

We light advent candles with just that in mind, accepting that changing the wind is a long process, that the evening news will not always be positive, the stock markets will not always rise, the most sophisticated defenses in the world will not always protect us from terrorism, and secular liberal and conservative ideologies will not rid this planet of selfishness.

But we continue to light candles and hope anyway, not on the basis of a worsening or improving evening newscast, but because the deepest reality of all is that God exists, that the centre holds, that there's ultimately a gracious Lord who rules this universe, and this Lord is powerful enough to rearrange the atoms of the planet and raise dead bodies to new life. We light candles of hope because God, who is more real than anything else, has promised to establish a kingdom of love and peace on this earth and is gracious, forgiving, and powerful enough to do it.

Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI

December Parish Events

Saturday 2 – Thank You Mass and Supper
Wednesday 6 – CBC Mass in Basilica
Friday 8 – SPPS Graduation Mass
Thursday 14 – Catholic Missions Carols

Wednesday 20 – 2nd Rite Reconciliation
Sunday 24 – Christmas Eve
Monday 25 – Christmas Day
Sunday 31 – New Year's Eve

2nd Rite of Reconciliation

Let us prepare ourselves for the Birth of Christ Jesus by attending Reconciliation as a community.
2nd Rite of Reconciliation will be held on Wednesday 22 December at 7pm in the Basilica. All Welcome.

Sacred Heart Sodality

We wish to invite all friends of the Sacred Heart Sodality to join us at Mass every 4th Sunday of the month at 8:30am. Next Mass will be held on **Sunday 24 December 2017**. New members always welcome. For further information, please contact the Parish Office.

Final Parishioner Morning Tea & Christmas Raffle

Come along and enjoy the final morning tea with fellow parishioners and the Annual Christmas Raffle will also be drawn **after 8.30am Mass on Sunday 17 December 2017 ALL WELCOME!**

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy is held every First and Third Sundays of the Month at the 8:30am Mass in the Children's Chapel, located just inside the side foyer of the Basilica. All Children Welcome!

Liturgies will be held on Sunday 3 and 17 December.

*Children's Mass will be celebrated on (Christmas Eve) Sunday 24 December at 6pm, with Carols prior at 5.45pm. This is a special event in the life of the Parish and every year the children take part in the Christmas presentation of the Gospel and all other aspects of the Mass. This year's preparations for the Children's Mass will take place during the children's liturgy on Sundays. **Rehearsal for the Christmas Eve Mass will be held on Saturday 16 December at 8.30am in the Basilica.***

MAMI Christmas Cards



Give someone a Gift of Hope this Christmas
MAMI Christmas Gift Cards: a gift that keeps on giving for the entire year and beyond.

Chickens \$10; Development \$15; Toolbox \$15; China \$25; Goat \$35

Supported by the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate
Cards available from the Parish Office, Mon to Fri 9am to 3pm

Volunteer Christmas Readers and Communion Ministers

We are seeking Readers and Communion Ministers for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses in the Basilica. If you can be of assistance please contact the parish office, Mon to Fri 9am to 3pm.

Sunday 24 December (Christmas Eve):	Normal Roster for 7am, 8.30am and 11am. Evening Mass will be at 6pm which is the Children's Mass.
Sunday 24 December (Christmas Eve):	Readers and Communion Ministers required for: 8.30pm Mass and Midnight Mass.
Monday 25 December (Christmas Day):	Readers and Communion Ministers required for: 7am, 8.30am, 11am, No evening Mass on Christmas Day

