

THE BULLETIN

ST THERESA'S PARISH

18-19 SEPTEMBER 2021

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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.

Reflection 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

It's hard to see what the disciples don't get when Jesus tells them in fairly plain language that because of the way he lives and what he says he will be put to death by the power barons of his day. The disciples seem to think the Passion is going to be an event out of *Boy's Own Annual*, where the ensuing campaign will see greatness thrust upon them. In this context, Jesus takes the smallest and most vulnerable of people in their society and teaches the disciples that greatness comes through care of the least.

This is a powerful lesson. Greatness in the world – power, connections, wealth, influence, reputation and learning – only counts for something in the Kingdom of God when put at the service of the most vulnerable of our society. Greed, riches and pride are so alluring, so seductive for us in the Church, as much as for those outside it, that we need to regularly examine our consciences to assess the motivations and results of what we are doing, and why we are doing it. When I read today's Gospel, however, I also feel sad. I cannot help but reflect on how unintentionally prophetic Mark was being in linking the prediction of Jesus' passion with the status of a child.

The safeguards now needed in response to the criminal and scandalous behaviour of a very few leaders in the Church, means that many bishops, priests, religious and teachers can no longer follow Jesus' example and take children in our arms. I fully understand why this is the case, but the fact that we have to be so careful about the care of our children and have strict protocols and legislation that covers such behaviour toward children is a necessary and, nonetheless, tragic moment. It's also a moment for us to remember the passion of those who have had to endure the trauma of destructive behaviour. As the Jews say of the Holocaust, 'to forget is to commit the same mistake again'. At its most basic level the latter part of today's Gospel reveals what we would expect of Jesus – he likes children and they like him.

It's amazing how a couple of pieces of information can sometimes change the way a scriptural story is read, and its importance for our lives today. We know from other documents of the same period as the New Testament that children in first century Palestine had no rights. They were possessions of their fathers, and they could be bought and sold, exploited and even killed without any recourse to the religious or civil law.

One way in which a child was publicly claimed in this society was that only their immediate family could touch them. The story, then, of Jesus embracing the child in public was in itself a social challenge to accepted customs. But it's much more than that. In taking the children in his arms, Jesus declares that they are possessions of no one, but they belong to us all as gifts. In the family of God, children are accorded the dignity and respect we would give to God.

Today's Gospel tells us that those who deserve our attention and esteem are the ones who are the least, the most at risk or those who put their talents and gifts at their service by making the world a better place for them. Just as he did in the marketplace of Galilee when he took the children in his arms, Jesus has a habit of turning our world's values upside down.

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RECENTLY DECEASED

Fr Lino Valente

Kim Ireland

(Kathy Sternes' friend)

HEALING FOR THE SICK

Parishioners:

Marie AhSee

Anne Thomas

Brian Wilson

Brian Carter

Moya Schaefer

Len Pauli

Margaret Barry (past parishioner)

Friends and Family

Margaret Chiesa

Janette Ansell (Patricia Stevens sister)

Sharron Dove

(friend of Kathryn & Paul Marangelli)

Jenny Menso (Aileen Collins' friend)

Will Wildig (Meg Hicks' Brother in Law)

Geoff Doyle (Mary Otto's brother)

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)

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)

Addison McEwan (Kathy Sternes'

nephew)

Terry McMahon (Marie's Son)

ANNIVERSARIES

Ignazio Ginardi

Les Kreis

Brian Meacle

Bill Lyons

Des Pauli

Kath Murphy

Maud Humphrey

Celia Dowling

St Theresa's Parish

MASSES		READINGS	NOTICES
MON	NO MASS	<p>25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B First Reading: <i>Wisdom 2: 12, 17 - 20</i> Let us condemn him to a most shameful death.</p> <p>Responsorial Psalm: <i>Psalm 53: 3 - 6, 8</i> The Lord upholds my life.</p> <p>Second Reading: <i>James 3: 16 - 4: 3</i> Justice is the harvest of peacemakers from seeds sown in a spirit of peace.</p> <p>Gospel Acclamation: <i>Thessalonians 2: 14</i> Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!</p> <p>Gospel: <i>Mark 9: 30 - 37</i> The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of humanity ...All who wish to be first much make themselves the servants of all.</p> <p>Next week's readings. 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Numbers 11: 25 - 29</i> <i>James 5: 1 - 6</i> <i>Mark 9:38 - 43, 45, 47 - 48</i></p>	BAPTISM
TUE	NO MASS		<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> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>
WED	9 AM MASS		<p>CARE AND CONCERN TEAM You are reminded that the next Care and Concern Team meeting will not be held until Tuesday 2nd November due to limitations set on the team by Covid restrictions. The parish office currently keeps in touch with team members whenever support for families and individuals is required.</p>
THU	NO MASS		
FRI	9 AM MASS		
SAT	6 PM MASS		
SUN	9.30AM MASS		
<p>If you are Gluten intolerant and require a special host, please advise the coordinator.</p>			

COMMUNION MINISTRY TO PEOPLE'S HOMES

A few of our parishioners have reached out and asked for communion to be taken to them in their own homes. The parish is looking for anyone who feels they would like to be part of this ministry. All volunteers would need to follow the Safeguarding policies and procedures of the diocese. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Office during office hours or let Fr. Brian or Monica know at the weekend.



PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FUND

The annual appeal for the Priests' Retirement Fund was held in early September. Envelopes are still available in the foyer. This fund, set up in 1998, helps with the costs of supporting retired priests within the Toowoomba Diocese. Currently there are 16 retired priests with the Diocese. Last financial year 2020/2021, the appeal raised \$20,600. A Special collection will occur during the masses this weekend and envelopes are available for you to return today or to take home and return in the coming weeks.

