

47 Adelaide Street, Fremantle, WA, 6160

Basilica of St. Patrick

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year A

Sunday 21st December, 2025

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@fremantlestpatricks.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@fremantlestpatricks.org.au

Website: <http://fremantlestpatricks.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://fremantlestpatricks.org.au/parish-safeguarding-project/>

Parishioner and Friends,

Finally, on this the Fourth Sunday of Advent, our Gospel Reading permits us to begin our contemplation of the mystery of the Incarnation we celebrate at Christmas: "Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about" (Matthew 1:18).

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of the birth of Jesus from Joseph's perspective. Today's Gospel passage is the second movement in this story. In the preceding verses of the first chapter of Matthew's Gospel, the Evangelist has listed the genealogy of Jesus, tracing his lineage through King David to Abraham. In the chapter to follow, Matthew tells of the visit from the Magi, the Holy Family's flight into Egypt, and Herod's massacre of the infants in Bethlehem. (The other stories which we associate with Christmas, the Annunciation, the Visitation, the angel and the shepherds, are found in the Gospel of Luke).

We must not gloss over too quickly the difficult circumstances described in today's Gospel. The way that Joseph and Mary face these circumstances tells us much about these holy people and their faith in God. Joseph and Mary are betrothed to be married. This is sometimes described as an engagement period, but it is more than that. Betrothal in first century Jewish culture was in fact the first part of the marriage contract. A breach of this contract was considered adultery. Mary is found to be with child. If adultery is proven, the punishment might be death. Joseph has rights under Mosaic law, but chooses to act discreetly in his plans to break the marriage contract, so as to protect Mary. Then God intervenes.

The message of the angel of the Lord given to Joseph in his dream tells us much about the child that Mary bears and his role in God's plan. He is conceived by the Holy Spirit. His name will be Jesus, which in the Hebrew means "Yahweh saves." He will be the fulfillment of the prophecy heard in today's first reading from Isaiah: "... The virgin shall be with child ... and shall name him Emmanuel [God with us]."

Joseph does as the angel of the Lord directs. He takes Mary to be his wife and accepts the child in her womb as his own. Joseph and Mary are both cooperative with God's plan. They are both models for us of what it means to be faithful servants of God. (source Loyola Press)



Music Ministry

Organists & Cantors

Sat 6pm Mass: Gilbert Rodgers (Cantor)

Organist: Andrew Brown

Sun 8am Mass: Paul O'Neill (Cantor), Organists: Andrew Brown

Sun 10am Mass: Italian Choir, Renata Mattia (Organist)

Sun 5pm Mass: Michael Peters (Cantor & Organist)

Hymns

Mass Setting: Missa Simplex

Processional Hymn: CWB 763 O come, O come Emmanuel

Thanksgiving Hymn: CWB 816 The coming of our Lord

Recessional Hymn: CWB 657 Come, O long expected Jesus

The Liturgy of the Word

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Is 45: 8

Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a
Saviour.

First Reading Isaiah 7:10-14

The maiden is with child

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David:
are you not satisfied with trying the patience
of men
without trying the patience of my God, too?
The Lord himself, therefore,
will give you a sign.
It is this: the maiden is with child
and will soon give birth to a son
whom she will call Immanuel,
a name which means "God-is-with-us."'

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 23(24):1-6

Response: Let the Lord enter; he is king of
glory.

Second Reading Romans 1:1-7

*Our apostolic mission is to preach the obedience of
faith to all pagan nations*

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God who, according to the human nature he took was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Matt 1:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;
His name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 1:18-24

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.

The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon Is 7: 14

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel.

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.

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.
May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the
Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both
humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.
May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen

Parish Notices

Pick up your copy of the Christmas Edition of The Record which is available in the side foyers of the Church this weekend.

Children's Nativity Play

If there are any children who are interested in joining the Children's Nativity Play on Christmas Eve, 24th December, during the 5.30pm Family Children's Mass, please contact Sr Lynn on 0403 860 639 or the parish office 9335 2268. Must be able to attend the rehearsal on Monday 22nd December at 9.30am in the Basilica.

MAMI Christmas Gift Cards

Once again the MAMI Christmas Gift Cards are available at www.oblates.com.au/christmas-cards or from the parish office. Chickens \$10, Development \$15, Toolbox \$20, Education \$25 and Goats \$30. All donations help the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate to support these projects.

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!

ALPHA 2026

A new session of Alpha will commence in the parish on Thursday 29th January 2026 and continue every Thursday for 9 weeks, 6.30pm to 8.30pm in the parish centre. Registrations to either parishmanager@fremantlepatricks.org.au or alpha.org.au. See noticeboard or flyers in side foyers.

Christmas Eve Masses 24th December

No Adoration or Midday Mass

Carols at 5.15 pm prior to the 5.30pm Children's Mass

Carols at 8pm prior to the 8.30pm Mass

Carols at 11.30pm prior to the Midnight Mass

6pm Mass at St Anne's Church, North Fremantle

Christmas Day Masses 25th December

Basilica Masses: 8am, 9.30am (Italian) and 11am

No Mass at St Anne's Church, North Fremantle

No 5pm Evening Mass in the Basilica

Saturday 27 December to Saturday 31 January

Reconciliations only at 10am to 12noon

No First Friday Reconciliation in January

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@fremantlepatricks.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.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our parishioners and friends a very Joyous and Holy Christmas and a Safe and Peaceful New Year. God Bless!

Mass Intentions

Saturday 20th December

6pm Vigil Mass: Jose de Faria (dec'd)

John & Nazarina Goncalves (dec'd)

Sunday 21st December

8am Mass:

Cesar Tagnipes & Maria Borromeo (dec'd)

5pm Mass: Nima Abeydeera (int)

Monday 22nd December

Midday Mass: Arcadia Borromeo (dec'd)

Tuesday 23rd December

Midday Mass: Lucy Rojnic (dec'd)

Carlo Pruiti (dec'd anniv.)

Wednesday 24th December

8.30pm Mass:

Carlo & Clementina Pruiti (dec'd)

Midnight Mass: Unity and Peace

Thursday 25th December

8am Mass: Ligia, Naomi, Virginia, Islda & families (int)

11am Mass: For the deceased and living relatives of the Jardin-Clarke Family

NO 5PM EVENING MASS

Friday 26th December

Midday Mass: Aguida tagnipes (dec'd)

Saturday 27th December

Midday Mass: Ana & Ante Borzic (dec'd)

6pm Vigil Mass: Lombardo Family (int)

Planned Giving

The collections are an important part of a Parish life. Your weekly 1st collection donations support the Priests in the parish to minister to the needs of the parish community and the fremantle boarders.

Your weekly 2nd collection donations helps us to maintain all aspects of the Basilica, Presbytery and Administration Centre.

Without your assistance we would not be able to provide and maintain the Parish and its community. Thank You!

Please continue to give generously via the collection plate, tap and go tablets or direct deposits into the accounts below.

EFT First Collection Details

BSB: 086 006

A/c No: 56187 5405

Reference: 1st Collection and your name

First Collection supports the Priests

EFT Second Collection Details

BSB: 066 107

A/c No: 0080 0216

Reference: 2nd Collection and your name

Second Collection supports the Parish

Upcoming Events

Sunday 21st December

Fr Giancarlo Farewell

Tuesday 23rd December

Parish Office Closes

Wednesday 24th December

Christmas Eve

Thursday 25th December

Christmas Day