



# THE BULLETIN

## ST THERESA'S PARISH

19 JANUARY 2020

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

### MISSION STATEMENT

*St Theresa's Catholic Parish is a vibrant, inclusive and welcoming community committed to living and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. Under our baptismal mission and inspired by the Spirit, we are bread for one another and nourished we reach out to make a difference in the world.*

## HOMILY by Richard Leonard

Some of us remember the provocative and frightening 1991 film *Silence of the Lambs*.

The image in the title refers to a childhood memory of CIA agent, Clarice Starling. In her interviews with the psychopath Dr Lecter, he gets her to talk about how she still wakes at night hearing the cry of the lambs as they were led to slaughter on her uncle's farm. This is a pivotal moment in Thomas Harris' book and the film. It is the leverage Dr Lecter needs to unsettle and unravel Clarice's well-formed defences. Clarice is revealed as vulnerable, because of the grief she carries from the violent deaths she has seen.

I remember empathising with Clarice's memory of the lambs. When I was a child I saw many sheep slaughtered on my family's properties. I can still see my uncle selecting one of them, holding it in the pen before its execution and then watching him do the deed. The scene should have been enough to turn me into a vegetarian! Alas, I got over my pity for the animal and enjoyed roast lamb a few nights later. John's use of the metaphor of the sacrificial lamb in reference to Jesus in today's Gospel is meant to engender a similar empathy to that of the childhood memories of Clarice Starling. While there are many jokes about the stupidity of sheep, lambs still claim a spot in the hardest heart. They are pure, white, fluffy and defenceless. They demand nurture. And like their parents they don't seem able to smell danger very easily. They follow where they're led, even to execution.

For the agrarian Jews of Jesus' time the sacrifice of a lamb demonstrated how serious they were about atoning for their sins. Jewish law dictated that a lamb had to be killed at least once a year, at Passover. Such a sacrifice cost the shepherd big time. Lambs were currency. This was tithing writ large.

Saying Jesus is the Lamb of God is a shorthand way of telling us two things. The first is that Jesus is God's most precious gift; God's own self, given to the world that we might know how serious God is about us. God can give us nothing more than Jesus. As a result of Jesus' innocent suffering and death there is no need for any lambs to be religiously slaughtered ever again. We need to keep hearing this message because some Christians get caught into glorifying Jesus' suffering so much they get trapped in their own world of pain and go looking for more. Jesus never sought out suffering. He bore what came his way. And the same must be true for us. Christians are not meant to be smiling masochists. Most of us don't need to look for more suffering in our lives because we share in the Lamb of God's sacrifice in the ordinary downs of our lives.

Secondly, John would have known that 'talya', the Aramaic word for sheep, is the same word used for servant. The first hearers of this Gospel would have known it too. Jesus, then, is the servant who brings us the truth we need for life, who answers our deepest desires to know that our existence has meaning and purpose and he opens up for us the life beyond this one, where there will be no more weeping or sadness.

Jesus shows us that when we are baptised into his death and enter his service we also share in his resurrection and glory because he bears, and bears away, the sins of the world.

© Richard Leonard SJ

**Richard Leonard SJ** is the Director of the Australian Catholic Office for Film and Broadcasting, is a member of the Australian Catholic Media Council and a film critic for all the major Australian Catholic newspapers. He completed a PhD in cinema studies at the University of Melbourne. He lectures in cinema and theology at the Jesuit College of Spirituality and has been a visiting lecturer in Australian cinema at the University of Melbourne, a visiting scholar within the School of Theatre, Film and Television at UCLA and is visiting professor at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Catholic University, has lectured widely and is the author of numerous books.

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Wanda Beardmore  
Marlene Erbs  
(John & Thérèse's sister-in-law)  
Fr John Rasmussen

### HEALING FOR THE SICK

#### Parishioners:

Francois Frichot    Neville Preece  
Len Pauli            Moya Schaefer  
Eric & Vi Howe  
Rosemary & Brian Carter

#### Friends and Family

Kate Sturgeon (Rita Sturgeon's  
Granddaughter)  
Peter Brown (Denis Brown's  
Brother)  
Stella Artuso (Paul & Kathryn  
Marangelli's Niece)  
Anna Sellar (Trish & Terry Sheely's  
daughter)  
Bernadette Welch  
(friend of Bette Flamsteed)  
Kathleen le Gras (Sister of Sr Una)  
Shona Kraayvanger  
(Gabrielle Adam's daughter)  
Joe Short (Powell family group)  
Indiana Harman  
(Ray & Madeline Taylor's  
Granddaughter)  
Louis Gandini (Lina Pervan's brother)  
Robert 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)  
Molly Schmidt (Aileen Collins' friend)