Advent Carol Service – St John’s Anglican Church, Fremantle

Sunday 3 December at 7pm

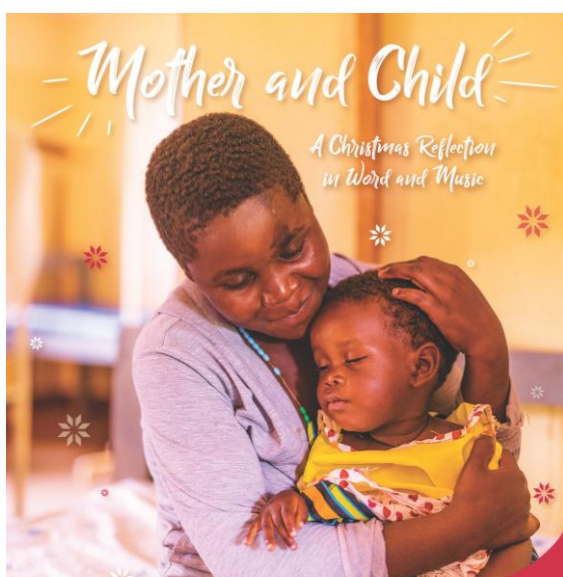
After a hiatus last year, we return to St John’s Anglican in Fremantle for the Advent Carol Service.

Join us for a wonderful opportunity to commence the Advent Season in a service of readings and music alongside our fellow Christians at.

The Basilica Choir joins with the St John’s Choir under the direction of their Director of Music, Daniel Masmanian, with our Director of Music, Dominic Perissinotto, at the organ.



Catholic Missions Christmas Reflection



This event is proudly supported by:  ST JOHN OF GOD Health Care  catholic mission Reach out. Give life.

Thursday 14 December, 7pm
The Basilica of St Patrick, Fremantle

Join us for a beautiful evening of sacred music, readings and congregational carols to highlight the meaning of the Christmas gospel in our world today.

Reflection by Emeritus Bishop Justin Bianchini.
Eva-Marie Middleton (soprano), Paul Wright (violin),
Dominic Perissinotto (organ) & The Basilica Choir
Come a little early to enjoy the organ recital from 6.30pm.

In partnership with St John of God Health Care, the Basilica of St Patrick and the University of Notre Dame.
Held in support of Catholic Mission’s work overseas supporting maternal and child healthcare in Uganda.

Tickets: Adults \$30 / Concessions \$20 / 12 and under FREE / \$10 ‘One for Another’ *
www.trybooking.com/SWMO/ or at the door

*We will pass this ticket to a homeless or otherwise disadvantaged person so they too can share in the beauty of Christmas and enjoy a light supper beforehand. If you would like to volunteer your time to help out with the supper for the homeless before the concert, please call Katie on 9422 7933 or email to relations.cm@perthcatholic.org.au

Fremantle Christmas Mass Timetable

SATURDAY 23 DECEMBER

Basilica Reconciliation

9.30am-10.30am, 10.30am-11.30am (Italian)
11am-12noon, and 4.30pm-5.30pm
Basilica Masses 12.10pm and 6pm

CHRISTMAS EVE - SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER

Basilica 7am, 8.30am and 11am

Carols 5.45pm prior to 6pm Children’s Mass

Carols at 8pm prior to 8.30pm Mass

Carols at 11.30pm prior to Midnight Mass

Holy Spirit Chapel, Notre Dame University

Carols at 4.30pm prior to 5pm Mass

St Anne’s Church, North Fremantle

8.15am; Carols at 6.15pm prior to 6.30pm Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY

MONDAY 25 DECEMBER

Basilica 7am, 8.30am, 9.45am (Italian) and 11am
NO EVENING MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY
St Anne’s Church, North Fremantle 8.15am

NEW YEAR’S EVE

SUNDAY 31 DECEMBER

Basilica

7am, 8.30am, 9.45am (Italian), 11am and 5pm

St Anne’s Church, North Fremantle 8.15am

NEW YEAR’S DAY

MONDAY 1 JANUARY 2018

Basilica 12.10pm

Rosters for December 2017

If you are unable to attend on your rostered day please find a replacement. If you see a problem with the roster then please contact the Parish Office on 9335 2268 and ask that the information be passed on to Angie Emanuele.

