

THE BULLETIN

ST THERESA'S PARISH

14 - 15 SEPTEMBER 2019

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR C

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In some ways, Moses got a pretty raw deal from God. He only survived at birth because his mother sent him off in a basket when all other Hebrew boys were being thrown into the river to drown. Then, as a grown man, Moses has to flee after he murders an Egyptian who had mistreated one of the Hebrews. In the midst of his exile in Midian, Moses is called by God to lead his people out of slavery. And, we know of the problems he had doing that. Pharaoh would not listen. Pharaoh would not let the Israelites go free. And so, with "arm outstretched" and "mighty hand", the Lord delivers his people into freedom. Moses' task then is to lead these people into the promised land. Sounds easy, doesn't it? With the Lord having worked such marvels in their sight, it would be a delight to lead God's people to freedom.

Not for Moses. Instead of giving thanks to God for their deliverance from slavery, the Israelites apostatise. They make a golden calf and worship this idol as their god. And so Moses goes into bat for his people. This is what we hear in today's First Reading. Moses asking the Lord not to bring disaster on his people. Asking the Lord to forgive his peoples even though they had turned away from him. And, of course, "the Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened."

The steadfast and faithful love of God is something that is celebrated in today's Gospel Reading. While there are three parables in today's Gospel Reading, it is the third of these parables that is the most famous. The parable of the lost sheep and the parable of the lost coin tend to be a bit forgotten when up against such company.

The parable of the Prodigal Son, or of the Forgiving Father, or of the Lost Son, would have to be one of the most famous of all the Gospel stories, and perhaps one of the most famous stories in the whole Bible. It is very familiar to us. And indeed, the Church keeps placing this story in front of us for good reason. Because this story is so familiar to us, again and again we are challenged to find some new meaning in this story for our lives as disciples.

Perhaps the titles which we give to this story will show how we understand it. By calling this story, the story of the Prodigal Son, it is easy to focus on the sinfulness of the younger son. How he took his share of the inheritance and wasted it on women, wine and song.

Sometimes, we refer to this parable as the story of the forgiving Father. By calling the story, the story of the Forgiving Father, we tend to focus on the love and mercy of the father in the story. And certainly there is love and mercy aplenty here. There is a line in the parable which is the key to this interpretation of the story. "while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity." The evangelist Luke does not tell us how long the younger son was away from home living his life of debauchery. It might have been years. But when the Son decides to return home, his father sees him while he is still a long way off. It seems to me that his father had been waiting for him to return. Perhaps the father had waited for years. How often, I wonder, had the father stood at the gates of his property and looked for his younger son to return? Every day? Every hour? We don't know. Here, I think we learn something of the richness and depth of God's love.

The author of Luke's Gospel places it in the fifteenth Chapter. Together with stories of a lost sheep and a lost coin. So we can also call this story, the story of the Lost Son. And it's easy to work out which son was lost, isn't it? It must be the younger son, the prodigal son. Or is it? (cont)

HEALING FOR THE SICK

Fr Ray O'Leary
(Kathy Humphrey's brother)

Parishioners:

Glynis Grosskopf
Neville Preece Len Pauli
Leo Ryan Eric Howe
Moya Schaefer
Rosemary & Brian Carter

Friends and Family

Anna Sellar (Trish & Terry Sheely's daughter)

Bernadette Welch
(friend of Bette Flamsteed)

Kathleen le Gras (Sister of Sr Una)

Nicole Sheridan (Nick & Carmel Sheridan's daughter in law)

Shona Kraayvanger
(Gabrielle Adam's daughter)

Joe Short (Powell family group)

Indiana Harman
(Ray & Madeline Taylor's Granddaughter)

Louis Gandini (Lina Pervan's brother)

Connie Bamgart (Lina Pervan's friend)

Peter & Elaine Dillon
(Vivienne Price's father & mother)

Patricia Jenkins (Thel Jelley's cousin)

Roslyn Morton (Patrick's sister)

