

THE BULLETIN

ST THERESA'S PARISH

1-2 MAY 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

YEAR B

THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

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.

5th Sunday of Easter

Until I spent time on a vineyard ten years ago, I always heard the parable of the vinedresser as a tough, 'shape up or ship out' message. I always imagined God as the vinedresser having a field day lopping and cutting my dead branches, trimming my unproductive stems and uprooting all the rot that undermines my fruitfulness. It always felt like a violent activity.

It was a pleasant surprise then, to actually see a vinedresser in action. Far from an act of violence, the care paid by the dresser to each stem is extraordinary. He or she carefully inspects the branch, delicately cutting only the smallest amount so that the vine will be healthier and more productive. A good vinedresser pores over the vines and from experience knows that to cut too much or too little will render the vine without its distinctive character. Every cut is measured and aimed to prune back only the diseased branch, so as to bring about greater growth for the whole vine and a bigger yield for the vineyard. The vinedresser is not violent with the vine, but extremely tender. The first hearers of today's Gospel would have known that this metaphor is anything but a 'shape up or ship out' message.

This parable is a profound insight into the Christian life. We can claim to belong to the Christian family all we like. We can come to Mass every Sunday. But if the fruit we produce is bitter and poisonous, if we are unforgiving, unjust and uncaring, we cannot claim to be on the vine of Christ's love. And if that's the case we are in desperate need of the gentle hand of the vinedresser, who only wants to see us bring forth the yield we are capable of achieving.

Rev Billy Graham once said, 'Being a member of the Church no more makes you a Christian than living in a garage makes you a car.' That's the point of today's Gospel: God will not judge us by what we say or the public face of goodness we can turn on, we will be judged by our acts of love in and through our kindness and compassion.

This metaphor also reminds us that we are connected to each other. There are moments in our life of faith when we hear or see other Christians saying or doing things we cannot countenance. We can try to disown them by retreating into our denomination, but we are all connected in Christ's vineyard. We need the courage to tell them the truth as we see it, and charitably point out the problems we have with what they think is right. And we need the humility to listen when they challenge us.

It's even harder when the diseased part of the vine is in our own Catholic section of the vineyard. Our first instinct can be to lop off the branch, just to get rid of it. But as any vinedresser knows this is the last resort. Whether we find it easy or not, Christ calls us to limited surgical interventions over amputations every time. (cont)



RECENTLY DECEASED

Francois Frichot

HEALING FOR THE SICK

Parishioners:

Brian Stevens

Anne Thomas

Brian Carter

Len Pauli

Margaret Barry (past parishioner)

Friends and Family

Evelyn Wilson (David Wilson's mother)

Jenny Menso (Aileen Collins' friend)

Will Wildig (Meg Hicks' Brother in Law)

Geoff Doyle (Mary Otto's brother)

Tony Rosenthal

(Friend of John & Thérèse Erbs)

Anna O'Toole (Maryanne Long's friend)

Madeline (Sally) Gray

(Kathy Sternes' Mother)

Stella Artuso (Paul & Kathryn

Marangelli's Niece)

Phil Connolly (Glen & Bernadette

Whisson's friend)

Kim Ireland (Kathy Sternes' friend)

Kate Sturgeon (Rita Sturgeon's

Granddaughter)

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)

Connie Bamgart (Lina Pervan's friend)

Peter Dillon (Vivienne Price's father)

Patricia Jenkins (Thel Jelley's cousin)

Simon Riethmuller (Shirley's son)

Max Shearer (Grandson - Judy Shearer)

John Mullen (Helen McNaught's nephew)

Rev. Brian Sparksman

Fr Peter McGrath .CP

John Morgan (Kathy Sternes' Uncle)

Molly Schmidt (Aileen Collins' friend)

