

*Let us remember in our prayers ...*

**Recently deceased:** Bishop Emeritus Peter Elliott, Doreen Chong, Sean Conway, Peter Hibble

**Anniversaries:** Pat Campion, Carmel Long, Geoff Ward, Georgia & Glenn Lewis, Antonio Gangemi, Donatina Germano, Patricia Boyle

**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, Mal Lamond

MERCY BEFORE RULES

By Peter Roe SM

Cries rise and fall between moments of heavy silence. In such a place, the only instinct that matters is to bind wounds. Lest we forget, Pope Francis once said, “I see the Church as a field hospital after battle. It’s useless to ask a seriously injured person if he has high cholesterol. You have to heal his wounds, and then we can talk about everything else.”

A field hospital isn’t sterile. It’s noisy, rushed, and stitched together on the fly. You treat people where they’ve fallen; before the shooting stops, before they’ve cleaned up, before they even know what’s happened to them. We see what happens when we wait for people to tidy up their lives before offering the assistance they need. It’s not a great “ministry” model.

Francis put his idea of the Church as a field hospital plainly in an interview: *The thing the Church needs most today is the capacity to bind wounds and warm hearts. Proximity. Closeness. You don’t ask someone who’s just been blown apart about their cholesterol levels. You stop the bleeding first. Everything else can wait.*

The image of the Church as a field hospital is in the Gospels, where Jesus first touches the leper, then speaks; first lifts the woman bent double, then calls her daughter. Mercy comes before rules, presence before doctrine, touch before teaching.

- In the ordinary rhythms of life, this is not theory. It looks like the neighbour bringing soup to someone who is having chemo.
- It sounds like a friend listening through the night during a devastating life-or-death situation.
- It feels like someone supporting the parents of a disadvantaged child.

We don’t have to go searching for these sacred spaces of mercy; they’re everywhere.

The Church, in this sense, is not just the clergy or an institution; it is everyone: the people of God, believers who respond to the pain around them with presence, patience, and compassion. We carry this ‘field hospital’ into our kitchens, workplaces, classrooms, and bus stops. And it is work we do together; Field hospitals rely on teams. In the Church, that means small groups who pray for the sick, parish ministries that stand with the disadvantaged, friends who walk with the bereaved, and communities that advocate for justice. This way of living means practising nonjudgmental presence:

- Listening before speaking.
- Holding space before offering solutions.
- Turning everyday spaces into places of mercy.

It means gossip gives way to encouragement, cynicism to kindness and bullying to empathy.

Truth be told, the Church won’t be recognised for its creeds or committees. It’ll be known for how it shows up in times of need and for how ordinary folks respond to extraordinary pain, not with polished theology, but with compassion.

We may not have all the answers. But if we love well, if we walk with instead of preach at, maybe that’s enough.

Maybe, that’s where the Church most looks like Christ.

*Published in Flashes of Insight on 19 August* [Read more at flashesinsight.com/](#)

**KSC EDUCATION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS**

Teachers working in Catholic Schools are invited to apply to the 2025 KSC Education Foundation Scholarship Program to study Religious Education and Theology Units at the University of Notre Dame in 2026. Successful applicants will have the opportunity to deepen their knowledge and contribute meaningfully to their school communities, nurturing faith and academic excellence. Applications open on 1 September and close on 27 October 2025. For further information please contact [office@kscwa.org.au](#) or phone 9368 250. Online application forms will be available from 1 September at [wa.ksca.org.au/KSC-Education-Foundation.html](#).

**ADULT FAITH OPPORTUNITIES: CENTRE FOR FAITH ENRICHMENT** **Newman Siena Centre, 33 Williamstown Road, Doubleview**


- After Life: The Eschaton – Our Living Hope: 10am, Thursdays, 28 August – 25 September, Ms Natalie Thomas
- Boundaries: Living in the Freedom of the Children of God: 10am, Thursdays, 16 October – 20 November, Ms Natalie Thomas
- Unpacking the Gospel Matthew: Themes, Figures and Events: 10am, Fridays, 14 November – 5 December, Mr Joe Tedesco
- Advent: Hail, Full of Grace! A Study of the Blessed Virgin Mary: 10am, Thursdays, 27 November – 11 December, Ms Natalie Thomas

**ONLINE**

- One Lord Jesus Christ: An Introduction to Christology: 7.30pm, Wednesdays, 22 October – 26 November, Dr Thomas Gourlay

For registration and further information about all courses, [visit cfe.org.au](#), [email cfe@perthcatholic.org.au](#) or [phone 9278 0261](#).