Simon Riethmuller (Shirley's son)

Max Shearer (Grandson - Judy Shearer)

John Mullen (Helen McNaught's nephew)
Archie Mullen (Helen McNaught's brother)

Rev. Brian Sparksman

Fr Peter McGrath .CP

John Morgan (Kathy Sternes Uncle)

Veronica Griinke (Friend &

neighbour of Kathryn & Paul Marangelli)

Lesley Moyes (Aileen Collins' friend)

Molly Schmidt (Aileen Collins' friend)

ANNIVERSARIES

Kathleen Hoysted

Agnes Thompson

Les Kreis

Brian Meacle

Bill Lyons

Des Pauli

Fr Myles Patrick Smith

Bishop William Brennan

Fr Francis Burke

Fr Michael Skehan

MASSES


READINGS

BAPTISM

MON	NO MASS
TUE	NO MASS
WED	9.00AM MASS
THU	NO MASS
FRI	9.00AM MASS
SAT	6PM MASS
SUN	9.30 AM MASS
<p>RECONCILIATION IS AVAILABLE BEFORE MASS OR BY APPOINTMENT</p>	
<p>If you require a Gluten Free host, please advise the coordinator</p>	

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
First Reading: *Exodus 32: 7-11, 13-14*
 The Lord relented and did not send the evil he had threatened.
Responsorial Psalm:
Psalm 50: 3-4, 12-13, 17, 19
 I will arise and go to my father.
Second Reading:
1 Timothy 1: 12-17
 Christ came to save sinners.
Gospel Acclamation: *2 Corinthians 5:19*
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.
 Alleluia!
Gospel: *Luke 15: 1 - 32*
 There will be joy in heaven over one sinner who does penance.
Next week's readings.
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
Amos 8: 4-7
1 Timothy 2: 1-8
Luke 16: 1 - 13

This weekend through the Sacrament of Baptism we welcome into our parish
Harper Grace Anne Harrison
 &
Marlee Mae Briese



Baptisms are celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month either during Mass at 9.30am or after Mass at 11.00am

I just wonder whether it is the older son who is, in fact, the lost son. Because, of course, his younger brother is the son who is “found”. He returns to his father and is embraced with love and clothed in the “best robe” of his father’s mercy and forgiveness. As the father exclaims “he was lost and is found”.

The older brother, on the other hand, resents the return of his younger brother. And, tantalizingly, we never learn whether this older brother comes around and can rejoice with his father that his younger brother returns home. Does he stay outside sulking, still refusing to go in and celebrate despite his father’s pleading? Perhaps, just perhaps, it is the older brother who is in fact the lost son.

All of us, I suspect, at some stage in our lives, find ourselves in the position of each of the three major players in the third parable. Most of the time, we are the younger son: caught up in our sinfulness, “but leaving that place and returning to our father”. Sometimes, we find ourselves like the father: waiting patiently and ever watchful for the return of one we love who has gone astray. But, I suspect all of us, if we are honest with ourselves, will sometimes also find ourselves like the older son. Sulking outside and refusing to come in and share the joy of our younger brother’s return. Refusing to join the angels in their rejoicing over one repentant sinner.

When we do find ourselves like the older brother, I think we are then the lost son. But the invitation is always to “rise and return to our Father”. To leave the place of our sinfulness, and find our rest in the forgiveness and love of God. There is no need for us ever to remain lost.

