminds us that Jesus will come again to fulfill the promise of salvation. We pray that we will continue to be watchful as we anticipate that great day. The third Sunday of Advent is also called *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete*, a Latin word which means "rejoice," is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass. This theme is echoed in today's second reading from the first Letter to the Thessalonians. It is a reminder that Advent is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand. (Source: Loyola Press)

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

Next Christmas choir practice will be on Wednesday 20th 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.

A Big thank you to all Christmas Busy Bee members who came along to clean our church and garden.

Christmas Mass Times

Saturday 23rd 6:00pm. Sunday 24th Christmas Eve Day 6:00pm
Christmas Carols 9:00 pm & Mass 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 McCutcheon, Herman Z, Rita Z, Beatrice Zureich, Phillip Everett, Liz Lennon, Lin Sole, Ryan Campbell, Fiona Ball, Jill Turner, Marjorie Bly, Lucy Barranca, June McGinnity, Katie Searle, 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: Therese Ouwendyk, Albina Spatara, Bryan Wylie. ***Eternal rest unto them O Lord and may***

DECEMBER	23	24	24	24	24	24	25	25
MASS	6PM	8AM	9.30AM		6PM	9:30PM	8AM	9.30AM
PROCLAIMER	Melanie	Leon	Sue		Christine	Volunteer	Chris L.	Sabrina
ACOLYTE	George	Lou	Dermot		George	Richard	Lou	Dermot
COLLECTION	Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteers		Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteers
MUSIC	S. Spencer	Quiet Mass	Mark & Eddie		Mark & Eddie	Choir	S. Spencer	S. Spencer
CHURCH CLEANER	Steph B.				Maggie D.			

