

# THE BULLETIN

ST THERESA'S PARISH

31 MAY 2020

PENTECOST SUNDAY

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.*

## GREETINGS FROM YOUR PARISH PRIEST - BRIAN

I hope you are all well and coping with the COVID-19 restrictions. I would like to take this opportunity to give an update and appraisal of how current restrictions affect us as a Church. We are all aware of the Qld. Government's three stage directive (from May16-early August) regarding easing restrictions.

As we enter Stage 2 (4wks from 13 June) subject to the approval of our COVID Safe Plan, the Bishop has authorised individual Baptisms with a maximum of 20 attending. Weddings are permitted allowing 20 people to attend. In regard to funerals, a maximum of 50 people are allowed to attend. At all services strict social distancing remains (except same family groups) and we will be maintaining all the requirements of our COVID Safe Plan.

There will be a significant change in the number allowed to attend when we enter Stage 3 (4wks from 1 July) where up to 100 people will be allowed to attend-Funerals, Weddings, and Worship and Religious Ceremonies.

As I am sure you can appreciate our prime concern is the welfare and safety of all. I am also conscious that Government directives can also change on a regular basis depending on the effects of the virus. I have listed the current situation and will continue to update and keep you informed of any developments.

In the midst of this crisis, I have been heartened and inspired by the kindness that parishioners are showing to each other. The support and pastoral care you are giving to each other highlights to me the strong movement of the Holy Spirit in our midst.

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost where we not only reflect on what it means to be Church, but celebrate the unique and powerful presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst.

My prayer is that the Enabling presence of the Holy Spirit be with you all especially over this Pentecost time.

May God's continued blessings be with you all

Fr. Brian



## ST THERESA'S MASSES ON YOUTUBE—new time slot

Wednesday mass each week is available on our YouTube channel at 9.30 am. Our YouTube channel is available on this link. Just click on the link printed here to access directly. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKTEMLMUB7sC4kfQ4V9oQ7Q>

## SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,  
Come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace you as if you were already there,  
And unite myself wholly to you.  
Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

## HEALING FOR THE SICK

### Parishioners:

Francois Frichot Len Pauli

Neville Preece

Moya Schaefer

Brian Carter

### Friends and Family

Kim Ireland (Kathy Sternes friend)

Peter Brown (Denis Brown's Brother)

Kate Sturgeon (Rita Sturgeon's Granddaughter)

Anna Sellar (Trish & Terry Sheely's daughter)

Bernadette Welch (friend of Bette Flamstead)

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)

Molly Schmidt (Aileen Collins' friend)

Mary Smith

Mat Long

Laurel White

Tony Atzeni

Mark O'Dea

Pat Coonan

Alan Griinke

Jean Green

Ron Beauchamp

Margot Meiklejohn

Zeta Schaumberg

Yvonne Conroy

Ross Jeppeson

Josephine Ragg

Fr Kevin Noble

## ***Pentecost***

**Pentecost is a reminder that, both in our personal lives and society, God does not do everything at once but works in stages.**

Pentecost Sunday, this year on 31 May, recalls the time when the Holy Spirit came down on the Church.

It also continues to remind us that, both in our personal lives and society, God does not do everything at once but works in stages. As we move through our time of trial with coronavirus, this aspect of Pentecost may help us.

Pentecost Sunday itself has three layers built into it. In the Scriptures the day occurs on a Jewish feast day. The name of that feast includes the Greek word for 50. The Jewish feast of tabernacles, or in Australian slang lean-tos, celebrated the end of the harvest. It was time to thank God for plenty. It was 50 days after the celebration of Passover, which marked the beginning of harvesting new crops.

**All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

### ***Gospel***

**Jn 20:19-23**

**Reader:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,  
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,  
they are forgiven:

for those whose sins you retain,  
they are retained.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### ***REFLECTION by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart***

Pentecost is called the birthday of the church because before Pentecost, there really was no church. Jesus had ascended back into the heavens, the Apostles were hanging around, scared and confused, and nobody knew what to do. Going out to baptise people and preach about Jesus was the last thing they had in mind because their lives would be in danger. But Pentecost celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit – the force that turned a bunch of frightened, mixed-up folks into church. There was a rush of wind, tongues of fire, and then suddenly there was courage, knowledge, direction and commitment! Everyone started speaking and was understood, no matter what the language of the listener was! These were saints suddenly on fire with the Holy Spirit. And it all began with the wind and fire of the Spirit.

