

# THE SAVING WORD

BAPTISM OF THE LORD (FEAST) / A

11 JANUARY 2026

## FIRST READING

Isa 42:1–4, 6–7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*Here is my servant, my chosen one in whom I am well pleased.*

Thus says the Lord:

Here is my servant whom I uphold,  
my chosen one in whom my soul delights.  
I have endowed him with my spirit  
that he may bring true justice to the nations.

He does not cry out or shout aloud,  
or make his voice heard in the streets.  
He does not break the crushed reed,  
nor quench the wavering flame.

Faithfully he brings true justice;  
he will neither waver, nor be crushed  
until true justice is established on earth,  
for the islands are awaiting his law.

I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause  
of right;

I have taken you by the hand and  
formed you;

I have appointed you as covenant of the  
people and light of the nations,

to open the eyes of the blind,  
to free captives from prison,  
and those who live in darkness from the  
dungeon.

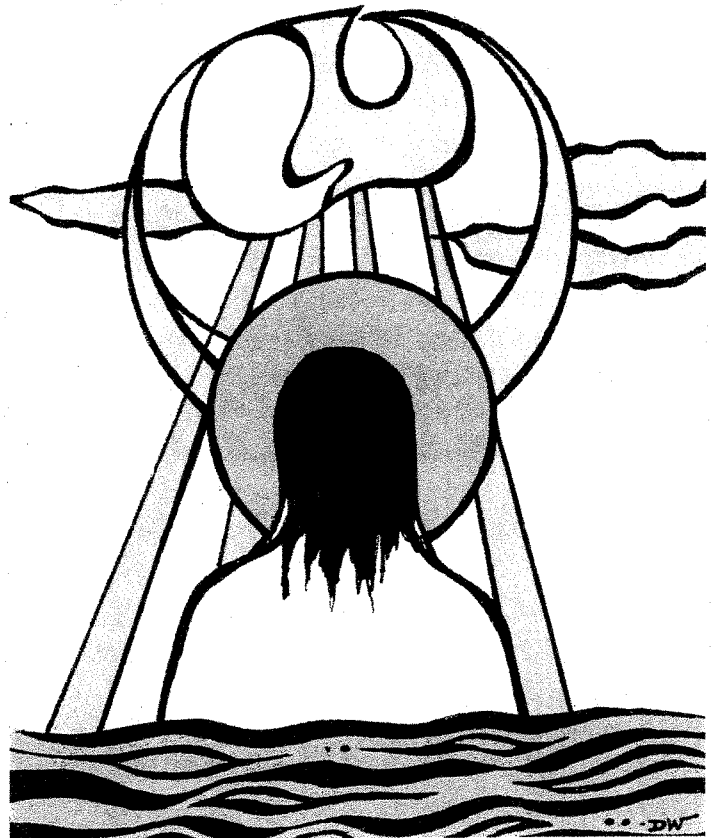
☉ The word of the Lord.

## RESP PSALM

Ps 28:1–4, 9–10. R.v.11

R. The Lord will bless his people with  
peace.

1. O give the Lord you sons of God,  
give the Lord glory and power;  
give the Lord the glory of his name.  
Adore the Lord in his holy court. R.



2. The Lord's voice resounding on the waters,  
the Lord on the immensity of waters;  
the voice of the Lord, full of power,  
the voice of the Lord, full of splendour. R.

3. The God of glory thunders.  
In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!'  
The Lord sat enthroned over the flood;  
the Lord sits as king for ever. R.

## SECOND READING

Acts 10:34–38

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power.*

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household:

'The truth I have now come to realise' he said  
'is that God does not have favourites, but that  
anybody of any nationality who fears God and  
does what is right is acceptable to him.

'It is true, God sent his word to the people of  
Israel, and it was to them that the good news of  
peace was brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus  
Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard

about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.'

The word of the Lord.

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Mk 9:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard:

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Alleluia!

#### GOSPEL

Mt 3:13-17

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*When Jesus was baptised, the heavens were opened and the Spirit of God came upon him.*

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. 'It is I who need baptism from you,' he said 'and yet you come to me!' But Jesus replied, 'Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.' At this, John gave in to him.