### ANNIVERSARIES

Stuart Ashton    Hayley Ryan  
Patricia Court    Lily Curran  
Nelle Laffy        Francene Anson  
Irene Gatt         Robert Gatt  
Robert Johnston   Fred Hoysted  
Kevin Rowland    Fred Taylor  
Benjamin Davey  
Rev Fr William Behm

## MASSSES

MON	NO MASS
TUE	NO MASS
WED	9am MASS
THU	NO MASS
FRI	9am MASS
SAT	6pm MASS
SUN	9.30am MASS

**RECONCILIATION IS AVAILABLE BEFORE MASS OR BY APPOINTMENT**

**If you require a Gluten Free host, please advise the coordinator.**

## READINGS

### 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

#### First Reading: *Isaiah 49:3,5-6*

I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

#### Responsorial Psalm: *39: 2, 4, 7-10*

Here am I Lord; I come to do your will.

#### Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 1:1-3*

The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

#### Gospel Acclamation: *John 1:14, 12*

Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted Him to become the children of God. Alleluia!

#### Gospel: *John 1: 29 - 34*

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world

#### Next week's readings.

#### Australia Day 2020 Year A

*Isaiah 32: 15-18*

*1 Corinthians 12: 4-11*

*Matthew 5: 1-12*

## BAPTISM

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



**Consolation Message**  
Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal



### Liturgy Thoughts No 15 Matthew

We will hear a big part of Matthew's gospel proclaimed at Sunday Mass throughout the rest of 2020. We won't hear the whole gospel read to us. You may wish to fill in the gaps for yourself between one Sunday and the next. It may be helpful to know a few things about Matthew's gospel as a whole.

- It was originally written in Greek, then the common language of the eastern Mediterranean.
- It was written in the last quarter of the first century.
- Though Matthew is traditionally listed as the first gospel, Bible scholars now agree that Mark was the first gospel written and Matthew and Luke took much of their material from Mark.
- No one is sure why the gospel was called "Matthew"; there is no evidence that the gospel-writer is the Matthew listed as an apostle or that he is the tax-collector Jesus called to follow him. That tax-collector is called Matthew only in this gospel; he is Levi in Mark and Luke.
- Matthew was writing for a community of Jewish Christians after the Romans very bloodily destroyed the Jewish temple in 70. The surviving, dispersed Jews were trying to work out how to live Jewish life without having a temple.
- Matthew is assuring his readers that the following of Jesus is the best way to be a faithful Jew. There are rival approaches and Matthew frequently uses the phrase "scribes and pharisees" to label these rivals. In doing so he gave a bad name to many good scribes (legal and religious record-keepers) and holy pharisees (something like a Jewish religious order).
- After the infancy story and before Jesus's passion and resurrection, the bulk of Matthew's gospel is a series of speeches by Jesus each preceded by a narrative section where actions of Jesus and incidents affecting him are described. *Gerard Hore*

### REFLECTION by Diane Bergant CSA

Ours is an historical religion. It not only unfolds within the joys and disappointments of time and place, but it is rooted in actual events that took place in the lives of real people. The Christ to whom we commit ourselves is not a mythic character, a figment of communal religious imagination. He is someone who was born into history, at a specific period of time, in a particular place. He was known by real people like John the Baptist; he submitted himself to historical rituals like baptism. He had followers who testified to the truth of both his existence and his life. Jesus was a man of history.

Like Paul, we too have been called to be apostles. We received this call when we were baptised. The beginning of the year, with its custom of making new resolutions, is a wonderful time to remember to what we have committed ourselves. At times it seems that our own apostleship is no less daunting than was Paul's. However, it is no less immediate either.

Whether the period of history is the first half of the first century, as was the time of Jesus, or the second half, as was the time of Paul, or the twenty-first century, as is our time, salvation unfolds within the events of time. Furthermore, the followers of Jesus always return to the events of his life in order to discover the meaning of the events in their lives. These past events are reinterpreted in the ongoing present. Discipleship is never otherworldly.

NOTICES



**SOUND DESK VOLUNTEERS -CAN YOU HELP**

Our worshipping community at St Theresa's values the contribution made by our volunteers who operate the sound desk, controlling sound and visuals. Recently with some families moving from our parish and various other commitments, we have lost some valuable members of the ministry who are available on Sundays. We are looking for teams of 2 to come on board and be part of this ministry. Training will be provided and an experienced person will lead you through during the initial masses that you are the sound desk operators. Please consider this ministry and contact the parish office by phone Ph:4639 4688 or email [office@sttheresas.org.au](mailto:office@sttheresas.org.au) or [monica@sttheresas.org.au](mailto:monica@sttheresas.org.au) if you wish to belong to this ministry or have any questions about this ministry.



