Parish of Saint Joseph, Subiaco EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 3 August 2025

Let us remember in our prayers ...

Recently deceased: Kath O'Brien, David Wiles, Frances Banfield-Dwyer

Anniversaries: Alfia Houlahan, Maria Granados, Kevin Carton, John Hay, Claire Long

Sick: Ken Metcalf, Beula Reddy, Joan Travers, Joseph Martino, Alan, Max Baldock, Tom Brennan, Yvette Henderson, Peter McEvoy, Sr Deidre Brown IBVM, Celine Williams, Joseph Sheahan, Peter Costelloe, Catherine, Bart Welten, Marilyn Mirabella, Stephen Hill,

Archbishop Barry James Hickey, Mimi Epstein, Kaja, Marie Hebble

TWIN BROTHERS LAUNCH ONLINE PLATFORM

By Kielce Gussie

Digital missionaries Charbel and Giovanni use social media to share the culture and traditions of Christians in the Middle East in the midst of persecution.

Among the crowds of thousands of young people who have embarked on journeys from every corner of the globe to partake in the Jubilee of Digital Missionaries and Catholic Influencers and the Jubilee of Youth this week are twin brothers from Lebanon: Charbel and Giovanni Lteif. With more than 600,000 followers on their Instagram account "eastern_christians", the brothers have dedicated their page to sharing information on Christians living in the Middle East and North Africa. Rather than seeing themselves as influencers, they describe their work as continuing a centuries-old mission. Giovanni explained their mission began two millennia ago with Jesus. "We've been continuing it because it's the responsibility of every generation to take it and strengthen it and pass it down." He stressed that "it's our generation's time to contribute to our faith and community." "When you're born a Christian in the Middle East," Charbel continued, "you're born with a mission." He shared that their culture, identity, and traditions have been passed down for generations since the early Christians, and the brothers feel they have the responsibility to keep "this beautiful gift" going.

And the two recognise this task extends far beyond the Middle East but to the ends of the earth — and social media has made that possible. In the age of TikToks, reels, and likes, Charbel and Giovanni stress that their "eastern_christians" account is not just a social media page. "It's the best means to get the word out there to reach people and to raise awareness", Giovanni explained.

The motivation behind their account wasn't just to add more information to a world full of news and data. As Charbel described, it was an opportunity to change the narrative and move from passive to active, from only talking about what was being done to Eastern Christians to recounting who they are. "We are more than what's being done to us. We are art. We are music. We are faith. We are resilience", he stressed. Through their posts, the brothers are able to "create a voice for our people" in the midst of modern-day persecution and challenges.

For decades, life for Christians in the Middle East has been riddled with difficulties. One recent study showed that in the last century the percentage of Christians in the region dropped from 13.6% to 4.2%. "It's the first time in our history and it's happening while we are alive in right now", Charbel stressed, saying there have been other periods of persecution but not like the one today. The solution, is not leaving their homeland. "We don't want to flee something we've been fighting for for two thousand years. It's our identity; it's our home ...This is not a solution for us." Charbel explained the solution they want is to live happily in the Middle East with dignity. Reaching 800,000 followers across all the social media platforms was something the brothers attribute to prayer and the Holy Spirit. But it also enabled them to do something for their community, the world, and for Christians everywhere. So being in Rome for the Jubilee of Digital Missionaries and Catholic Influencers was extra special for these Instagramers. "I think the Vatican is trying to send a message to the world of how important it is for us as Catholics and as Christians to be on social media", Charbel shared. "Social media is a very powerful tool", Giovanni pointed out, reiterating that the brothers carry a big responsibility in their digital mission work. "What keeps us going and steadfast in what we do is simply our Christian values. Once you hold on to your Christian values, there's nothing of which to be scared."

Published in Vatican News on 29 July

Read more at vaticannews.va/en.html

EXPLORING THE SEASONS OF GRIEF

Register by 8 August

Exploring the Seasons of Grief is a small group (4-7 participants), peer-based educational program made up of four sessions to be held on 15, 22, 29 August and 5 September.