*By Fr. Anthony Doran (Archdiocese of Melbourne, PP of Ringwood.)
 President of the Australian Academy of Liturgy*

PLENARY COUNCIL - Update

The online portal is now available to allow people to submit their discerned response to the Plenary Council for the Listening and Discernment phase. People are invited to participate in group discernment one on of the six National Themes for Discernment – a process that can be facilitated by the Listening and Discernment guide, “Let’s Listen and Discern”. “Let’s Listen and Discern”, as well as other resources for this new phase, can be accessed on this page of the Plenary Council website:
<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/listening-and-discernment/>



NOTICES



PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FUND

The Annual Appeal for the Priests' Retirement Fund was held recently. Envelopes are still available in the foyer for your donations. The funds raised support our 17 Retired Priests and provides a salary for Mrs Julie See the co-ordinator of our Diocesan Clergy Health Services. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

CANDLES FOR CHARITY - CAN YOU HELP

Molly Boyd is making candles for charity as part of a school project. If you have any small drinking glasses or tea cups that you no longer need and would like to donate for the purpose of making candles in them. All shapes would be gratefully appreciated. (small sizes would be great). There will be a box in the foyer where you can leave them. If you have any further questions please contact Matt on 0427 058 655

PARISH FELLOWSHIP

The parish community are invited to share fellowship together.

When: Saturday 28 September - Afternoon tea 4.30pm - 5.15pm in the foyer. Please bring a plate to share. Tea and coffee provided.

When: Sunday 29 September - Morning tea after Mass 10.30am - 11.15am.

Please bring a plate to share. Tea and coffee provided

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL 2019

The Archdiocese of Perth is hosting the next event from December 8th-10th 2019 on behalf of the ACBC. *Approximately 9.30am – 8.30pm each day.*

The Toowoomba Diocese are taking a group. Young people from year 9 up to 30 years of age are invited to the event.

NB: Young people under the age of 18 must travel as part of a group (with supervision)

Those interested may contact Fr. Tom Duncan or **visit: youthfestival.catholic.org.au**

PREGNANCY AND INFANT LOSS REMEMBRANCE DAY - MEMORIAL SERVICE

Date: 15/10/19 Tuesday

Time: 7:00pm

Where: Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Goodwood St Toowoomba

Our Lady of Lourdes Ecumenism Group extends a welcome to all parents, siblings, grandparents and others affected by the loss of a baby, regardless of whether the loss was recent or long ago, to a special Memorial Service followed by time for sharing and a cuppa.

NEW GUIDELINES FOR CHURCH RESPONSE TO ABUSE

The ACBC has released a statement about the development of new national guidelines that will inform the way Church authorities, including dioceses, respond to contemporary and historical allegations about the abuse of children or vulnerable adults. The new guidelines will make the way Church entities respond to such concerns consistent, and will help create a more transparent and accountable culture in the way the Church responds. As the release explains, the new guidelines will be developed with reference to the new National Catholic Safeguarding Standards, which were launched in May. A copy of the full media release is available in the foyer.

ST STEPHEN'S PITTSWORTH CELEBRATIONS

Father Thomas Areekuzhy M.C.B.S and St. Stephen's Parish Pastoral Council invite all to attend

St. Stephen's Catholic Church Pittsworth Celebrating 110 Years

Our Church is at the heart of the community. Many parishioners and residents of Pittsworth and surrounding districts have been welcomed into our community. All are welcome to the celebration of 11 decades of our Church.

The Mass will be presided over by Bishop Robert McGuckin

Sunday, 15TH September 2019

Mass Commencing at 10.00AM

RSVP: St Stephen's Parish Pittsworth - Tel: 46 932559

Email: ststephenspittsw@gmail.com

Light refreshments will be served after mass.

ABRAHAMIC FAITHS GATHERING

Date: 18/9/19 Wednesday

Time: 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Where: St Anthony's Parish, Memory Street, Toowoomba

The Downs and Toowoomba Churches Together have organised a gathering to promote understanding and acceptance between the Abrahamic Faiths - Christian, Jewish and Muslim. The evening will begin with a short presentation on Forgiveness from a member from each of the three faiths, followed by a question time and closing with a shared meal. See flyer in the foyer for details.

GOSPEL REFLECTION GROUPS

Are you interested in being part of a St Theresa's Gospel Reflection group either on Friday morning at 10am or a weekday evening. There are forms available in the foyer for you to fill in your details. Groups will commence in October.