What changes in you do you wish the Spirit could blow your way? How can you cooperate with the Spirit? In what ways do you need more courage, knowledge, direction or commitment? What else might you need?

In what ways are you and your parish like the disciples before Pentecost? In what ways are you and your parish like the disciples after Pentecost?

### **Prayers for the community**

**All:** Blessed with the gifts of the Spirit, we make the good news known in our words and works of mercy. Let us pray as one for the healing of the world.

Pour out your Spirit upon Pope Francis: May he continue to grow courageously in his leadership and in his calls for peace and active nonviolence through care and respect for all our sisters and brothers; all living things and our Common Home. **Let us pray to the Lord.**

Pour out your Spirit of wonder on the world: For all who have lost jobs and livelihoods in the arts, entertainment and tourism industries. May their hardship be eased by appreciative community support. **Let us pray to the Lord.**

Pour out your Spirit as inspiration in the world: We pray for students and teachers at every level of the education system. May they manage the resumption of work with wisdom, confidence and enthusiasm. **Let us pray to the Lord.**

Pour out your Spirit as a bond of grace on the world: For Christian communities around the world. May Mary, mother of the church, be for all believers a model of life laid open to the Spirit of God. **Let us pray to the Lord.**

Pour out your Spirit of courage on the world: For nations long struggling with poverty, conflict and adversity. May the added threat of the coronavirus call forth a new spirit of active solidarity. **Let us pray to the Lord.**

*Pray for your own intentions. Together we pray the Our Father*

### ***Final prayer and Blessing***

The God of Fire and Enthusiasm has enlightened our minds with wisdom and love in the Holy Spirit. May God bless us with the gifts of the Holy Spirit forever. May that same fire which hovered over the disciples as tongues of flame burn away any darkness from our hearts and make us shine in God's pure light. The Spirit inspired speech in different tongues to proclaim one faith. May our tongues find inspiration to speak always the language of love.

May God bless us in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen



## St Theresa's Parish



The theme of Reconciliation Week (27 May-3 June) this year is *In This Together*. The celebration of the week is likely to be subdued, a victim of the restrictions imposed on us by the Coronavirus.

The 1967 Referendum and the 1992 Mabo case show how far Indigenous Australians have had to come to since the white settlers arrived, and how much more needs to be done. Indigenous Australians would argue that they were never in this together, but were excluded at every turn, receiving as privileges what everybody else enjoyed as rights.

For this reason, it is a tribute to the generosity of spirit of Indigenous communities that the Reconciliation Week slogan is so positive.

### An invitation

It invites us to ask what it means to say to our friends or fellow Australians, 'We are in this together'. Easy words, but not so easy to put into practice. In our time of isolation, however, we have vivid images of what it looks like to be in it together in the selfless commitment of doctors, nurses and other medical staff, through the simple ways in which people look after others in need by buying for them, ringing them and in many similar ways.

We have also seen hints of what it means what it looks like to be in it together in government actions. They made it clear that saving lives is more important than making wealth, and have appealed to the common good when putting the restrictions on our freedom that have caused much pain and loss.

This is the kind of thinking and action that Reconciliation Week calls for. It calls on us to acknowledge that indeed we are all in this together, that at many times and in many places we have not previously been so, and that in the future our hearts must change.

### Coming to terms

Reconciliation cannot be a papering over of past actions and injuries but the recognition and coming to terms of them. It means acknowledging that the history of our past relationships has been marked by dispossession, violence and discrimination.

It led to inequality and separation, to a world in which Indigenous Australians had little agency. In such conditions people can be in the same room together, but not in any deeper sense be in this together.

If this Reconciliation Week brings us all closer to a shared understanding and empathy about our history and a determination similar to that shown in the response to the Coronavirus, it will have been worthwhile no matter how restricted our celebration of it might be.