The series offers the opportunity for individual reflection and group discussion. The sessions aim to build resilience and bring peace and hope to adults who have experienced significant change or loss. Grief may be due to any number of experiences: bereavement, relationship breakdown, moving to a new country, job loss, experiencing a natural disaster etc. Exploring the Seasons of Grief provides an opportunity to examine how loss and grief have impacted on one's life. It imparts knowledge, skills and attitudes to enable participants to understand and manage their grief experience. Each session begins at 9.30am (with morning tea provided) and finishes at 1pm. Cost is \$26 for the Seasons for Growth: Exploring the Seasons of Grief journal.

All sessions will be held at the Catholic Pastoral Centre, 40A Mary St, Highgate. Contact Catholic Outreach on 9422 7920 or outreach@perthcatholic.org.au to register or for further information.

Parish Priest	Monsignor Kevin Long PhD	Office Manager	Jo-Anne Robinson	
Falish Filest	kevin.long@perthcatholic.org.au	Office Mariager	jrobinson@stjosephssubiaco.org.au	
Pastoral Associate	Sr Marie Fitzgerald RSM	Sacramental Coordinator &	Elaine Eng 0422 481 299	
	marie.fitzgerald@mercy.org.au	Safeguarding Officer	elaine.eng@stjosephssubiaco.org.au	
Sacristan, Funeral and	Claudia O'Malley 0408 186 790	Madding Constant	Elizabeth Ogilvie	
Liturgy Coordinator	enquiries@stjosephssubiaco.org.au	Wedding Secretary	weddings@stjosephssubiaco.org.au	
Director of Music	Catherine Haydon	Financial Divertor (Hanavard)	Peter Farrer-Smith FCPA FCIS AFAIM	
	catherine@catherinehaydon.com	Financial Director (Honorary)	peter.farrer-smith@cewa.edu.au	
Youth Ambassador	Tina Perez	Parish Pastoral Council Chair	Anne Birt	
	youth@stjosephssubiaco.org.au	Parish Pastoral Council Chair	enquiries@stjosephssubiaco.org.au	
Safeguarding Officers	Anthea Wilkinson 0417 179 773	St Vincent de Paul Society	Belinda Becker	
	Belinda Becker 0422 452 058	Subiaco Conference	Subiaco.President@svdpwa.org.au	
	Paul Carpenter 0487 608 803	Lithana Mission	Rod Pereira	
	safeguarding@stjosephssubiaco.org.au	Uthana Mission	ask@uthanamission.org.au	

WEEKLY HYMNS

9am & 5pm, Sunday 3 August

Lyrics are available on the Parish website via the QR code (right), or by visiting **stjosephssubiaco.org.au/lyrics**. Hymn books are also available at Church entrances. Please return them at the conclusion of Mass.

Mass	Entrance	Offertory	Communion	Recessional
9am	Come to the	Companions on the	The Summons (335) Abide With Me (4)	Glory be to God in Heaven
5pm	Feast (77)	Journey (82)	The Summons (335) O God Our Help in Ages Past (252)	(128)



ST JOSEPH'S UPCOMING EVENTS

Young Family Group

Youth Group

Faith Formation for Little Tots

August

10 August

3 August

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH RETREAT

1pm, Saturday 30 August 2025, Parish Upper Room

The St Joseph's Parish Retreat this year will be led by parishioner The Honorable Peter Quinlan. Commencing at 1pm and concluding with the Vigil Mass at 5pm, the theme of the afternoon is 'The God Who Lies Hidden'. Attendance is limited to parishioners due to restricted numbers. Register at **trybooking.com/DCSUU** or via the **QR code**.