As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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



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# Breaking Open the Word

## THE BELOVED

Today's feast that celebrates the baptism of Jesus with the story of his baptism from Matthew's Gospel. The story, written in the mid-80s, is slightly different to what our ears would usually hear. It begins with John the Baptist's humble unwillingness to baptise Jesus. 'It is I who need baptism from you... and yet you come to me!' (3:14) While John's conviction is appropriate, Jesus encourages John to baptise him.

Perhaps Matthew's story reflects a historical memory of some who might have believed that perhaps John was the Messiah. This lingering memory is addressed in the dialogue between John and Jesus. Matthew's version, nevertheless, accentuates Jesus' humility in undergoing the baptismal ritual, very familiar to the Gospel's audience of Jewish followers of Jesus. Ritual bathing was part of a Jewish purification process before they entered places of holiness. Every Jewish house had its own *mikveh*, the ritual purification bath.

In today's Gospel, Jesus becomes that place of holiness in his baptism, in the *mikveh* of the Jordan River. God's Spirit descends upon him and God's voice attests, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him' (3:17). These words about Jesus' belovedness will be heard again as he is transfigured on the mountain (17:5) *en route* to Jerusalem where death awaits. God's attestation of Jesus, of God's delight in him, despite everything that will unfold in the remaining chapters of the Gospel, never leaves him. This divine conviction about Jesus and God's words are also God's conviction and words that the evangelist wants the Gospel audience, including us, to hear. All people, female and male, are God's beloved ones. God's delight and favour rests upon us. It is a Gospel conviction that we need to remember especially when life's struggles come our way.

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

Today, we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, marking the moment when Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River. May this Feast inspire us to renew our own baptismal promises and embrace our call to live as children of God.

#### 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.

#### BIRTHDAYS

Tracy Hicks 10/1 (please let us know of any up and coming birthdays).

#### RECENT DEATH

Joachim Tran Huy Toa RIP 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2025

#### BAPTISM THIS WEEKEND

John Vincent Galoso at St Mary's 11/1/2025

#### DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

David Wilkins

#### STAND ON HIS PROMISES

*You are my God, and I will praise You; You are my God, and I will exalt You. Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever.*

PSALM 118:28-29 NIV

#### A PRAYER FOR NEW BEGINNINGS

*Dear Lord, thank You for the opportunity to begin again. As this New Year unfolds, wash away the stains of my past and renew my heart. Let me walk into each day with hope, courage, and unwavering faith in You. Help me embrace new chances with humility and grace. Let every new day bring a deeper relationship with You and new opportunities to serve others in love. Amen.*

#### THE WEEK AHEAD

##### JANUARY

Mon 12	Weekday of Ordinary Time 9.30am SX Chap
Tue 13	Weekday of Ordinary Time 5.30pm
Wed 14	Weekday of Ordinary Time 7.00am
Thu 15	Weekday of Ordinary Time 7.00am
Fri 16	Weekday of Ordinary Time 7.00am
Sat 17	St Anthony 9.30am reconciliation 11.00am
Sun 18	<b>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> <b>SAVE THE DATE</b>

Sat 17 Jan 10.00am Menzies Community Mass

#### A MESSAGE FROM FR. THAI, FR. ERROL AND FR. QUOC

We warmly welcome friends and families who are visiting the Goldfields and we pray that everyone who is travelling during the holiday period reaches their destination safely.

#### 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY SANTO NIÑO NOVENA AND FIESTA

A nine 9 Novena will commence from the 15<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> January. A Novena will be held at 4pm every day in St Mary's Church Kalgoorlie. The motorcade procession will take place on 24<sup>th</sup> of January leaving at 4pm from Saint Mary's Church carpark. The final Mass celebration will be on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January at 10.00am followed by a Fiesta in the St Mary's Church, Kalgoorlie.

Everyone is invited to participate in any or all of the 2026 Sinulog celebrations.



Piety Stall.