### Path to reconciliation

For Christians the celebration reminds us of the way that God came to share our life and so to be in this together. It reminds us also of how costly that path was for Jesus and that our path to reconciliation also involves self-sacrifice and going out with empty hands to people who are different from us. If we take this path we shall be with God and in this together.

By **Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ**

### EUTHANASIA DEBATE

*An opinion piece written by Bishop Tim Harris (Diocese of Townsville) around the current euthanasia conversation that is happening in the Queensland Parliament*  
Bishop Tim is the Bishops' spokesperson on this issue.

While all Australians are affected by the COVID-19 virus, as a North Queenslander I am thanking God that we have not been hit as hard as others. And while COVID seems to dominate all we see and hear there is another big issue in Queensland this year in which we will have to interpret what real compassion means. It is about how best to be compassionate to people who are at the end of their lives. There are some who say that the most compassionate thing to do is to allow a person to be assisted by doctors to end their lives when they feel the pain is too hard to bear. To see a loved one die is a very hard thing indeed. I have made this journey with both my mother and my father and I have felt the pain of seeing those so close to me forced to submit to the frailty of their failing bodies, a journey we will all will have to face.

But I believe it is a misdirected sense of compassion to feel that it is right to actively cooperate in the killing of any human being. Sadly, this misplaced sense of compassion is visible in report of the Parliamentary Committee which was listed on the Parliament's Notice Paper this Wednesday 24 April. The report calls for introduction of assisted suicide laws in Queensland and introduction of a regime with much weaker so called 'safeguards' than present in Victoria where the demand for assisted suicide has surged.

The majority of the Committee do not recommend any time limit in terms of how long a dying person is expected to live before they are eligible for assisted suicide. In practice this means the scheme could include a range of conditions that could ultimately be terminal but may be curable or managed, like diabetes. The Committee also suggested that registered nurses should be able to make the assessment and administer the drug where there are few doctors in remote areas. Persons with episodic mental illness can access the scheme if they have a decision-making capacity, which might include many persons with clinical depression.

We need to listen to the doctors. They want to save lives and not actively seek to take them. Palliative care specialists tell me is that can control pain in 98-99 per cent of all cases. With a good palliative care plan they can effectively eliminate pain and allow dying patients to journey longer with their loved ones leading to a peaceful end. This is real compassion in practice. In North Queensland we have just one palliative care specialist who has to travel large distances to offer specialist palliative care.

However, even if funding benchmarks are met assisted suicide should not be supported. The State should not get involved in this most intimate, most sacred time of our life. Death is not a hopeless point of empty suffering. It is instead a deeply spiritual time for a dying person, who, in approaching death, approaches the fulfilment all they are and have been, breaking through the shadows of this world to a fulfilment of their real life and humanity and dignity in the a new and wondrous dawn "where there will be no more mourning, nor sorrow, nor pain" as the Apostle John writes. And for the families of those dying it too is a special time when they can return to their dying parents in their current vulnerability the love they received as little children in their own vulnerability. The great circle of life, of love, is completed and even though it involves suffering, this suffering has meaning, as it celebrates love with hope. This is a perspective to which our indigenous leaders also appeal.

Only true compassion allows people to die with dignity, a dignity that celebrates every moment of their natural life even unto their last breath.





## CONTACTS

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**Church:** Cnr Campbell & Curzon Sts, Toowoomba

**Office:** 55 Curzon Street, Toowoomba

**Parish Website** [www.sttheresas.org.au](http://www.sttheresas.org.au)

**Parish Pastoral Council**

Fr Brian Noonan, Michael Murtagh, Tim Burgess,  
Bernadette Zimbwa, Gailene Jurgs, Matt Boyd, David  
Wilson, Trish Kennedy-Lee, Lauren Newman,  
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, Libby  
Rosentreter, Monica Brennan, Gay Jorgensen.  
Suzanne Cavanagh, Elizabeth Stewart.

**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, Angela Martlew, 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,  
Maureen Burke.

