

47 Adelaide Street, Fremantle, WA, 6160

Basilica of St. Patrick

Christmas Eve - Wednesday 24th December, 2025 *6pm Mass (St Anne's), 8.30pm and Midnight Masses (Basilica)*

Oblate Priests' at the Basilica

Fr Meno Basti OMI (Parish Priest & Rector)
Fr Giancarlo Iollo OMI
(Assistant Priest & Italian/Notre Dame Chaplain)
Fr John Patrick John Mary OMI
(Assistant Priest & Hospital Chaplain)
Fr Eric Alleaume OMI (Assistant Priest)
Fr. Anthony Colbert OMI (Assistant Priest)

Church Opening Hours

Monday & Friday 10am to 3pm
(Basilica Guardians Permitting)
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10am to 1pm

Daily Mass & Adoration

Monday to Saturday: 11am Adoration followed
by Angelus and Midday Mass

Weekend Masses

Saturday: 6pm Vigil Mass
Sunday: 8am, 8.15am (St Anne's, North
Fremantle), 9.30am (Italian), 11am and 5pm

Confessions

First Friday of Each Month: 11am
Saturday: 9.30am, 11am and 4.30pm

Basilica Parish Office

Angie Emanuele (Parish Manager)
email: parishmanager@fremantlepatrick.org.au
Parish Office working hours
Tuesday to Friday (9am to 3pm)
Closed Weekends and Public Holidays
Contact
Office phone number: (08) 9335 2268
Email: parishmanager@fremantlepatrick.org.au
Website: <http://fremantlepatrick.org.au>

St Patrick's Community Support Centre

12 Queen Victoria Street, Fremantle WA 6160
Reception Hours Mon to Fri 8.30am to 4.30pm
Phone: 6372 4800

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Lynn Tomlinson 0424 243 224
Sonia La Macchia 0411 221 187

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. The parish of St Patrick's Basilica is committed to creating a safe parish. To read more, visit <http://fremantlepatrick.org.au/parish-safeguarding-project/>

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. (Is 9:2)

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

It gives me once again a great joy to pray for you and wish you all a joy-filled Christmas and a Happy and peaceful New Year 2026.

Christmas is one of the feasts that is celebrated all over the world, not only by Christians but by people of other faiths too, irrespective of their caste or creed or nationality. It is because, the celebration of Christmas brings joy, happiness, peace and hope in the hearts and minds of all the people and nations as it was 2000 years ago for the people of Israel.

We are living in a wounded world where people are crying out for freedom, peace, better life and better future. Our beautiful world has been severely ravaged and wounded by the greediness, selfishness, exploitation, and manipulation of the few. As a result, we, in this beautiful planet earth, are experiencing wars, violence, climate change, famine, poverty, migration, refugees, mass killings and the list goes on. In this situation, we are celebrating the birth of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour who came to free humanity from all kinds of oppressions and slavery, and he brought to this world the most needed freedom, joy, happiness and peace. While people in some parts of the world are able to celebrate Christmas with their family, kith and kin, people in some parts of the world are not able to celebrate so because of what they are going through right now.

However, for everyone, the celebration of the birth of Jesus, gives hope that the God who did not hesitate to sacrifice His Only Son for the redemption of the whole world, will not let them down. He will change their lives, and He will create a new heaven and a new earth for his people.

"Hear, Lord, and be merciful to me; Lord, be my help." You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent. Lord my God, I will praise you forever". (Ps 30: 10-12)

And Jesus himself made it clear about the purpose of his Incarnation at the very beginning of his public ministry, quoting the words of prophet Isaiah:

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour." (Lk 4:18-19)

Jesus at his first coming initiated the mission of saving humanity and the world, and giving us all the true freedom, true joy and true peace. He will certainly come again to see the completion of that mission. Until He comes again, he has given us all the responsibility and called us to carry out that same mission of freeing people from all their bondages and giving them all the joy, happiness and peace that He brought to this world at His glorious birth.

As Jesus became light to those who had lived in darkness and in the shadow of death, we his, disciples, must become messenger of Jesus's Good News and people who work to dispel the darkness that surrounds our world. May we become people of hope and give hope to everyone and share our joy and happiness with others and create together a new world where every child of God live in joy, peace and brotherhood.

Wishing you all a blessed Christmas and a happy and peaceful New Year 2026
Fr. Meno Basti OMI



6pm Mass (St Anne's) and 8.30pm Mass (Basilica)

Music Ministry

Organists & Cantors
Sunday 8pm Carols & 8.30pm Mass:
Choir
Xavier Jarvis (Organist)

Hymns
Mass Setting: Marty Haugen - Mass of Creation
Processional Hymn: CWB 760 O Come All Ye Faithful
Thanksgiving Hymn: CWB 803 Silent Night
Recessional Hymn: CWB 704 Hark the Herald Angels Sing

The Liturgy of the Word

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ex 16: 6-7

Today you will know that the Lord will come, and he
will save us,
and in the morning you will see his glory.

First reading Isaiah 62:1-5

About Zion I will not be silent,
about Jerusalem I will not grow weary,
until her integrity shines out like the dawn
and her salvation flames like a torch.

