

# THE BULLETIN

ST THERESA'S PARISH

21-22 SEPTEMBER 2019

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR C

## Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Tekoa is a small town about twelve kilometres from Bethlehem. About 750 years before the time of Jesus, something happens to a sheep-farmer called Amos. While minding his sheep, he is called by God to leave his flocks and become a prophet. At this time, there were professional schools or groups of prophets. But Amos belongs to none of these: he is a shepherd. But God calls him. Directly and personally. Amos quickly finds that being God's prophet is not something he would chose for himself nor is it any part-time job. It becomes all consuming. As Amos says elsewhere: "The lion roars: who is not afraid? The Lord God has spoken: who will not prophesy?" (Amos 3:8)

The Northern Kingdom of Israel, to whom Amos is sent, was a kingdom of the "haves" and "have-nots", a kingdom sharply and cruelly divided between the rich and the poor. God speaks to his people, through the voice of the prophet Amos. Like other prophets, Amos is not impressed by outwards shows of religious piety:

*Spare me the din of your chanting,  
Let me hear none of you strumming on lyres,  
But let justice flow like water  
And uprightness like a never-failing stream (Amos 5:23)*

Amos confronts the vast concrete problem of social injustice. In today's First Reading, Amos attacks those who can't wait for the festivals to be finished so that they may go back to what they are really devoted to and that is exploiting those in need. Worship which just maintains the status quo is an affront to God. Worship which does nothing to address the situation of the poor in our midst is not worship at all. Worship, for Amos and for ourselves who gather to worship on Sundays, must cast a critical eye towards the world in which we live. Otherwise we are nothing more than a "gong booming or a symbol clashing." The best songs of praise are when the sounds of justice ring through the land.

Amos does not beat around the bush: he is no diplomat. He speaks plainly and simply like the countryman he is. He is a man of passion, through whom God has chosen to speak on behalf of the little ones who are exploited. Amos does more than just speak on their behalf: he seems to scream in protest and continues to call the people back to fidelity to the Covenant long after others have stilled their voice, settling for compromise and second best. Amos embodies the phrase that the one who does not love the brother and sister they can see; cannot possibly love the God they have never seen.

The point made by Amos is made by another plain talking prophet born near Tekoa, in Bethlehem. Jesus has the same directness of speech: "You cannot be the slave both of God and of money." If money is your real treasure, then it is not likely that you will be able to deal appropriately with the true treasure of the Kingdom of God. We run the risk of getting our religious beliefs entangled and entwined with our wallets.

Jesus tells a parable in which the steward appears to be praised for his dishonesty with money. But it is not money that is the problem, it is the way the steward uses money. The dishonest steward uses his money to save his own skin. How much more should honest people use money to build up the Kingdom, to care for the poor in their midst, to stop others from getting hurt? It is not that we can buy our way into the Kingdom of God, we cannot. But our use of money must be in harmony with the values of the Kingdom.

Whenever God speaks to us in the pages of Sacred Scripture, a reminder about the poor and needy is never too far away. We cannot claim to be people of faith; we cannot claim to be interested in social justice without committing something of ourselves to addressing the wrongs we see around us. Our worship of God *must* influence the way we behave. Our worship of God has to influence our way of dealing with each other. We cannot love the God we cannot see if we do not first love the brother and sister we can see.

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

## RECENTLY DECEASED

**Roslyn Atzeni**  
(Viv Ruffini's sister in law)

**HEALING FOR THE SICK**  
**Peter Brown** (Denis Brown's brother)  
**Fr Ray O'Leary**  
(Kathy Humphrey's brother)

**Parishioners:**  
**Glynis Grosskopf**                      **Len Pauli**  
**Neville Preece**                        **Eric Howe**  
**Moya Schaefer**                        **Leo Ryan**  
**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

