



Fremantle Catholic Community  
**Monthly Bulletin**  
**‘The Patrician’**  
 February 2019



**THE ASHES OF LENT**  
 FR RON ROLHEISER OMI

We begin the season of lent with ashes on our foreheads. What is symbolized by this smudging? Perhaps the heart understands better than the head because more people go to church on Ash Wednesday than on any other day of the year, including Christmas. The queues to receive the ashes in many churches are endless. Why? Why are the ashes so popular?

Their popularity, I suspect, comes from the fact that, as a symbol, they are blunt, primal, archetypal, and speak the language of the soul. Something inside each of us knows exactly why we take the ashes: “Dust thou art and into dust thou shalt return!” No doctor of metaphysics need explain this. Ashes are dust and dust is soil, humus; humanity and humility come from there. It is no accident that ashes have always been a major symbol within all religions. To put on ashes, to sit in ashes, is to say publicly and to yourself that you are reflective, in a penitential mode, that this is not “ordinary time” for you, that you are not in a season of celebration, that you are grieving some of the things you have done and lost, that some important work is going on silently inside you, and that you are, metaphorically and really, in the cinders of a dead fire, waiting for a fuller day in your life.

All of this has deep roots. There is something innate to the human soul that knows that, every so often, one must make a journey of descent, be smudged, lose one’s lustre, and wait while the ashes do their work. All ancient traditions, be they religious or purely mythical, abound with stories of having to sit in the ashes. We all know, for example, the story of Cinderella. This is a centuries-old, wisdom-tale that speaks about the value of ashes. The name, Cinderella, itself already says most of it. Literally it means: “the young girl who sits in the cinders, the ashes.” Moreover, as the tale makes plain, before the glass slipper is placed on her foot, before the beautiful gown, ball, dance, and marriage, there must first be a period of sitting in the cinders, of being smudged, of being humbled, and of waiting while a proper joy and consummation are being prepared. In the story of Cinderella there is a theology of lent.

Native American traditions too have always had an important place for ashes. In some Aboriginal communities there was the concept that occasionally someone would have to spend time in the ashes. Nobody knew why a specific person was called at a particular moment to sit in the ashes, but everyone knew that this was natural thing, that ashes do an important work in the soul, and that sooner or later that person would return his or her regular life and be better for having spent time in the ashes. To offer one such example: Certain native communities used to live in what they called long-houses. A long-house was the communal building; in effect, the house for the whole community. A long-house was long, rectangular, with large sloping sides, and with the centre of the roof open so that this could function as a natural chimney. Fires were kept burning, both for cooking and for warmth, all along the centre of the long-house. People gathered there, near the fires, to cook, eat, and socialize, but they slept away from the fires, under the roofs that sloped down either side of the open centre. Now, every so often, someone, a man or a woman, for reasons they didn’t have to explain, would cease adhering to the normal routine. Instead he or she would, become silent, sit just off the fire in the ashes, eat very sparingly, not socialize, not go outside, not wash, not go to bed with the others, but simply sit in the cinders, like Cinderella.

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**Parish Office**



Basilica of St Patrick  
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 Closed Weekends and Public Holidays

Today we would probably diagnose this as clinical depression and rush that person off for professional help. They, for their part, didn't panic. They saw this as perfectly normal, something everyone was called upon to do at one time or another. They simply let the person sit there, in the ashes, until one day he or she got up, washed the ashes off, and began again to live a regular life. The belief was that the ashes, that period of silent sitting, had done some important, unseen work inside of the person. You sat in the ashes for healing.

The church taps into this deep well of wisdom when it puts ashes on our foreheads at the beginning of lent. Lent is a season for each of us to sit in the ashes, to spend our time, like Cinderella, working and sitting among the cinders of the fire – grieving what we've done wrong, renouncing the dance, refraining from the banquet, refusing to do business as usual, waiting while some silent growth takes place within us, and simply being still so that the ashes can do their work in us.

## February Parish Events

Saturday 2 & Sunday 3 February – Finance Report to Parish at all Masses  
Sunday 10 February at 11am Mass – Fr James Jeyachandran 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination

## Sacred Heart Sodality

We wish to invite all friends of the Sacred Heart Sodality to join us at Mass every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month at 8:30am. Next Mass will be held on **Sunday 24 February, 2018**. New members always welcome. For further information, please contact the Parish Office.

## Parishioner Morning Tea

Come along and enjoy the first morning tea for 2019  
*after 8.30am Mass on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2019*  
**ALL WELCOME!**

## Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy is held every Sunday 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, 10, 17 & 24 February, 2019*

## Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament



An invitation for you to pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament every Thursday from 8am to 12noon, and every First Friday of the month from 11am to 12noon and every Saturday from 10.30 to 12noon. All Are Welcome!

## Evening Prayer in 2019

Evening Prayer will recommence on the first Saturday of Lent, Saturday 16 March, 2019 and lead up to Holy Week. This service will be held at 5:30pm every Saturday, prior to the Vigil Mass, led by cantor and organist.