Readers

Date	Saturday Vigil 6:00pm	Sunday 7:00am	Sunday 8:30am	Sunday 11:00am	Sunday 5:00pm
2/3 (1)	Joan Swindells Tonia Petrucci	Gabriel Newman	Pamela Cattalini Danielle Cattalini	Mary Jardine-Clarke Doratheia Randazzo	Sr Lynn Chua
9/10 (2)	Position Vacant John Gilmour	Chris Banasik Nola Banasik	Monica Lacey Christine Brown	Graham Mosley Mara Sticca	Position Vacant Lyn Tomlinson
16/17 (3)	Lyn Jensen John Gilmour	Gabriel Newman	Mary Ann Yeats Position Vacant	Margaret Sheridan Lani Lanzara	Anne Greenwood Sr Lynn Chua
23/24 (4)	Pat Pettigrew Tonia Petrucci	Beatrice Yong	Susanne Sutton Ultan Stephenson	Krystyna Pacyne Position Vacant	Bill Sands Sr Lynn Chua
30/31 (5)	Joan Swindells Tonia Petrucci	Gabriel Newman	Pamela Cattalini Danielle Cattalini	Mary Jardine-Clarke Doratheia Randazzo	Sr Lynn Chua

Communion Ministers

Date	Saturday Vigil 6:00pm	Sunday 7:00am	Sunday 8:30am	Sunday 11:00am	Sunday 5:00pm
2/3 (1)	Tonia Petrucci Frances Gilmour John Gilmour	Sarah Bottoli	Position Vacant Pauline Ivandich Brian Tuana Anne-Marie Cross	Krystyna Pacyne Max Thompson Mark De Klyver Mary Smith	Ligia Seal Lyn Tomlinson Sr Fely
9/10 (2)	John Gilmour Marlene Dullard Frances Gilmour	Sarah Bottoli	Mary-Ann Yeats Christine Brown Pamela Cattalini Teresa Ducali	Doratheia Randazzo P Grootelaar M Sheridan Max Thompson	Ligia Seal Sr Melanie
16/17 (3)	John Gilmour Frances Gilmour Marlene Dullard	Sarah Bottoli	Mary-Ann Yeats Position Vacant Pamela Cattalini Anne-Marie Cross	Position Vacant Brenda Earl Max Thompson Mark De Klyver	Lyn Tomlinson Sr Lynn Chua
23/24 (4)	John Gilmour Marlene Dullard Tonia Petrucci	Beatrice Yong	Teresa Ducali Pauline Ivandich Anne-Marie Cross Position Vacant	Krystyna Pacyne P Grootelaar Doratheia Randazzo M Sheridan	Sr Lynn Chua
30/31 (5)	Tonia Petrucci Frances Gilmour John Gilmour	Sarah Bottoli	Position Vacant Pauline Ivandich Brian Tuana Anne-Marie Cross	Krystyna Pacyne Max Thompson Mark De Klyver Mary Smith	Ligia Seal Lyn Tomlinson Sr Fely

Music Ministry

Dominic Perissinotto – Organist and Director of Music

Date	Liturgy	Saturday 6.00pm	Sunday 8.30am	Sunday 11.00am	Sunday 5.00pm
2/3 (1)	1 st SUNDAY IN ADVENT	The Basilica Choir	Aria Roy	Aria Roy	Grace Feltoe
9/10 (2)	2 nd SUNDAY IN ADVENT	Theodore Murphy-Jelly	Caitlin Rowe	The Basilica Choir	Stephen De Filippo
16/17 (3)	3 rd SUNDAY IN ADVENT	Laura Pitts	Delia Price	The Basilica Choir	Gilbert Rodgers
23/24 (4)	4 th SUNDAY IN ADVENT	Fleuranne Brockway	Emma Adele Ashton	The Basilica Choir	No 5pm Mass