MONSIGNOR KEVIN



Next weekend's Catholic Mission Appeal will invite you to partner with our missionaries in Zambia to help vulnerable women overcome poverty and to give birth safely. Your gift will also assist many other similar Catholic Mission programmes throughout the developing world. Please give generously by using the appeal envelope

provided or going online at <u>catholicmission.org.au/mission</u>. Should you be keen to support the work of Catholic Mission through a bequest, as a volunteer or in other ways, please email Francis Leong at <u>fleong@catholicmission.org.au</u> to explore the possibilities.

ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS SEMINAR

10am, Tuesday 12 August, St Emilie De Vialar Parish, Canning Vale

Safeguarding and Advocare are collaborating to present this event covering Elder Abuse / Staying Safe, Access to Aged Care and the Care Finders Program. To register for this FREE event, visit trybooking.com/events/landing/1439840.

UWA CHORAL SOCIETY

2.30pm, Sunday 3 August, St Patrick's Basilica Fremantle

Join the UWA Choral Society in a celebration of "Rutter's Magnificat" & Elgar's "Sea Pictures" plus "Now may we singen" by Cecilia McDowell. Tickets are available at **trybooking.com/events/landing/1415278**.

CATHOLIC MAN BREAKFAST SERIES

7am, Thursday 11 September, Duxton Hotel

Hosted by Most Rev. Don Sproxton, Auxiliary Bishop of Perth, The Chief Justice of WA, Peter Quinlan, will speak at this breakfast event. Tickets available at app.tickets.org.au/MA/CMBSper25. For enquiries and information please contact Ray Gourlay on 0408 923 068.

MASS TIMES (Subject to change - refer to Parish Diary for latest information)		
Tuesday	5.30pm	
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday	9am	
Saturday Reconciliation	4.30pm	
Saturday Vigil	5pm	
Sunday	9am & 5pm	

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS		
Office	Tuesday - Friday: 9.30am to 4.30pm	
Phone 9381 0400		
Postal PO Box 568, Wembley 6913		
Email enquiries@stjosephssubiaco.org.au		
Website	www.stjosephssubiaco.org.au	

PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS	First Collection EFT Details		
	Account Name:	St Joseph's Presbytery Subiaco	
	BSB:	086 006	
	Account #:	887 970 525	
	Reference:	Name	

Second Collection EFT Details
Account Name: St Joseph's Church Subiaco
BSB: 086 006
Account #: 564 990 302
Reference: Name

		TAMONDIAM		, MONSIGHON NEVIN
Sunday		Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time		
•	10.30am	Upper Room: Sacramental Preparation Classes		
3 August	11.30am	Baptism: Campbell Lee O'Callaghan	Monsignor Keating	
Monday		St John Vianney, Priest, Memorial		
4 August				
Tuesday 5 August		Tuesday, Week 18 of Ordinary Time		- Funeral Service
		Optional: Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major		@ Pinnaroo
	2pm	Upper Room: St Joseph's Ladies Book Club		- Interment of
	5pm	Church: Adult Confirmations	firmations Monsignor Kevin	
	6pm	Upper Room: St Vincent de Paul Meeting		Ashes
Wednesday 6 August		The Transfiguration of the Lord, Feast		Anglican
	10am	Upper Room: Ladies' Prayer Group		Professional
	5.30pm	Upper Room: Centering Prayer		Standards Meeting
Thursday		Thursday, Week 18 of Ordinary Time		
Thursday 7 August		Optional: St Sixtus II, Pope, Martyr & Companions; St Cajetan, Priest		
	5pm	Wedding Rehearsal: Ellena Blair & Aidan Walsh	Fr Christian Irdi	
Friday		St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Virgin, Solemnity		
8 August				
		Saturday, Week 18 of Ordinary Time		
Saturday		Optional: St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin, Martyr		
9 August	1pm	Nuptial Mass: Ellena Blair & Aidan Walsh	Fr Christian Irdi	
	3pm	Upper Room: First Holy Communion Preparation Class		

PARISH DIARY