## Music Ministry and the Basilica Choir

The Basilica Choir and Music Ministry is always interested in new members. If you would like to talk more about what is involved please talk to Dominic Perissinotto, our Director of Music.

## Lenten Preparation Program



The Lenten Program 'TRUST' will be available to our community commencing at the beginning of Lent. This program has been well attended and enjoyed for some years now and we invite you to join us this year. Sessions will be held on Monday evenings at 7pm in the Parish Centre. A chance to make the most of Lent in a relaxed and friendly group.

To register contact the Parish Office on 9335 2268, Mon to Fri 9am to 3pm. All Welcome.

## Aquinas College "Schola" at St Patrick's Basilica

We are delighted to announce a very exciting music project starting at the Basilica this year. Aquinas College's new choir, Schola, will commence singing Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass at the Basilica soon after Easter. They will be directed by Mr Hugh Lydon, who has vast experience in providing music in Liturgy, having himself been a chorister at Westminster Cathedral (where and when our own Dominic Perissinotto was organ scholar). We look forward to a long and fruitful relationship with the College, as we build the choir over the forthcoming years.

For your information we reprint here an article from the 11 October 2018 edition of *The Record*.

### **Aquinas College introduces new choir focusing on liturgical music**

By Theresia Titus

Aquinas College will start a new choral group in 2019.

Aquinas College Head of Arts and Culture Chris McMillan said the idea of setting up a new choir, to be called Schola, is based on the rich musical tradition the College already has.

The College currently has five choirs and some vocal ensembles catering for its students across the different year groups, ability levels, and repertoire preferences.

"Currently, more than 300 students participate in our choral program, and this number continues to grow every year," Mr McMillan said.

"The new Aquinas Schola Choir will have a very different focus from the existing ensembles in that it will sing predominantly liturgical music, perform weekly and will provide the platform for extending an auditioned group of highly capable young musicians.

"The choral training component is the central part of a program which also includes instrumental and vocal training, music theory, and language acquisition and development," he continued.

Mr McMillan added that the Schola Choir is "being established as a means of providing boys with a rigorous choral education founded on a dynamic liturgical and musical tradition that goes back to the sixteenth century".

"It is based on similar liturgical choirs of the world," he said.

"Our College Headmaster, Mr David McFadden, has returned to Perth having served 10 years at Headmaster of the London Oratory School, whose Schola Choir is internationally renowned."

Aquinas College expects that the formation of the new choir will provide a channel for the college to give back to the community.

"Once the group has established its sound and learnt some core repertoires, we hope to be singing for the vigil Mass at St Patrick's Basilica and on occasion, at local parishes, particularly those from which many of our College's students belong.

"Our aim is to be performing regularly from the middle of next year.

So, one of our key objectives for the choir is to not only have a significant impact on the musical life of our school but also to the wider community," Mr McMillan explained.

Students from Years Three to Four will be recruited into the choir, however, some may start at Year Five or Six.

Mr McMillan said Aquinas College has designed a model of choral education that will allow choristers to bring their high level of musical and voice training through to their final year of high school.

Choristers will rehearse for four mornings per week before school day starts and will sing at the College's chapel service held each morning and receive additional coaching in language pronunciation and understanding as well as music theory, weekly voice lessons, and learn an orchestral or band instrument.

Mr McMillan emphasised that being in a choir and practice singing is beneficial for the chosen students admitted to the choir.

"[They] will receive a very high level of choral training and musical education. They will work hard but will also receive some wonderful performance opportunities and experiences as a result," he concluded.

<https://www.therecord.com.au/education/aquinas-college-introduces-new-choir-focusing-on-liturgical-music/>

## Rosters for February 2019

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 February (1)	Tonia Petrucci Joan Swindells	Gabriel Newman	Danielle Cattalini Pamela Cattalini	Mary Jardine-Clarke Doratheia Randazzo	Cherry Hein Lyn Tomlinson
9/10 February (2)	John Gilmour <b>Position Vacant</b>	Chris Banasik Nola Banasik	Christine Brown Monica Lacey	Graeme Moseley Mara Sticca	Cherry Hein Marja Vandermark
16/17 February (3)	John Gilmour Lyn Jensen	Gabriel Newman	Mary Ann Yeats <b>Position Vacant</b>	Lani Lanzara Margaret Sheridan	Anne Greenwood Lyn Tomlinson
23/24 February (4)	Pat Pettigrew Tonia Petrucci	Beatrice Yong	Ultan Stephenson Susanne Sutton	Helen Davey Krystyna Pacyna	Sr Lynn Chua Bill Sands

### Communion Ministers

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

### 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 February (1)	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME</b>	Delia Price	Delia Price	The Basilica Choir	Theodore Murphy-Jelly
9/10 February (2)	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME</b>	Laura Pitts	Caitlin Rowe	The Basilica Choir	Laura Pitts
16/17 February (3)	<b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME</b>	Grace Feltoe	Sophie Rodgers Gilbert Rodgers	Sophie Rodgers Gilbert Rodgers	Lucinda Nicholls
23/24 February (4)	<b>SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME</b>	Jessica Taylor	Claudia Sosin	The Basilica Choir	Aria Scarlett

