



**St John the Baptist Catholic Church-The Mother Church of Perth**

A warm welcome to our Church. Countless Catholics and visitors have crossed the threshold of this holy place, sensing the presence of God and filling it with prayer and contemplation. Rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, our mission is to glorify God by our lives.

Canon Mulholland:  
St John's Presbytery, 20 Melville Street. Perth PH1 5PY  
01738 259371

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2023-04<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time -Year A**

Refreshments in the hall after 11am Mass

Responsorial Psalm: How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Holy Mass

Please note carefully Mass times during the week to accommodate and facilitate the work in the Sacristy. Please note the disruption to the morning Mass routine.

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January-6pm

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> -St John Bosco-7pm

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament & Confessions from 6pm-6.45pm

Wednesday 01<sup>st</sup> February-No Mass

Thursday 02<sup>nd</sup>-Candlemass-The Presentation of the Lord-6pm *by Candlelight*

Friday 03<sup>rd</sup>-St Blaise *with blessing of throats*-6pm

Baptisms this week:

Asthrid Ting Yan Guzman, Amira Rose Vasile, Dominic Harazim & Nicholas Harazim



**RECENTLY DEAD:** Ronald Stewart & Maureen Lynagh  
& birthday remembrance of Mary Scally & Jean Mulholland  
*Fidelia animae per misericordiam Dei requiescant in pace.*

*"As we enter Heaven, we will see them, so many of them, coming toward us and thanking us. We will ask who they are and they will say: 'A poor soul you prayed for in purgatory.'" -The Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen*

Work on Sacristy progressed well this week and hopefully the majority will be finished by the end of the coming week.

New rota for Readers now ready for pick up.

**Sunday Masses:** Saturday 4.00pm (Anticipatory Sunday Mass) 9.00am, 11.00am & 6.30 pm

Tuesdays: 6.00pm-6.45pm (Confessions in Church)

SCN SC00810

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The precious days of Jesus' infancy hidden in the peace and security of Mary's confinement are coming to an end, Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February-the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord or **Candlemass** marks His "introduction" to the world.

In the days when the Holy Family walked the earth, it was the custom for new mothers to go to the Temple to be declared officially "pure" forty days after the birth of a child, and if that child was a firstborn son, it was Jewish law that the parents offer

him officially to God at that time in order to show gratitude for the angel's sparing of the first-born of the Jews at the time of Moses. Then, to redeem the child back from the Temple, the parents offered a gift to be sacrificed in exchange, usually a lamb-but if the family was poor, as Jesus' family was, a pair of turtle doves were sufficient. I love to imagine the Holy Family walking down a cobblestone road on the way to the Temple, the Infant Jesus bundled up and held close to the heart of His Mother, the turtle doves carried by good St. Joseph in a cage he made himself. I wonder if anyone around them felt a spiritual nudge when the Infant Saviour passed by them? I wonder if I would have known it was the Holy Family passing by if I'd been there? What a thought, though-that Jesus' parents, out of obedience to tradition, offered Him to the Jewish Temple, but then "bought Him back" with doves-the symbol of peace. In obedience and humility, Mary and Joseph fulfilled their responsibility to the Mosaic Law that day, but the joy of the occasion was tempered when, upon meeting the prophet Simeon, Our Blessed Mother was reminded of the sorrows to come-that her heart would be pierced with a sword. Beauty and promise and sorrow that day were wrapped up together like the mysteries of the Rosary, with the glory-to-come a glimmer in the eye of that bundled up Baby Boy. **A candlelit Mass will be celebrated at 6.00pm on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February.**

It is with grateful thanks that we acknowledge all those who joined us at the Church & Crematorium for the funeral services of Susan Cassidy. Thanks also for all the personal expressions of condolences, Mass and sympathy cards and flowers, all of which are deeply appreciated. Special thanks to Michael Ellacott & the choir for their uplifting music. Father Mark will offer Mass for your intentions. Sincerely, the Cassidy family & Teresa Moran.

**Sunday Masses** 4.00pm Anticipatory Sunday Mass (on Saturday)  
9.00am/11.00am/6.30 pm

**Tuesdays:** 6.00pm-6.45pm (**Confessions in Church**)