**ST THERESA'S PARISH CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

Thank you to all who donated to the St Theresa's Parish Christmas Appeal. A Total of \$2800.00 was raised. Christmas Eve Mass, collection total \$2,353.00  
Christmas Day Mass, collection total \$472.35  
A combined Total \$2825.35  
The Cheque for \$1,400.00 has been forwarded to the Diocese of Toowoomba to be distributed between Catholic Care Social Services & Drought Angels.



**SVDP LEARN TO SEW PROGRAMME**

St Vincent de Paul & DHSS will be holding sewing programmes which are open to all but particularly for migrant's and refugees as being a way for us to meet with them & vice/versa. There are flyers in the foyer with details. For further information please contact Gita 4699 5200.

**PLENARY COUNCIL 2020:  
LOCAL LISTENING &  
DISCERNMENT**

**Date: 15/2/20 Saturday  
Time: 10:00am - 2:00pm**

Where: To be confirmed dependent on numbers. The event will be held in Toowoomba.

A gathering is on offer to people interested in participating in the Listening and Discernment Phase for the Plenary Council but have missed this opportunity in their parish or agency. Register your interest at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RSY83FC> Registration will be open until 31/1/20, at this time people will be notified of venue. If you have any questions regarding this event, please contact Mary Otto on 0447 074 807 or email [rcia@twb.catholic.org.au](mailto:rcia@twb.catholic.org.au).



**AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND**

To celebrate Australia day and to raise funds for the bushfire crisis, St Theresa's parish community will join together in fellowship.

**SATURDAY 25 JANUARY  
SUPPER AFTER MASS**

After 6pm Mass join in some supper of Tim Tams and lamingtons with tea and coffee.



Australia Day

**SUNDAY 26 JANUARY  
SPECIAL MORNING TEA**

After 9.30am mass, have a tea and damper morning tea.

A donation box will also be provided with all funds going to the bushfire crisis appeal.

**REQUEST FROM ACBC**

There has been a request from the Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference for a special collection be taken up during the Masses on the Australia Day weekend. There will be a special collection taken up at both Masses.



**CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

Thank you to all the members of the Children's Liturgy team. We have had a wonderful response from the children and families within our parish. There will be no children's liturgy over the Christmas holiday break.

Children's liturgy will commence again on Sunday 9 February 2020.

We are always looking for volunteers to join us. If you are interested, please contact Monica at the office Ph.: 4639 4688

**JOHN WALLIS MEMORIAL LECTURE**

**Lindy Chamberlain-Creighton:**

**When: 8 March at 2pm**

**Where: St Theresa's Parish Centre  
Cnr Curzon & Campbell Sts, Toowoomba.**

For enquiries or bookings contact Sr Mary Cleary 4634 9786, [marycleary5@bigpond.com](mailto:marycleary5@bigpond.com)

**BUS TRIP MARIAN VALLEY  
RELICS TOUR**

St Therese of Lisieux and her parents.

**When: Saturday 15 February.**

**Cost: \$25.00 pp**

Bus departs Neil St outside St Patrick's Cathedral at 7.00am.

For bookings contact Theresa on 0434 528 904



CONTACTS

**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, Tim Burgess, Gay Jorgensen, Vanessa Horton, Bernadette 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 Flamsted, 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

**RCIA**

Coordinator: David Wilson



NOTICE

**DATES TO REMEMBER FOR JANUARY**

Friday	<b>24 January 9am</b> Mater Dei staff opening mass with parish
Saturday	<b>25 January</b> Tim Tams & lamingtons Supper after Mass
Sunday	<b>26 January</b> Australia Day Special Tea and Damper morning tea after 9.30am Mass
Sat/Sun	<b>25/26 January</b> ACBA special collection for those affected by Bushfires
Monday	<b>27 January</b> Australia Day public holiday Parish office closed.
Tuesday	<b>28 January</b> School Term 1 starts.

**PRAYER FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY BUSHFIRE AND DROUGHT:**

Eternal God,

In wisdom and love you created our earth to sustain us and give us life.

We turn to you now in faith, hope and love, asking you to look with favour on our fire-ravaged and drought-stricken land, on our starving and displaced animals, on our failing crops and burning farms, towns and forests. Strengthen, sustain and give new heart to our farmers and to all who are affected by drought; be with those who support them. Strengthen and comfort the victims of the fires, those who have lost family, friends, property and stock. Protect our volunteer firefighters and all members of essential services.

In your loving providence, send abundant rain to quench the fires and to restore our parched earth. Father of all compassion, hear our prayer through Jesus Christ your Son, in whom the promise of new life has dawned, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, the Lord the giver of life: Renew your faithful people; Renew the face of the earth.

Our Lady of the Southern Cross, Mary, help of Christians – Pray for us.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop – Pray for us.



**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.

