

THE BULLETIN

ST THERESA'S PARISH

27-28 NOVEMBER 2021

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

YEAR C

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 bread for one another and nourished we reach out to make a difference in the world.

Reflection

Toward the end of 1999 people were gearing up to welcome in the new millennium. Some Christians who take the scriptures literally joined in the fun and declared that the end of the world was nigh and that Christ would return on his two-thousandth birthday.

They seem to subscribe to the old adage that, 'one should never let the facts get in the way of a good story'!

Christianity took over the Roman calendar in what we now call the 4th Century of the Christian era. At Rome in 526, a scholarly monk named Dionysius Exiguus compiled a list of the dates of Jesus' birth, death and resurrection. He assigned dates in the new Christian calendar for each of these events. Given the tools at his disposal, he did an extraordinary job. We know, however, from other historical sources and from the New Testament, where it mentions who the various Jewish and Roman rulers were in Palestine, that Dionysius was four years out with his dating. The church became aware of this mistake in 1582, but to correct it the world would have lost four years! So we have all lived with it ever since.

We can, however, safely assume that Jesus knows the year in which he was born and that if our fundamentalist Christian friends are right in believing he was going to return on his 2000th birthday, he would have done so in 1996!

The facts are that in every generation we have had people tell us that the sun, moon, stars, wars, famine, tidal waves and earthquakes, mentioned in today's Gospel, all demonstrate that Jesus is about to return. Clearly, we are still waiting. If only the Christians who give out these dire predictions, every so often, would take as seriously Jesus' words, 'You will know not the time, nor the place when the Son of Man will return in glory'.

Luke's community thought that Jesus would return quickly and spectacularly. They were surprised that the first generation of Christian believers was dying without seeing it all happen. Given the terrible suffering they were enduring for Jesus, the early Christians no doubt hoped that the end of the world would be soon and would demonstrate to everyone that they were not foolish to cling to Christ in the face of all opposition and persecution. The early Christians knew that there was no point professing faith in Jesus Christ unless our daily behaviour reflects his kingdom. It has been a telling point ever since. If every Christian lived out the Gospel in his or her daily life, the world would be transformed and Christ would come in spectacular fashion.

I haven't got a clue when the world will cease to exist, but on this, the first day of the Church's Year, I know that the Lord returns to us every time we love, forgive, share, are compassionate, are generous and sacrificial toward one another. It may not be as grand as dancing suns and tidal waves, but the heroic love of a parent for a child, a spouse for their sick partner and the first world sharing with the third world are spectacular enough for me to believe that Jesus' kingdom comes every day, in every hour, at every moment.

May this first Eucharist of the Church's year be a taste for us of the Kingdom of God that is both present amongst us and still to come. And may the Advent season sustain us in our waiting and give us courage in our living.

© Richard Leonard SJ



RECENTLY DECEASED

Richard Jones (husband of Angela)

James Wilkins (brother of Jan Rowland)

HEALING FOR THE SICK

Parishioners:

Anne Thomas

Moya Schaefer

Greg Logan

Margaret Barry (past parishioner)

Brian Carter

Len Pauli

Murray Doyle

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)

Peter Brown (Denis' brother)

Baby Thomas Stone (Erbs' family friends)

ANNIVERSARIES

James Brady

Anne Sutton

Michael Walsh

Patricia Parsons

Noel McMahon

Craig Page

Ron Ryan

Francis Sewell

Molly Daniel

Antoun Tanous

Stan Gleeson


Tom Howe

Frank Sewell

MASSES

READINGS

NOTICES

MON	NO MASS	First Sunday of Advent Year C First Reading: <i>Jeremiah 33: 14-16</i> I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David Responsorial Psalm: <i>Ps 24:4-5,8-9,10,14</i> To you, O Lord, I lift my soul. Second Reading: <i>1 Thessalonians 3:12- 4:2</i> When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness. Gospel Acclamation: <i>Ps 84:8</i> Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia! Gospel: <i>Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36</i> Your redemption is near at hand.	BAPTISM This weekend through the Sacrament of Baptism we welcome into our parish <i>James Edward Jesse & Henry Jack Jesse</i>  Baptisms are celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month either during Mass at 9.30am or after Mass at 11.00am.
TUE	NO MASS		
WED	9 AM MASS		
THU	NO MASS		
FRI	9 AM MASS		
SAT	6 PM MASS		
SUN	9.30AM MASS		
If you are Gluten intolerant and require a special host, please advise the coordinator.		Next week's readings Second Sunday of Advent Year C <i>Baruch 5:1-9</i> <i>Philippians 1: 4-6, 8-11</i> <i>Luke 3:1-6</i>	

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



IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM BISHOP ROBERT

McGUCKIN—DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

I would like to encourage everyone to be vaccinated against Covid-19. This is particularly important when people gather together. We need to be conscious not only of our own health but also the health of others.

In exercising rights, Christ's faithful, both individually and in associations, must take account of the common good of the Church, as well as the rights of others and their own duties to others.