ANNIVERSARIES

Peter Smith

William Hutchison

Arthur Schneider

Thomas Ryan

Peter Meiklejohn

Alice Meiklejohn



Denise Hodgson

Peta Murphy

Lance Jelley

Les Murphy

Mary Reilly

MASSES		READINGS	NOTICES
MON	NO MASS	<p>5th Sunday of Easter Year B</p> <p>First Reading: <i>Acts 9: 26-31</i> He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.</p> <p>Responsorial Psalm: <i>21: 26-28, 30-32</i> I will praise you Lord, in the assembly of your people.</p> <p>Second Reading: <i>1 John 3: 1 - 2</i> We shall see God as he is.</p> <p>Gospel Acclamation: <i>1 John 18 - 24</i> Alleluia, alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!</p> <p>Gospel: <i>John: 15: 1- 8</i> All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.</p> <p>Next week's readings. 6th Sunday of Easter Year B <i>Acts 10: 25-26</i> <i>1 John 4: 7-10</i> <i>John 15: 9-17</i></p>	<p>BAPTISM</p> <p>Baptisms are celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month either during Mass at 9.30am or after Mass at 11.00am</p> 
TUE	NO MASS		
WED	9 AM MASS		
THU	NO MASS		
FRI	9 AM MASS		
SAT	6PM MASS		
SUN	9.30AM MASS		
<p>If you are Gluten intolerant and require a special host, please advise the coordinator.</p>			<p><u>1 May Feast of St Joseph the Worker</u></p>  <p>On this Feast of St Joseph the Worker, We pray that workers everywhere are treated with dignity and respect.</p>


(Cont)

This is tough love. Even though there are people within our community who have committed terrible crimes and betrayed our trust, the Gospel calls us to hold on to them until it's clear that no matter what intervention we make, they are dying on Christ's vine already. And even then, we hope and pray that our action towards them might see a new growth within them which could be the beginning of a possible grafting back on to us in the future. In the face of the world's 'shape up or ship out' principle, today's Gospel challenges us to hang in there with each other, in season and out of season, because as the old folk hymn sings, 'They'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.'

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CARE & CONCERN MEETING

All members of the Care & Concern Team are reminded that their monthly meeting will be on as usual this Tuesday 4th May at 9.30am in the parish office meeting room. Anyone in the parish who may be interested in listening to the workings of the Care and Concern Team is welcome to join us this month. The meeting takes no more than an hour and is always followed with morning tea. This is a good chance to get to know parishioners on a social basis.




DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Joann Hodal has once again generously volunteered to collect and organise the domestic violence packages from St Theresa's.

Toiletries, toothpaste and personal hygiene items etc are ideal donations.

Cash donations are also gratefully accepted.

Baskets will be available in the foyer for you to place your donations or they can be left at the parish office.



SOULCOLLAGE WORKSHOP

Date: 5/6/21 Saturday
Time: 9:00am for 9:30am start - 3:30pm
Where: Sychar, 69 Margaret Street, Toowoomba
Cost: \$10 towards materials provided on the day
Registration: [TryBooking](#)

Please join Sharyn Murfett for a day of self-discovery using SoulCollage. Tea and coffee provided. Please bring your own lunch and journal. See flyer in the foyer for further details.



Excerpts from the Apostolic letter – ‘Patris Corde’ from Pope Francis



If the first stage of all true interior healing is to accept our personal history and embrace even the things in life that we did not choose, we must now add another important element: creative courage. This emerges especially in the way we deal with difficulties. In the face of difficulty, we can either give up and walk away, or somehow engage with it. At times, difficulties bring our resources we did not even think we had. As we read the infancy narratives, we may often wonder why God did not act in a more direct and clear way. Yet God acts through events and people. Joseph was the man chosen by God to guide the beginnings of history of redemption. He was the true “miracle” by which God saves the child and his mother. God acted by trusting Joseph’s creative courage. Arriving in Bethlehem and finding no lodging where Mary could give birth, Joseph took a stable and, as best he could, turned it into a welcoming home for the Son of God to come into the world (cf. Lk 2:6-7). Faced with imminent danger from Herod, who wanted to kill the child, Joseph was warned once again in a dream to protect the child, and rose in the middle of the night to prepare the flight into Egypt (cf. Mt 2:13-14).

MASSES AT ST THERESA’S PARISH

Weekend Masses—booking required. Bookings close 12noon on Saturday

Bookings online from the **Trybooking** website, by right clicking on the link or double-clicking on the link provided <https://www.trybooking.com/BKLBW> and choose open link command **OR** contact the parish by phone 46394688 to register for your preferred mass.