Parish Priest:

Fr Brian Noonan ph:4696 7094
e-mail: brian.noonan@sttheresas.org.au

Pastoral Associate

Monica Brennan
Ph.: 4639 4688 Fax 4639 6538
e-mail: monica@sttheresas.org.au

Parish Secretary:

Janet Weier
Ph.: 4639 4688 Fax: 4639 6538
e-mail: office@sttheresas.org.au

Church: Cnr Campbell & Curzon Sts, Toowoomba

Office: 55 Curzon Street, Toowoomba

Parish Website www.sttheresas.org.au

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr Brian Noonan, Michael Murtagh, Francis Njoroge, Tim Burgess, Gay Jorgensen, Vanessa Horton, Bernadatte Zimbwa, Gailene Jurgs, Matt Boyd, David Wilson, Monica Brennan.

Finance Committee

Fr. Brian Noonan, Pat Morton, Warren Dredge, Ray Taylor, Shane Blakeley, Brian Wilson, Pat Richardson, Alfia Ginardi.

Liturgy Team

Fr. Brian Noonan, Jan Mayo, Peter Kenny, Carole Rogan, Libby Rosentreter, Monica Brennan, Suzanne Cavanagh.

Musicians

Norma Kenny, Kathy Sternes, Elizabeth Stewart, Libby Rosentreter.

Baptism Team:

Cath Kelly, Jenny Ryan, Tracy George, Bernadette Hede, Alison Daniel, Anne Anderson, Jan Watkins, Maureen Burke, Angela Irvine, Mary Otto, Jane Burgess, Catherine Cooper.

Sacramental Team:

Monica Brennan, Vanessa Horton, David Wilson, Gay Jorgensen.

Consolation Team:

Fr Brian Noonan, Lyn McRae, Peter Kenny, Bette Flamsteed, Pam Merritt, Alf Mason, Moya Schaefer, Josephine Nolan, Liz Phelan, Monica Brennan

Welcome & Hospitality Team:

Paul & Kathryn Marangelli, Carole Rogan, Maureen Burke.

Family Groups:

Contact Parish Office 4639 4688

Care & Concern Team

Coordinator: Pamela Merritt



DATES TO REMEMBER in SEPTEMBER /OCTOBER

Wed	18 Sept Parish office open
Thursday	19 Sept Parish office closed
Friday	20 Sept Mater Dei school holidays commence
Sat/Sun	28-29 Sept Shared Parish Fellowship
Sunday	29 Sept Social Justice Sunday
Tuesday	1 October St Thérèse of Lisieux Feast Day
Monday	7 October Queens Birthday Public Holiday. Parish Office Closed
Tuesday	8 October School resumes
Saturday	12 October 11am Parish Centre, Rosary prayer for Our Lady of the Rosary Feast Day
Tuesday	15 October St Teresa of Avila Feast Day
Mon-Wed	21 - 23 October Women's Retreat

BECOMING SOUL FULL: A RETREAT FOR CATHOLIC WOMEN

Date: 21-23/10/19

Where: James Byrne Centre, Highfields

Cost: Refer to flyer in foyer. Copies available
An invitation to Catholic women who struggle, question, survive, dream, advocate, care. Come, take time to listen to the Spirit and share your story of faith with other women. This retreat is a time to name our reality, concerns and dreams for the church in a safe and supportive environment. Let us name our hopes for Catholic women of the Diocese of Toowoomba. Retreat will be facilitated by Andrea Dean, Director of the Office for the Participation of Women and Office for Lay Pastoral Ministry within the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. Registration Closes 14/10/19

Second & Fourth Tuesdays /month

St Vincent de Paul St Theresa's Conference, 4pm, Contact 0408 808 437

First Tuesday/month

Care and Concern Meeting, 9.30am Parish Office.

First Wednesday /month

Parish morning tea at 9.45am, Cobb & Co Museum

Second Sunday

Mad Toowoomba Group from 7.00pm at St Anthony's. Parish Centre.

(Grade 7-12 people) PH: 4636 0461