The nations then will see your integrity,
all the kings your glory,
and you will be called by a new name,
one which the mouth of the Lord will confer.
You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the
Lord,
a princely diadem in the hand of your God;

no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken',
nor your land 'Abandoned',
but you shall be called 'My Delight'
and your land 'The Wedded';
for the Lord takes delight in you
and your land will have its wedding.

Like a young man marrying a virgin,
so will the one who built you wed you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride,
so will your God rejoice in you.

The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 88(89);4-5,16-17,27,29

Response: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Second reading Acts 13:16-17, 22-25

When Paul reached Antioch in Pisidia, he stood up in
the synagogue, held up a hand for silence and began to
speak:

'Men of Israel, and fearers of God, listen! The God of
our nation Israel chose our ancestors, and made our
people great when they were living as foreigners in
Egypt; then by divine power he led them out.

"Then he made David their king, of whom he approved
in these words, "I have selected David son of Jesse, a
man after my own heart, who will carry out my whole
purpose." To keep his promise, God has raised up for
Israel one of David's descendants, Jesus, as Saviour,
whose coming was heralded by John when he
proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the whole
people of Israel. Before John ended his career he said, "I
am not the one you imagine me to be; that one is
coming after me and I am not fit to undo his sandal."

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Tomorrow there will be an end to the sin of the world
and the saviour of the world will be our King.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 1:18-25

How Jesus Christ came to be born

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother
Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to
live together she was found to be with child through the
Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph; being a man of
honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to
divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do
this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a
dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to
take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived
what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a
son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one
who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this
took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord
through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us.' When Joseph
woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him
to do: he took his wife to his home and, though he had
not had intercourse with her, she gave birth to a son;
and he named him Jesus.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to be God Lord Jesus Christ

Midnight Mass (Basilica)

Music Ministry

Organists & Cantors
Sunday 11.30pm Carols & Midnight Mass:
Choir
Xavier Jarvis (Organist)

Hymns
Mass Setting: Marty Haugen - Mass of Creation
Processional Hymn: CWB 760 O Come all Ye Faithful
Thanksgiving Hymn: CWB 803 Silent Night
Recessional Hymn: CWB 704 Hark the Herald Angels Sing

The Liturgy of the Word

First reading Isaiah 9:1-7

The people that walked in darkness
has seen a great light;
on those who live in a land of deep shadow
a light has shone.
You have made their gladness greater,
you have made their joy increase;
they rejoice in your presence
as men rejoice at harvest time,
as men are happy when they are dividing the
spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,
the bar across his shoulders,
the rod of his oppressor,
these you break as on the day of Midian.

For all the footgear of battle,
every cloak rolled in blood,
is burnt, and consumed by fire.

For there is a child born for us,
a son given to us
and dominion is laid on his shoulders;
and this is the name they give him:
Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-
Father,
Prince-of-Peace.

Wide is his dominion
in a peace that has no end,
for the throne of David
and for his royal power,
which he establishes and makes secure
in justice and integrity.
From this time onwards and for ever,
the jealous love of the Lord of Hosts will do this.

The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks Be to God

Responsorial Psalm 95(96):1-3,11-13

Response: Today is born our Saviour, Christ the
Lord.

Second reading Titus 2:11-14

God’s grace has been revealed, and it has made
salvation possible for the whole human race and
taught us that what we have to do is to give up
everything that does not lead to God, and all our
worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and
live good and religious lives here in this present
world, while we are waiting in hope for the
blessing which will come with the Appearing of
the glory of our great God and saviour Christ
Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us
free from all wickedness and to purify a people so
that it could be his very own and would have no
ambition except to do good.

The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Lk2:10-11

Alleluia, alleluia!
I Proclaim to you good news of great joy,
today a Saviour is born for us, Christ the Lord.
Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 2:1-14

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn.

In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Parish Notices

It is with great sadness that the Australian Province of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate announces the death of Fr Peter John McLaughlin OMI, 20th December 2025.

Fr John's requiem Mass will be held at St Patrick's Basilica, Fremantle on 31st December 2025, at 9:30 am, followed by burial at Fremantle Cemetery.

Please note: Due to the funeral there will be no Adoration or Midday Mass on Wednesday 31st December. Parishioners are welcome to join the Oblates at the 9.30am requiem Mass.

Fr Meno Basti will be away from 4th January to 26th January visiting his family in Sri Lanka. We wish him a safe journey.

Christmas Offerings

Twice a year you are asked to give generously to support the Priests in the parish. Christmas Offering envelopes are now available on the pews. Place your offering inside and place it on the collection plate. Thank You!

Christmas Parish Office Opening Hours

The parish office will close on Tuesday 23rd December and reopen on Tuesday 13th January 2026. During this time anything urgent can be emailed to parishmanager@fremantlestpatricks.org.au.

There will be no English or Italian Bulletins at Masses on the weekends of 3rd /4th January and 10th /11th January, 2026. Bulletins will be available on 17th/18th January onwards.

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,

we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,

Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the
Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and
the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.

May the Birth of Baby Jesus
bring all Parishioners, Families
and Friends a Very Holy and
Joyous Christmas and a
Peaceful New Year.
God Bless You All!
from the Oblates and Staff