



# THE SAVING WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

1 FEBRUARY 2026

## FIRST READING

Zeph 2: 3; 3: 12-13

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

*In your midst I will leave a humble and a lowly people.*

Seek the Lord

all you, the humble of the earth,  
who obey his commands.

Seek integrity, seek humility:  
you may perhaps find shelter  
on the day of the anger of the Lord.

In your midst I will leave  
a humble and lowly people,  
and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge  
in the name of the Lord.

They will do no wrong,  
will tell no lies;  
and the perjured tongue will no longer  
be found in their mouths.  
But they will be able to graze and rest  
with no one to disturb them.

**The word of the Lord.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 145: 7-10

**R. Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! (or Alleluia!)**

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, /  
who is just to those who are oppressed. / It is  
he who gives bread to the hungry, / the Lord,  
who sets prisoners free. **R.**

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, /  
who raises up those who are bowed down, /  
the Lord, who protects the stranger / and  
upholds the widow and orphan. **R.**

3. It is the Lord who loves the just / but  
thwarts the path of the wicked. / The Lord  
will reign for ever, / Zion's God, from age to  
age. **R.**



## SECOND READING

1 Cor 1: 26-31

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*God has chosen what is weak by human reckoning.*

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

**The word of the Lord.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 5: 12

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Rejoice and be glad:**

**your reward will be great in heaven.**

**Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*Happy are the poor in spirit.*

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit;  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:  
they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:  
they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for  
what is right:

they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:  
they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:  
they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:  
they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the  
cause of right:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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# Breaking Open the Word

## TRUE BLESSEDNESS

What is discipleship about? This becomes the focus of Matthew's Gospel over the next few Sundays as we turn to Jesus' first major moment of teaching, what we know as the 'Sermon on the Mount'. Jesus, like Moses in the Old Testament, gathers with his disciples on a mountain. They surround him and listen to his teaching. He teaches them about blessedness in eight 'Beatitudes'. Each Beatitude begins with 'Blessed are those...' and then names those who are blessed by God.

Some translations unhelpfully have 'Happy are those...' There is a theological distinction between being 'blessed' and 'happy'. Being happy relies on one's self-referential internal disposition. The focus of 'blessedness' is different. It is God. The Greek (*makrios*) is about God's action to those who are without status ('poor in spirit'), know their own humble status ('gentle'), seek comfort amidst life's sadness ('mourn'), are passionate for justice ('hunger and thirst for what is right'), show compassion to others ('merciful'), are thoughtfully genuine and authentic ('pure of heart'), seek to bring about peace where there is division ('peacemakers') and who suffer for their conviction to act justly with integrity ('persecuted in the cause of right').

Those named as blessed have an ultimate openness to God in all life's experiences. God will respond to them, will bless them and will allow the Kingdom (rather 'Kin-dom') to be revealed in them. The Beatitudes are framed with the promise, 'the kin-dom of God is theirs'. A final Beatitude is tacked on to the original eight. It acknowledges the suffering and persecution now experienced by Matthew's community. A lingering contemplation of any of these Beatitudes can remind us how much we are blessed by God now.

**Fr Michael Trainor**

We warmly welcome you too the  
**Parish of Kalgoorlie-Boulder**

(Boulder, Coolgardie, Kalgoorlie, Kambalda, Norseman)  
Office: [kalgoorlie@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:kalgoorlie@perthcatholic.org.au) - 9021 2100  
15 Porter St Kalgoorlie, WA .6430  
Fr. Thai Vu 0423 511 227 - [thai.vu@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:thai.vu@perthcatholic.org.au)

**SUNDAY Mass Times**

Kalgoorlie (St Mary)	6:30pm (Sat), 10am (Sun)
Boulder (All Hallows)	8am (Sun), 5:30pm (Sun)
Coolgardie (St Mary)	4pm (Sat)
Kambalda (St John Vianney)	9am (Sun)
Norseman (St Joseph)	12:30pm (Sun)

**Notices**

**PARISH FINANCE**

**First Collection** - Fr. Thai Vu BSB: 086 136  
Ac/N: 743 713 570, please reference your name.  
**Second Collection:** Kalgoorlie Boulder Parish  
BSB: 036 125 - Ac/N: 790 100, reference your name.

**WELCOME TO THE PARISH OF KALGOORLIE-BOULDER**

If you are returning to Church, or if you have just relocated to our Parish, we warmly welcome you and encourage you to introduce yourself after mass or call into the Presbytery during business hours (Mon-Fri 9.00am – 1.00pm).

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK/HOUSEBOUND/HOSPITALISED**

Chad Miller, Nina Andinach, Noel Hicks, Lynette Hogan, Steve and Wendy D'Monte, David and Pam Lavender, Janet Bartle, Gerhardt Novak, Lyn Stewart, Gianne, Lolita, Teresa Quilanita Torres, Steve Lutua and Mad Ted (please let us know of anyone who may be sick and in need of prayers).

**BIRTHDAYS**

Nancy Rico 29/1, Jocelyn Concepcion 29/1 and Noeleen Lecompte 10/2.

*Ah, Sovereign Lord, You have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you.*

**JEREMIAH 32:17 NIV**

**DEATH ANNIVERSARIES**

Peter Dance 4/2, Rosemary Viscenoni, 6/2

**MORNING TEAS**

Our weekly morning teas are returning this Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February in our Parish Centres after the 8.00am Mass at All Hallows' in Boulder and after the 10.00am Mass at St Mary's Church, Kalgoorlie. and we'd love to see you there. Please join us for a cuppa, something tasty and a good chat. It's a lovely opportunity to catch up with familiar faces, meet new parishioners and enjoy a relaxed start to your Sunday.