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

WEEKLY HYMNS					9am & 5pm, Sunday 24 August
Lyrics are available on the Parish website via the QR code (right), or by visiting <a href="#">stjosephssubiaco.org.au/lyrics</a> . Hymn books are also available at Church entrances. Please return them at the conclusion of Mass.					
Mass	Entrance	Offertory	Communion	Recessional	
9am	All People that on	One Bread, One	Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty (164)	Go Tell Everyone	
5pm	Earth do Dwell (13)	Body (272)	How Great is Our God (169)	(131)	

ST JOSEPH’S UPCOMING EVENTS		
Young Family Group	Youth Group	Faith Formation for Little Tots
19 October	24 August	24 August

**MESSAGE FROM ST VINCENT DE PAUL SUBIACO CONFERENCE**

This year, the St Vincent de Paul Society celebrates its 160-year anniversary in Western Australia. From it's humble beginnings, the Society has grown to 3,500 volunteers servicing more than 55,000 West Australians every year.

The Subiaco Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society extends heartfelt thanks to the parishioners of St Joseph’s Parish for your generous support over the past financial year. Your contributions — the donation of non-perishable foods and winter items during our Christmas and Winter Appeal, and financial donations through the poor box, candle sales, and monthly debit donations — have made a meaningful difference. With rising requests for assistance, our members have carried out 210 visits this year and continue to support those in need across Shenton Park, Subiaco, West Leederville, Daglish, West Perth, Northbridge, and Perth CBD. We are deeply grateful for our ongoing relationship with St Joseph’s Parish and look forward to continuing this shared mission of service and compassion. Thank you for helping us bring hope and dignity to those who need it most.

**UPCOMING EVENTS AT NEW NORCIA HOSTEL**

**Music of Einaudi & Yiruma: Popular Piano Composers**

**27 September**

This recital will showcase the music of two contemporary composers, Ludovico Einaudi and Yiruma. Coming from Italy and Korea respectively, these two composer-performers have become phenomenally popular. The music style combines classical and contemporary and is both touching and accessible.

Both evenings will commence at 6.30pm and be accompanied by dishes prepared by Abbot John to suit the music.

Cost is \$120 per person per event including fine food and cocktails. Bookings: [shop.newnoria.com.au/collections/special-items](#)

**Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber: Hits from the Musicals**

**6 December**

Fr Robert Nixon OSB will present virtuosic piano arrangements of many of Andrew Lloyd Webber’s musical hits. In what promises to be an unforgettable evening a number of special guest vocalists will also be featured. Guests are welcome to dress as a character from any of Lloyd-Webber's musicals.

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

PARISH DIARY				MONSIGNOR KEVIN
Sunday 24 August	8.45am	<b>Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Lawn Area: <i>Blessing of the Camino Salvado Pilgrims</i> Baptism: <i>Zenkosi Elias Maguchu</i> Upper Room: <i>Private Function</i> Wedding Service: <i>Private</i> Baptism: <i>Ariana Arcuri-Tonizzo</i> Baptism: <i>Leonardo Joshua Chiaravalle</i> Nuptial Mass: <i>Marian Tumbocon &amp; Randolf Refullido</i> Upper Room: <i>Youth Group</i>	<i>Monsignor Kevin</i> <i>Monsignor Kevin</i>	
	9.45am			
	10am			
	10.30am			
	11.30am			
	12.15pm			
Monday 25 August	2pm	<b>Monday, Week 21 of Ordinary Time</b> <i>Optional: St Louis; St Joseph Calasanz</i>	<i>Fr Oscar Aguilera</i> <i>Fr Oscar Aguilera</i> <i>Monsignor Kevin</i>	
	6pm			
Tuesday 26 August	5pm 6pm	<b>Tuesday, Week 21 of Ordinary Time</b> Church: <i>First Sacraments</i> Upper Room: <i>St Vincent de Paul Meeting</i>	<i>Monsignor Kevin</i>	
Wednesday 27 August	10am	<b>St Monica, Memorial</b> Upper Room: <i>Ladies’ Prayer Group</i> Wedding Rehearsal: <i>Carrie Sharples &amp; Luke Vivarelli</i> Upper Room: <i>Centering Prayer</i>	<i>Fr Adam Babinski SDS</i>	
	2.30pm			
	5.30pm			
Thursday 28 August		<b>St Augustine, Bishop, Doctor, Memorial</b>		<i>Lumen Christi</i> <i>College Blessing</i> <i>Lumen Christi</i> <i>College Blessing</i>
Friday 29 August	2pm	<b>The Passion of St John the Baptist, Martyr, Memorial</b> Wedding Service: <i>Carrie Sharples &amp; Luke Vivarelli</i>	<i>Fr Adam Babinski SDS</i>	
Saturday 30 August	1pm 3pm	<b>Saturday, Week 21 of Ordinary Time</b> Upper Room: <i>Parish Retreat</i> Church: <i>First Holy Communion Preparation Class</i>		