**Kath Murphy**  
**Maud Humphrey**  
**Celia Dowling**  
**Daphny Butler**  
**Barry Arnold**

**MASSES**


**READINGS**

**BAPTISM**


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

**25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C**  
**First Reading:** *Amos 8: 4-7*  
 The Lord God spoke against those who buy the poor for money.  
**Responsorial Psalm:**  
*Psalm 112: 1-2, 4-8*  
 Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.  
**Second Reading:**  
*1 Timothy 2: 1-8*  
 Let prayers be offered to God for everyone; he wants all people to be saved.  
**Gospel Acclamation:** *2 Corinthians 8:9*  
 Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty.  
 Alleluia!  
**Gospel:** *Luke 16: 1-13*  
 You cannot be slaves of both God and of money.  
**Next week's readings.**  
**26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C**  
*Amos 6: 1, 4-7*  
*1 Timothy 6: 11-16*  
*Luke 16: 19-31*

This weekend through the Sacrament of Baptism we welcome into our parish  
**Vincent William John Wareham**




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



**RCIA**  
 Last weekend, we advertised that the parish RCIA enquiry night will be held on Wednesday 25 September at 7pm in the church.  
 Some background.  
 The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a journey adults take to become full members of the Catholic Church. This begs the question, how does it involve Me.?  
 Good question.  
 I have been involved in the RCIA ministry for nearly 15 years and have seen many adults come to know the love, mercy and compassion of an amazing, loving God.  
 For the most part, the initial enquiry from adults searching for God, comes as a result of a person witnessing the life of Christ through one or more of our own faith family.  
 Perhaps we could become more aware of comments directed to us about our faith, and simply direct them to discuss any aspect with me on an informal basis initially. If and when an individual is ready, they will be invited to journey with the RCIA team, whose ministry is rooted in the Saint Theresa's faith family.  
 Please extend an invitation to anyone you may know that is enquiring about our faith, including spouses that aren't Catholic, anyone from other faith traditions and people who have no particular faith...yet.  
 The initial enquiry is not trying to tie a rope around anyone's leg, it is simply to answer questions and let the individual make the election if they wish to journey with us or not at this point in time.  
 Please either call the office who will in turn advise me or just ring me directly on 0451131849.  
 Jesus called us to make disciples of all Nations. We can answer his call in our own corner of the world, here at St Theresa's Toowoomba.  
 Peace and Blessings  
 David Wilson

**PLENARY COUNCIL: Discernment**  
 Monday 23rd September 7.00pm Parish Centre.  
 Prayerful discernment regarding Plenary Council theme:  
 "How is God calling us to be a Christ - centred Church in Australia that is a joyful, hope-filled and servant community".  
 You are welcome to join the small group that has indicated they will take part.



NOTICES

# WHAT'S NEWS

## CONGRATULATIONS ON RECENT AWARDS

Recently two of our parishioners, Ciara Murphy and Loretta Coman have received significant awards.

CIARA MURPHY won Toowoomba & Darling Downs, Business Disability Award for Outstanding Employee. Ciara is an employee at Sedl Industries and was nominated by her employer Kate Morrison.

Loretta Coman whose article on SPRED which appeared in Horizons #50 (May 2018) has won best article on Catechesis at the annual Australasian Catholic Press Association Conference held in Bathurst this year.

## CARNIVAL OF FLOWERS: CATHEDRAL FLORAL DISPLAY

St Patrick's Cathedral is decorated in beautiful blooms centred around the theme "Spirit". The display will run through until Wednesday 25/9/2019

## CONVERSATIONS WITH NICK WAGNER:

### Catechumenate Workshops

Nick Wagner has been a leader and trainer in catechumenate ministry for more than twenty-five years. He has given presentations across the US and around the world. Nick has written key texts for the RCIA such as The Way of Faith. For further information regarding the Workshops please see the flyer in the foyer.



## 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

## AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL 2019

The Archdiocese of Perth is hosting the next event from December 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> 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](http://youthfestival.catholic.org.au)**

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

**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**

Wednesday **25 September** Parish Office **Open**  
Thursday **26 September** Parish Office **Closed**  
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