SEASON OF CREATION by Nick Brodie

Today's Gospel reveals a fearfulness in the disciples' response to Jesus. Afraid of asking too many questions, they almost seem to prefer being ignorant rather than admit the limits of their own understanding. Strangely, this self-imposed ignorance does not prevent them from posturing for position. What a warning for the Church this episode seems to offer!

While this excerpt of Mark's Gospel is often interpreted in terms of the virtue of humility, the other aspect of Jesus' point is easily overlooked. Every Christian is called to be 'last of all and servant of all'. Ours is a faith of humble service.

The scriptures repeatedly make the point that faith is always embedded in creation. A mountain, a road, a town, and a house all frame the action in this episode. Because the Church exists wherever its members go our beliefs and prayers are not restricted to church buildings. We take our faith on roads, into our homes and towns, and even up mountains.

Given this, our faith compels us to have a special care for all of creation. As Jesus clearly intimates, by humbly serving created things we express our love of the Creator who made them all.

St Theresa's Parish



FAN THE FLAME

Towards Plenary Assembly One October 2021

‘Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me;’ *Mark 9:30-37*

Our parishes in particular are challenged to renew the formation of children, young people and families who may not be strongly connected to the Church but who still have an ‘instinct for the faith’ which prompts them to seek the sacraments or engage in part with of the Church’s life.

(Instrumentum Laboris #133)

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fantheblade/

Prayer Campaign for the Plenary Council

All members of the parish community are invited to join other Toowoomba Parishes for a 6 week Prayer Campaign to pray for the Church of Australia as we continue the preparations for the Plenary Council. We pray for all the Plenary Council Members that they will “listen to what the Spirit is saying” and be open to being guided by God’s Holy Spirit.

Celebrations will be held at 5.30pm on:

Thurs 23rd Sept – St Thomas More’s Parish

Thurs 30th Sept – St Anthony’s Parish

Thurs 7th Oct - Sacred Heart Parish starting at 4.30pm

RCIA ENQUIRY NIGHT – St Theresa’s Catholic Church 29th September 2021 at 7pm

This is a time when all people who are searching or enquiring about our faith, will be able to have their questions answered. Those interested in our faith and /or looking to become a full member of the Catholic Church are invited to the enquiry night, which is in effect an informal discussion on how that journey might look for them. If you wish to find out more, or that time is not suitable, feel free to contact me, Dave Wilson on 0451131849 or the office. Otherwise, I look forward to meeting you on the night.

STUDY AND MENTORING PROGRAM

The Sisters of the Good Samaritan are inviting applications for their 2022 Study and Mentoring program. The program is for Catholic women aged 30+ who are undertaking tertiary studies at a recognised theological institution. Core components include opportunities for spiritual direction, mentoring and dialogue with like-minded women. Financial assistance will be offered to a maximum of \$8000 per year.

Applications close on 30/9/21.

Full details are available online: <https://www.goodsams.org.au/2021/08/17/study-and-mentoring-leadership-program-focuses-on-womens-gifts/>

INDIGENOUS ARTISANS MARKETS

Date: 19/9/21 Sunday **Time:** 8:00am to 1:00pm

Where: St Vincent's Private Hospital Toowoomba, Old Chapel

After postponing earlier this year, the Indigenous Artisans Markets are back on! Come and experience local talented Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artisans and their unique products. Come and enjoy live entertainments, art, craft, clothing, jewelry and more.

MASSES AT ST THERESA’S PARISH

Government legislation requires all persons attending places of worship to use the Check in Qld App. It is to be mandatory practice. Please bring your smart phone to Mass to enable this to happen.

If you do not have a smart phone or forget to bring it to church, please advise the check in person in the foyer. You will have to provide your details so that they can be entered into the Check in Qld App using the business profile at a later time. Everyone must be checked in via the App whether you are a regular attendee or booked in using Trybooking. Please use <https://www.trybooking.com/BKLBW> to book into weekend Masses.

CELEBRATING ST JOSEPH

Date: 16/10/21 Saturday **Time:** Starting 7:00am **Where:** St Patrick's Cathedral, Toowoomba

As you would be aware this year is dedicated to the life of St Joseph and his important place in the life of Jesus. You are invited to spend some time in prayer and adoration at St. Patrick’s. The day will begin with 7.00am Mass using the Votive Mass for St. Joseph. This is followed by each hour beginning with a reflection and prayers for St. Joseph, finishing at 1.00pm.

Adoration will occur throughout. Come for whatever amount of time you are able to commit to.

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, Tim Burgess, Bernadatte Zimbwa,
 Gailene Jurgs, Matt Boyd, David Wilson,
 Trish Kennedy-Lee, Kathy Doherty, Monica Brennan.

Finance Committee

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

Liturgy Team

Fr. Brian Noonan, Jan Mayo, Peter Kenny, 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, Angela
 Irvine, 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, 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 SEPT/OCT

Thursday	23 Sept Prayer for Plenary Council 5.30pm St Thomas More's
Sunday	26 Sept World Refugee and Migration Day
Wednesday	29 Sept RCIA Enquiry Night Parish Centre
Thursday	30 Sept Prayer for Plenary Council 5.30pm St Anthony's
Sun-Sun	3 - 10 Oct Plenary Council Assembly
Tuesday	5 Oct School Term 4 starts
Thursday	7 Oct Prayer for Plenary Council 4.30pm Sacred Heart
Saturday	16 Oct Celebrating St Joseph 7am St Patrick's Cathedral
Sunday	24 Oct World Mission Day - Appeal
Wednesday	27 Oct Children's World Mission Day

RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES

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

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.



First Tuesday of the Month

Care & Concern Meeting
 9.30am Parish Office Meeting Room

Second Tuesday of the 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

