



# THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / A

14 DECEMBER 2025

## FIRST READING

Isa 35:1-6, 10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah  
*God himself will come and save us.*

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult,  
let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,  
let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil,  
let it rejoice and sing for joy.

The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it,  
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;  
they shall see the glory of the Lord,  
the splendour of our God.

Strengthen all weary hands,  
steady all trembling knees  
and say to all faint hearts,  
'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look your God is coming,  
vengeance is coming,  
the retribution of God;  
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
the ears of the deaf unsealed,  
then the lame shall leap like a deer  
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy,  
for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.

They will come to Zion shouting for joy,  
everlasting joy in their faces;  
joy and gladness will go with them  
and sorrow and lament be ended.

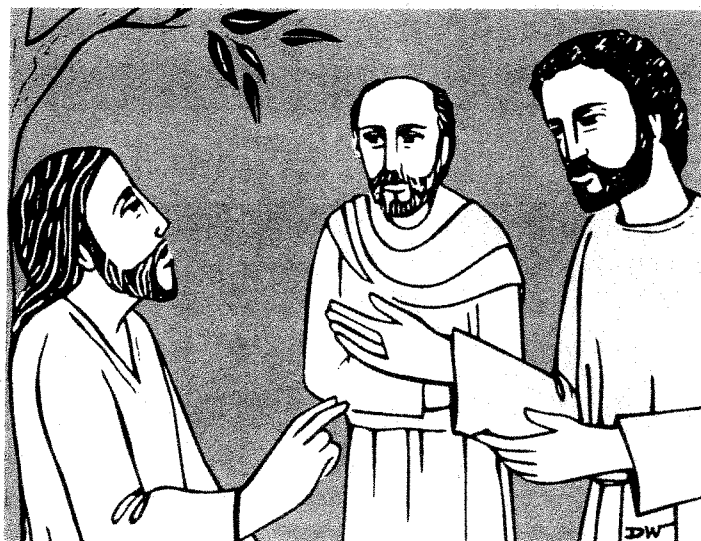
✠ The word of the Lord.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 145:6-10. R. cf. Isa 35:4

**R. Lord, come and save us. (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

James 5:7-10

A reading from the letter of St James

*You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the  
Lord's coming will be soon.*

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming.  
Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for  
the precious fruit of the ground until it has had  
the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too  
have to be patient; do not lose heart, because  
the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make  
complaints against one another, brothers, so as  
not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the  
Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates.  
For your example, brothers, in submitting with  
patience, take the prophets who spoke in the  
name of the Lord.

✠ The word of the Lord.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Isa 61:1; Lk 4:18

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**The spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.  
Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?*

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

### ✠ The Gospel of the Lord.

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



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# Breaking Open the Word

## THE ONE WHO IS TO COME

Today's Gospel focus continues with John the Baptist, introduced to us last Sunday. From prison he sends his followers to Jesus to find out if he is the 'one who is to come or have we to wait for someone else?' This question picks up an early memory that some thought John might have been the Messiah. Jesus explicates his Messianic credentials to John's enquirers: the blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear and the dead raised to life. In other words, Jesus affirms that he is the one who brings restoration, community and healing. Jesus' self-identification further affirms the blessedness of those who remain faithful to him.

In the biblical world, 'faith' was another way of affirming fidelity and commitment to another. This leads Jesus to attest, in this spirit of fidelity and commitment, John's prophetic mission of desert ascetism and preparation for the coming of the Messiah. As we come into these final days before Christmas, our role becomes like John: we align ourselves in fidelity and faith to the one who is to be born, who will bring healing and hope to our world that struggles to know this.

But we also hear Jesus' affirming words – the final sentence in today's Gospel passage addressed to us. Despite John's greatness as the one who prepares for the coming of Jesus, 'yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he'. The Gospel's audience, including us, are affirmed. We have unique status in the eyes of God. This divine promise accompanies us in the days ahead.

**Fr Michael Trainor**

We warmly welcome you too the

## Parish of Kalgoorlie-Boulder

(Boulder, Coolgardie, Kalgoorlie, Kambalda, Norseman)

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## SUNDAY Mass Times

Kalgoorlie (St Mary)

Boulder (All Hallows)

Coolgardie (St Mary)

Kambalda (St John Vianney)

Norseman (St Joseph)

6:30pm (Sat), 10am (Sun)

8am (Sun), 5:30pm (Sun)

4pm (Sat)

9am (Sun)

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 please reference your name.

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

If you are new to the Goldfields or just visiting, we're so glad you're here! Please visit the Parish office (15 Porter St Kalgoorlie) during the week and introduce yourself.

#### BIRTHDAYS

(please let us know if it's your birthday)

#### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK/HOUSEBOUND/HOSPITALISED

Nina Andinach, Noel Hicks, Aimylie Potts(child), Lynette Hogan, Steve and Wendy D'Monte, Logan Hughes, David and Pam Lavender, Janet Bartle, Gerhardt and Eve Novak, Lyn Stewart, Gianne, Lolita, Teresa Quilanita Tores, Peter Allen, Desmond McColl and Mad Ted.