**Family Groups:**

Contact Parish Office 4639 4688

**Care & Concern Team**

Coordinator: Pamela Merritt

**RCIA**

Coordinator: David Wilson



## NOTICE

**DAILY MASSES ON LINE**

**St Theresa's East Toowoomba—Mass Wednesday**  
Available at 9.30am through our youtube channel—St Theresa's  
East Toowoomba. [https://www.youtube.com/channel/  
UCKTEmLMUB7sC4kfQ4V9oQ7Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKTEmLMUB7sC4kfQ4V9oQ7Q)

**Archdiocese of Brisbane** - [https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/  
multimedia/web-cast-schedule/](https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/multimedia/web-cast-schedule/) **8 am Mass daily**

**Diocese of Townsville** – [www.tsv.catholic.org.au](http://www.tsv.catholic.org.au) or  
[youtube.com/user/SacredHeartCathTSV](https://www.youtube.com/user/SacredHeartCathTSV) **10am Mass daily**

**Diocese of Rockhampton** – [www.rok.catholic.net.au](http://www.rok.catholic.net.au) or

[Youtube.com/user/StJosephsCathRton](https://www.youtube.com/user/StJosephsCathRton) **12noon Mass daily**

**Diocese of Cairns** - [www.cairns.catholic.org.au](http://www.cairns.catholic.org.au) OR YouTube  
Channel Diocese of Cairns **5.30pm Mass daily**

**Archdiocese of Sydney** – [www.stmarycathedral.org.au](http://www.stmarycathedral.org.au)

**9am Mass daily** – at the Cathedral.

See website for other parish masses

**Archdiocese of Melbourne** – [www.melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass](http://www.melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass)

**1pm Daily Mass Monday-Friday** – any changes of times can be  
viewed on website.

**8am Daily Mass Saturday**

**SUNDAY MASSES ON LINE**

**Toowoomba Diocese** – [www.twb.catholic.org.au](http://www.twb.catholic.org.au)

**9am Mass each Sunday** available through direct link via home  
page on web site OR search youtube – Catholic Diocese of  
Toowoomba OR Facebook- Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba

**Archdiocese of Brisbane** - [https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/  
multimedia/web-cast-schedule/](https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/multimedia/web-cast-schedule/) **8am and 10am Mass each Sunday**

**Diocese of Townsville** – [www.tsv.catholic.org.au](http://www.tsv.catholic.org.au) or

[youtube.com/user/SacredHeartCathTSV](https://www.youtube.com/user/SacredHeartCathTSV) **10am Mass each Sunday**

**Diocese of Rockhampton** – [www.rok.catholic.net.au](http://www.rok.catholic.net.au) or

[Youtube.com/user/StJosephsCathRton](https://www.youtube.com/user/StJosephsCathRton) **9.30am Mass each Sunday**

**Diocese of Cairns** - [www.cairns.catholic.org.au](http://www.cairns.catholic.org.au) OR YouTube

Channel Diocese of Cairns **10am and 5.30pm each Sunday**

**Archdiocese of Sydney** – [www.stmarycathedral.org.au](http://www.stmarycathedral.org.au)

**10.30 am Mass daily** - at the Cathedral.

See website for other parish masses

**5pm Liturgy of the Hours** – Vespers and Benediction

**Archdiocese of Melbourne** – [www.melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass](http://www.melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass)

**11am Mass each Sunday**

**PLANNED GIVING ST THERESA'S**

We have had a number of enquiries from parishioners  
asking how they can pay their Planned Giving contributions.

One way is to make a Direct Deposit if you wish.

The bank details are listed below.

CBA: Arch Diocese of Brisbane

BSB:064 786 Account Number: 100014392

Please reference your envelope number if you have one.

If you have transferred funds to the

account listed last week, can you

**please contact Janet at the office**

**PH: 4639 4688**

**OTHER RESOURCE SITES WHICH CAN BE  
ACCESSED DURING THIS TIME OF ISOLATION****MyParishApp**

Visit [myparishapp.com](http://myparishapp.com) to download our parish app.

1. Download myParish App
2. Select St Theresa's Toowoomba after opening the App  
and you will receive the bulletin, messages and other useful  
resources.

**LiturgyHelp**

LiturgyHelp have created free access to individual and  
family prayer resources for Catholics in social isolation.

1. Go to [liturgyhelp.com/aus/pray](http://liturgyhelp.com/aus/pray). Once you are have  
gone to this site, follow the directions to create a login.
2. Liturgyhelp also have a facebook page which you can  
access if you are a facebook user.