Sunday 24 (4)	CHRISTMAS VIGIL	6:00pm Children's Mass		Emma Adele Ashton	
	CHRISTMAS VIGIL	8:00pm Carols before 8:30pm Vigil Mass		The Basilica Choir	
	CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT	11:30pm Carols before Midnight Mass		The Basilica Choir	
Monday 25 (4)	CHRISTMASDAY	8:30am Mass	Fleuranne Brockway	11:00am Mass	Eva-Marie Middleton



Fremantle Catholic Community Monthly Bulletin **'The Patrician'**



LIGHTING ADVENT CANDLES

To light a candle is an act of hope.

In the days of apartheid in South Africa, Christians there used to light candles and place them in windows as a sign to themselves and to others that they believed that someday this injustice would end. A candle burning in a window was a sign of hope and a political statement. The government didn't miss the message. It passed a law making it illegal to place a lit candle in a window, the offense being equal to owning a firearm, both considered equally dangerous. This eventually became a joke among the kids: "Our government is afraid of lit candles!"

They had reason to be! Lit candles, more than firearms, overthrew apartheid. Hope, not guns, is what ultimately transforms things. To light a candle as an act of hope is to say to yourself and to others that, despite anything that might be happening in the world, you are still nursing a vision of peace and unity based upon something beyond the present state of things and this hope is based upon deeper realities and powers than the world admits. To light a candle is to state publicly that you believe that what's real and what isn't is ultimately determined by powers and issues that go beyond what's seen on the evening news. To light a candle is an act of political defiance. It's also an act of hope.

What is hope?

First of all, it's not wishful thinking. I can wish to win a lottery, but that wish, all by itself, contains no real power to make it happen. Second, hope is not just natural optimism, an upbeat temperament that always sees the bright side of things. An unwavering optimism about things can sometimes even be helpful, but it's no basis for hope, like wishful thinking it lacks the power to make its own dream come true. Finally, hope is not simply shrewd observation and common sense, the talent for sorting out the real from the fluff. Useful as this is, it's still not hope. Why not?

Because hope doesn't base itself upon a shrewd assessment of the empirical facts, but upon belief in a deeper set of realities: God's existence, God's power, God's goodness, and the promise that flows from that.

There's a story told about Pierre Teilhard de Chardin that helps illustrate this. Teilhard wasn't much given to wishful thinking or even to an optimistic temperament, but tended rather towards a lonely realism. Yet he was a man of real hope. For example, on one occasion, after giving a conference within which he laid out an historical vision of unity and peace for the world that paralleled the vision of scripture, he was challenged by some colleagues to this effect: "That's a wonderful, idealistic vision of things, but suppose we blow-up the world with a nuclear bomb, what happens to your vision then?" "That would set things back some millions of years," he replied, "but this will still come to fruition, not because I say so or because the facts right now indicate that it will, but because God promised it and in the resurrection of Jesus has shown that He is powerful enough to deliver on that promise."

Hope, as we can see from this, requires both faith and patience. It works like yeast, not like a microwave oven. Jim Wallis, the founder of Sojourners, expresses this colourfully: "All politicians are alike," he says, "they hold a finger up and check which way the wind is blowing and then make their decisions in that direction. That will never change, even if we change politicians. So we must change the wind! That's hope's task – to change the wind!"

When we look at what has morally changed this world – from the great religious traditions coming out of deserts, caves, and catacombs and helping morally leaven whole cultures to apartheid being overthrown in South Africa – we see that it has happened precisely when individuals and groups lit candles and hoped long enough until the wind did change.

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Parish Office



Basilica of St Patrick
47 Adelaide St, Fremantle WA 6160
Phone: (08) 9335 2268 Fax: (08) 9430 6076
Parish Office email: parishoffice@oblates.com.au
Parish Web Page: fremantlestpatricks.org.au
Office Hours: Monday to Friday: 9:00am – 3:00pm
Closed Weekends and Public Holidays