#### RECENT DEATHS

Wayne Byron (RIP)

Conrad McMillan

#### DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Carlito Algabre RIP - December

Felixberto Abarquez RIP - December

Linda Hossie RIP - December

Thomas Matthew RIP

#### RECENT WEDDING

David and Shuie Von Perger

#### BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND

Jayda Love at St Mary's Kalgoorlie 13/12

#### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Mass Schedule cards will be available from all of our Churches this weekend. Please feel free to take one home and extras for your family and friends

#### OFFICE CLOSURE

Please take note that our Parish office will close for Christmas from **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December** until **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026**.

### THE WEEK AHEAD

#### DECEMBER 2025

Mon 15	3 <sup>rd</sup> Week of Advent 9.30am SX Chapel
Tue 16	3 <sup>rd</sup> Week of Advent 5.30pm
Wed 17	3 <sup>rd</sup> Week of Advent 7.00am
Thu 18	3 <sup>rd</sup> Week of Advent – 7.00am
Fri 19	3 <sup>rd</sup> Week of Advent -7.00am
Sat 20	3 <sup>rd</sup> Week 9.30am Mass & Reconciliation - 11.00am
Sun 21	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>

It's been another busy week!

#### SAVE THE DATES

Mon 15 Dec	Simbang Gabi Mass 7.00pm St Mary's
Tues 16 Dec	Simbang Gabi Mass 7.00pm All Hallows'
Wed 17 Dec	Simbang Gabi Mass 7.00pm St Mary's
Thur 18 Dec	Simbang Gabi Mass 7.00pm All Hallows'
Frid 19 Dec	Simbang Gabi Mass 7.00pm St Mary's
Sat 20 Dec	Simbang Gabi Mass 7.00pm All Hallows'

#### ST BARBARA'S PARADE 2025



Last Sunday our Parish entered a float in the Annual St Barbara's Parade. We sincerely again thank FLG for allowing us to use their truck, along with the services of their employee Clementine as our driver. Appreciation also to Allena and Jono White for their time and efforts before and after the parade. It is most appreciated indeed

Above are the happy children and the adults on the back of the FLG truck with the Patron Saint of the Parade, St Barbara.

### ANNUAL CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL

On Friday night, A group of dedicated parishioners gathered in the St Mary's Parish Centre to sort donations and compile the Christmas Hampers ready for collection and delivery on Saturday. We thank our volunteers for their time and efforts on Friday night, our parishioners for donating groceries and St Mary's PS, St Joseph's PS and John Paul College for their generous contributions as well.



Above is a photo of the baskets of gifts and groceries donated by John Paul College's staff and students.

### ANNUAL SENIORS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Last Saturday, over 80 Seniors, along with Fr. Thai and Fr. Errol enjoyed a festive 2 course lunch at the Overland Motel Restaurant. Our guests were entertained by the Puregold Bootscooters and the O'Neil Family Band. We thank our Emcee, John Bowler and our wonderful



entertainers for their ongoing support and the volunteers who helped make the day very successful indeed.

Here is a photo of some of our special guests at the Luncheon.

### CHRISTMAST MASS TIMETABLE FOR OUR PARISH

**St Mary's Coolgardie, Family Mass 6pm 24/12**

**St John Vianney Kambalda Mass 9am 25/12**

**St Joseph's Norseman, Mass 9am 25/12**

**All Hallows' Boulder, Family Mass 6pm 24/12**

**All Hallows' Boulder, Mass 8am 25/12**

**St Mary's Kalgoorlie, Midnight Mass 12pm 24/12  
(Christmas Carols at 11.30am)**

**St Mary's Kalgoorlie, Mass 10.00am 25/12**

*"Since Mary is the prototype of pure womanhood, the imitation of Mary must be the goal of girl's education".*

St. Edith Stein

### ROSTERS FOR MINISTRIES IN OUR PARISH 2026

It is nearly that time when we prepare the rosters for the ministries of cleaning, reading and morning tea for our St Mary's and All Hallows' Churches for next year.

Please phone our office 90 212100 if you can spare some time and if you would like to be added to any of our rosters. Many hands make light work! New rosters will be emailed out after Christmas.

### CHRISTIAN OUTREACH CRISTMAS CRAFT STALL

We thank everyone who donated items and bought goods from the Christmas Craft Stall held last Sunday at Boulder. It was a huge success.

A second stall is being after the **10.00am Mass** on this **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December at St Mary's Church, Kalgoorlie** (cash only sales). On sale will be hand-made Christmas craft items, baked goods and home grown produce.

All proceeds from this stalls will support our Christian Outreach Program which provides essential food hampers to the needy throughout the year.

### PIETY STALL

Our Piety Stall is open every Sunday after the 10am Mass at St Mary's, Kalgoorlie for all your devotional and Christmas gift needs. Our stall can also be open By special request during the week or on Saturday. Please phone our Parish office – 90 21200 during the week to arrange this. An EFTPOS facility is also now available.

### SIMBANG GABI 2025 SAVE THE DATES

Simbang Gabi is a nine day Novena series of nightly Masses. Many believe that by completing the entire series of nine Masses it will bring blessings. It is a tradition of Filipino Catholics in honour of the Virgin Mary, anticipating the the birth of Jesus. It is celebrated from **15<sup>th</sup> December to the 23<sup>rd</sup> December** to spiritually prepare for Christmas and to reconnect with God in the days leading up to the birth of Jesus. Everyone is encouraged to attend our Parish's Simbang Gabi nine day Masses starting this Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 7.00pm at St Mary's Church, Kalgoorlie.

### 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. 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**