A plate of food to share (either savoury or sweet) is always most appreciated in both Parish centres by the wonderful parishioners who volunteer in this important ministry.

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**JANUARY /FEBRUARY**

Mon 2	Presentation of the Lord (blessings of Candles) 9.30am SX
Tue 3	St Blaise (blessing of throats)- 5.30pm
Wed 4	Week 4- 7.00am
Thu 5	St Agatha - 7.00am
Fri 6	Week 4- 7.00am
Sat 7	St Paul Miki - 9.30am recon at 11.00am
Sun 8	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>

**SAVE THE DATES**

Tue 3 <sup>rd</sup>	St Blaise (blessing of throats) 5.30pm
Sat 21	10.00am Menzies Community Mass

**10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF SINULOG SANTO NIÑO IN THE GOLDFIELDS**



We sincerely thank everyone who assisted with the overwhelming success of the motorcade last Saturday afternoon through the streets of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, the final Mass at St Mary's Church Kalgoorlie, followed by the colourful Fiesta in the Carpark. We look forward to continue to celebrate this much loved festival next year in our Parish. Above is a photo taken last week of the traditional dancing in the carpark.

**BACK TO SCHOOL IN THE GOLDFIELDS**

We bless all the teachers, students, parents, caregivers and communities at our three Catholic Schools and other schools in the Goldfields as they make their way back to their classrooms for another year on Monday 2 February. Help them to feel excitement and joy in the promise of a new start.

## SEASON OF LENT

This year, our Lenten journey begins on Wednesday, 18 February, the day we celebrate as *Ash Wednesday*. As we receive ashes on our foreheads, we are reminded of our call to "repent and believe in the Gospel." Lent is a season of grace, inviting us to step away from the noise of the world, refocus our hearts on the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, and prepare our hearts for the joy of the Resurrection through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Masses on Ash Wednesday are as follows:

**7am** St Mary's, Kalgoorlie  
**(9am** John Paul College)  
**9:30am\*** St Mary's, Kalgoorlie  
**9:30am\*** All Hallows, Boulder  
**7pm** St Mary's, Kalgoorlie  
**7pm** St John Vianney, Kambalda

*\* Please note that students and staff of St Mary's Primary School and St Joseph's Primary School will join the celebration of these Masses.*

To help us enter more fully into this penitential season, the Church provides the following guidelines:

**Ash Wednesday (18 Feb 2026) & Good Friday (3 April 2026) are days of Fasting and Abstinence.**

**Fasting:** Those from age 18 until the beginning of their 60th year are required to fast. This means eating only one full meal. Two smaller meals may be taken to maintain strength, but together they should not equal another full meal.

**Abstinence:** Everyone aged 14 and older is required to abstain from eating meat.

**Fridays of Lent:** All Fridays of the year (including those in Lent) are days of penance. While the traditional practice is to abstain from meat, the Australian Bishops allow us to substitute this with another form of penance, such as:  
**Prayer:** Attending Mass, reading Scripture, or the Rosary.  
**Self-Denial:** Giving up a particular food, drink, or luxury.  
**Charity:** Helping the poor, sick, or elderly.

***Please note that the law of fasting and abstinence does not bind those for whom it would be detrimental to their health (e.g., the sick, pregnant or nursing mothers, or those with physically demanding jobs).***

Lent is also a time for Almsgiving. In Australia, we express this through Caritas Australia's **Project Compassion**. By contributing to the Project Compassion boxes or envelopes, we support those living in poverty and help build a more just world.

The Parish clergy and religious wish each of you a very blessed Lent when it arrives.

## CHILDREN'S ADORATION AND SACRAMENTAL CLASSES

Adoration will resume on **Saturday, 14th February**. Run by the Missionaries of Charity Sisters, the morning begins with Rosary, Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 10.00am in St Mary's Church, Kalgoorlie, followed by a Catechism lesson in the Parish Hall finishing at 11.30am. It is a great way for children to learn how to pray and also learn more about the Catholic Faith.

The MC Sisters' Sacramental Classes for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will resume on **Wednesday 18th February 2026** at 3.45pm -4.45pm in St Mary's Parish Hall, for those children attending State Government primary schools. Classes are at no charge. A copy of your child's baptism certificate will be required at the time of registering your child for the sacrament classes will be required. The only thing perhaps that children need to bring to the class is a bottle of water, as term 1 will be a little warm.

## CFE COURSE ON SYNOPTIC GOSPELS:

Fr Errol will be presenting the course on the Synoptic Gospels for the Centre for Faith Enrichment. It will now also be held FACE-TO-FACE over four Monday evenings, starting 2 February 2026, 6pm-7pm in addition to the online sessions on Tuesday evenings starting 3 February, 7:30-8:30pm. For more information or to register, please visit [www.cfe.org.au](http://www.cfe.org.au)

The course also serves as a pathway to attain a formal Undergraduate Certificate in Theology (UGCertTheo) or a Diploma of Theology (DTheol), which will be awarded by UNDA.

## PREPARING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE?

Couples planning to get married are required to complete marriage preparation. Please contact the parish office to initiate the process and schedule a meeting with one of our Priests. Let us support you as you prepare for this beautiful sacrament.

## BAPTISM

If you have a child or an infant that you would like to baptize in our Parish, please either download a form from our webpage – goldfields catholic community or call into our office to pick up a application form.

## PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

The Catholic Archdiocese of Perth is committed to the safety and security of all children, the elderly, and any other vulnerable people in our Parish. If you have any safety concerns, you can discuss it with the Parish Safeguarding Officer(s)

**Carmel O'Neil:** 0437 902 812 and  
**Carmel Salmon:** 0428 240 086