#### SANTO NIÑO STATUES FOR SALE

In preparation for Señor Santo Niño we have a limited number of originally handcrafted statues from Cebu City for sale (30cm) at a bargain price of \$100. We also have smaller Señor Santo Niño Statues for sale as well in our

#### INTENTIONS AVAILABLE

Would you like to have a Mass said for a special intention, or for a loved one, living or deceased? Mass intentions are a beautiful way to pray for someone's special needs, recovery or in thanksgiving. Please fill out a form from the back of any of our Churches.

## CATHOLIC Q & A

**Why does the Priest kiss the Altar? Some do it after the last blessing at Mass and some do not. Is there some reason?**

For Catholics, the altar is not merely a piece of furniture. It is loaded with precious symbolism. Along with the pulpit, where the word of God is proclaimed, it is the focal point of our meeting with God the Father in and through Jesus Christ. If the liturgy of the Eucharist is the central event which brings us to the Father "through him (Christ) with him and in him" the altar around which this happens holds a place of primary honor and dignity. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal explains "The altar on which the Sacrifice of the Cross is made present under the sacramental signs is also the table of the Lord to which the people of God is called together to participate in the Mass, as well as the centre of the thanksgiving that is accomplished through the Eucharist".

The church extends this by referring to the altar not only as the place of renewing the sacrifice of Jesus, but as Jesus himself.

This is why the Church sees the altar (not the crucifix or even the tabernacle, containing the Blessed Sacrament) as the central and focal point of these buildings where we gather to celebrate the Eucharist. It is also why tradition has called for the bishop, priest and deacon to venerate the altar, usually with a kiss. Instructions for the Mass direct the Priest to kiss the altar at the beginning and end of Mass.

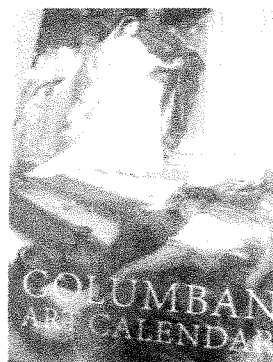
## CHOIR MEMBERS WANTED

Do you love to sing? Our Choir is looking for new voices to join them. Practice takes place on Thursday evenings at 5pm in St Mary's Church, Kalgoorlie. Practice is short and to the point. No audition or prior experience – just a love of music and faith.

## INVITATION TO A BOOK LAUNCH

### "THE GOOD SISTERS OF BOULDER"

The Goldfields Historical Society are hosting a book launch for the story of the Diocesan Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart at Boulder Western Australia 1897 – 1912 expertly written by Sue Sondalini on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026** starting at 7.00pm (at their office – Hamilton St Boulder). If you would like to attend this book launch please RSVP to [eghs@kalgoorliehistory.org.au](mailto:eghs@kalgoorliehistory.org.au)



## COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS

We have a limited number of Columban Art Calendars for 2026 for sale at \$10.00 each. They are available from our Piety Stall or from the Parish office.

## CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE CAN MAKE A CHANGE!

Just a reminder that if you have any suitable empty cans/bottles please place them in the specially marked pods situated in the back of the carpark of St Mary's Church Kalgoorlie. Proceeds from the return of the bottles/cans support our Christian Outreach Program, which provide essential food hampers to needy individuals and families in the Goldfields throughout the year.

## ROSTERS FOR MINISTRIES IN OUR PARISH 2026

Rosters for cleaning and reading in our St Mary's and All Hallows' Churches were emailed out this week. The rosters are for the next 6 months only. We Sincerely thank those parishioners for making this commitment and volunteering their time and efforts. Our Parish relies heavily on the generosity and talents of the people in our parish community. It could not function effectively without them.

If you can spare some time and would like to go on any of these rosters from July onwards, please email – [kalgoorlie@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:kalgoorlie@perthcatholic.org.au) and let us know which ministry you would like to volunteer for. Let us give God our best!

## A.A. MEETING

A.A. meetings are held in our St Mary's Parish Hall Brookman St Kalgoorlie every Wednesday 12.00pm – 1.00pm (throughout the year – except Christmas). New members are always welcome.

## PIETY STALL

Our Piety Stall is open every Sunday after the 10am Mass at St Mary's, Kalgoorlie for all your devotional 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. If we don't have what you are looking for, please let us know and we can do a special order for you. An EFTPOS facility is also now available. All purchases from our Piety Stall support our Parish's many outgoings.

## 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