SECOND TERM SCHEDULE– 19 April to 25 June 2021

- Best times for **accessing the library** during term are Tuesday or Wednesday mornings or before or after an advertised Sychar event. Alternatively, you may contact 0458 020 906 to arrange for a time that is manageable for you.
- You are welcome to **enjoy the peace and quiet of the garden** at any time. A flat behind the main house offers quiet space for those wanting a personal day of reflection.
- It is possible to arrange for **spiritual direction** in an ongoing way or simply to find the support of a listening ear at a particular point in time.

FOR RURAL AREAS: As far as possible, **your needs** will be **a priority on weekends**. A day or morning of reflection can be made available in your parish at your request. You may wish to consider other ways Sychar can be of help to you – for example, introducing you to a method of spiritual sharing according to the Ignatian tradition which is being used by a group called *Anam Cara* (Soul Friend) that meets fortnightly at Sychar.

You are most welcome to visit if you are in Toowoomba – however, to ensure that someone can be there to greet you, please contact Sr. Elaine ahead of time if possible at 0458 020 906.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Generally closed	9.30am to 12.30pm Librarians generally present	9.30am to 12.30pm	9.30am to 5.00 pm -----	Fortnightly meetings of <i>Anam Cara</i> (a spiritual conversation group in the Ignatian tradition)	Flyers will be made available for special one-off events to be held or
Except for occasional specially scheduled meetings or events	----- 4.00 pm Christian Meditation (Hilary Fogerty) ----- 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm Reflective Process based on “The Naked Now” by Richard Rohr. (Flyer available) Seven sessions as follows: 4 May; 11 May, 18 May; 25 May; 1 June; 8 Jun; 15 June (Registration required) https://www.trybooking.com/BOBVW or emorzone@twb.catholic.org.au	----- 2.30pm – 4.00 pm Contemplative Sharing of “Field of Compassion” by Judy Cannato (Flyer available) Six sessions as follows: 5 May; 12 May, 19 May; 26 May; 2 June; 9 June (Registration required) https://www.trybooking.com/BOBGR or emorzone@twb.catholic.org.au	Occasional stand-alone morning sessions will be scheduled for 9.30 – 12.00 – They will be advertised and will require registration.	For information, contact Clare Smith clare_james1@bigpond.com or Jo Cosgrove jocosgrove@westnet.com.au 18 June reserved for a special group	15 May (Pat Quinn) 5 June (Sharyn Murfett) 19 June (Pat Quinn)

HOLY SPIRIT SEMINARY

2021 Prayer Calendars and Donation envelopes are available in the foyer. Please take one to support our Queensland Seminarians and Priests.



CONTACTS

Parish Priest:

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

Pastoral Associate

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

Parish Secretary:

Janet Weier
 Ph.: 4639 4688
 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,
 Bernadette Zimbwa, Gailene Jurgs, Matt Boyd, David
 Wilson, Trish Kennedy-Lee, Kathy Doherty,
 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, Kathy Doherty, David Wilson,
 Gay Jorgensen.

Consolation Team:

Fr Brian Noonan, Lyn McRae, Peter Kenny,
 Bette Flamsted, Pam Merritt, Alf Mason,
 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:

RCIA

Coordinator: David Wilson



NOTICE



DATES TO REMEMBER FOR MAY/JUNE

Monday	3 May Labour Day Office closed
Tuesday	4 May Care & Concern Meeting 9.30am Parish office meeting room
Sunday	9 May Mothers Day World Communications Day
Sunday	16 May Ascension of the Lord
Sunday - Sunday	16 - 23 May Week of prayer for Christian Unity
Sunday	23 May Pentecost
Monday	24 May Feast day - Our Lady Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia 200 years of Catholic Education in Australia - concurrent national Mass (streamed)
Wednesday	26 May National Sorry Day
Thursday	3 June Sacrament of Confirmation

RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES

Masks - it is no longer mandatory to wear masks in the church.

In the light of a number of restrictions being reviewed regarding CovidSafe practices, as of 10 July, we are now allowed to celebrate:

Baptisms- baptisms with 200 people attending can now be celebrated in the Church

Weddings – can be celebrated with up to 200 people attending

Funerals – can be celebrated with a maximum of 200 people attending. All church services will need to comply with the requirements of the parish CovidSafe Plan.



Second & Fourth Tuesdays /month

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



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