As Diocesan Bishop (cf. Canon 223, §2 of the Code of Canon Law), I issue the regulation that **all those who are to distribute Holy Communion** at the Celebration of the Eucharist, or are to take Holy Communion to those in Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Aged Care Facilities, or to individuals in their own home, must be fully vaccinated against Covid-19.

Pope Francis appeals for people to be vaccinated, calling it "an act of love". +Robert Most Reverend Robert M McGuckin Bishop of Toowoomba



WORLD SYNOD OF BISHOPS – DIOCESAN RESPONSE
CHANGE OF RESPONSE DATE

Pope Francis has asked for the world church to provide input into the 3 dimensions of the Synod – Communion, Participation and Mission.

Bishop Robert has asked all parishes of the diocese to respond to this using a guide for reflection which is available in the foyer as a hard copy to take, with a permanent one on the notice board so that it can be read or photographed.

A copy was also emailed to all those parishioners on the parish email list.

To enable a coordinated response, St Theresa's Parish Pastoral Council will facilitate 3 group meetings in 2022.

Meeting 1 Thursday 20 January 2022 6pm—Focus on **Communion** dimension

Meeting 2 Thursday 27 January 2022 6pm—Focus on **Participation** dimension

Meeting 3 Thursday 3 February 2022 6pm—Focus on **Mission** dimension

Members of the parish may also like to meet together in friendship groups, or send individual responses via email to the parish or written responses on paper can be placed in the suggestion box in the foyer.

From all responses, a summarised response from our parish would then be sent on.

The response date is now 27 February 2022.

If you have any more questions, please contact Fr. Brian, Monica Brennan or Matt Boyd – parish council chair.



St Theresa's Parish



ADVENT BOOKLETS

The parish have some booklets published by the Diocese of Wollongong with reflections for each day of Advent available to be purchased for \$5.00. Booklets are in the foyer. If you wish to purchase a booklet, please write your name on the sheet and indicate whether you have paid.

Money can be placed in the book box or alternatively payment can be made at the parish office or placed in an envelope with your name and Advent booklet on the front and put into the gift box at weekend masses.

CHRISTMAS CENT SALE

A Christmas Cent Sale run by The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver is being held at the **Cathedral Centre** 123 Neil St Toowoomba on **Saturday December 4**. Doors open at **1.00pm** for a **1.30pm start**.

Great prizes are on offer as well as a raffle including a homemade Christmas cake, ham, fruit tray and more. A pre-packed afternoon tea will be provided. Entry is \$5.00 including a free sheet of tickets. Sisters can be contacted on 46321818. All proceeds go to the missionary poor.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

St Theresa's Parish

Friday 24 December

6pm Mass in Parish Centre

7.30pm Mass in Parish Centre

Saturday 25 December

8.30am Mass in Parish Centre

Book on Trybooking

<https://www.trybooking.com/BVZLX> or use QRcode pictured



Please contact the parish office if you have difficulty.

ADVENT 2021 WITH BRUCE DOWNES, THE CATHOLIC GUY

You are invited to 'Expect the Unexpected' this Advent. Join me each day for a short, free Advent Daily Devotional Video that will guide you on a life-changing journey.

Starting November 28th you'll receive short inspirational videos each day from Bruce Downes, full of real life stories and practical ways to become all that God has created you to be!

Register now or for more information: <https://brucedownes.org/registerforadvent/>

Email: info@brucedownes.org

WHAT'S ON AT SYCHAR

"TOUCHING THE SACRED"

A Reflective Workshop facilitated by Sr. Pat Quinn MSS. The focus is on recognizing the divine presence in our everyday life.

Date: Saturday 27 November 2021 **Arrive** 9.00 am for a 9.30 start and finish at 3.30 pm

Venue: SYCHAR (House of Prayer and Spirituality), 69 Margaret Street, Toowoomba

A donation towards Sychar's ongoing mission would be appreciated. Registration ALL bookings to be made via trybooking <https://www.trybooking.com/BTUPN>



THE BACH SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND PRESENTS HANDEL'S MESSIAH

7:30pm on Saturday November 27th,
Dron Auditorium at St Peter's Lutheran College
Performing Arts Centre, Lambert Road,
Indooroopilly

Tickets (\$45 Adults; \$40 Concessions; \$35 Groups 6+; \$20 Secondary Students; Children free) are available via www.trybooking.com/BUWKY, or by phone at 0438 971 951.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER

People who suffer from depression – We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life



ST VINCENT De PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

St Vincent de Paul conference of St Theresa's Christmas appeal envelopes are in the foyer.

If you are able to contribute a monetary gift towards others, envelopes have been placed near the gift box for you to use.

Filled envelopes can be placed in the collection slot on the St Vincent de Paul stand in the foyer or placed in the gift box.

Monetary donations enable St Vincent de Paul to assist more diverse groups within our community especially at this time of year.



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.

St Theresa's Parish

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, Bernadette 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,
Tim Burgess.

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,
Anne Anderson, Jan Watkins, Jane Burgess,
Catherine Cooper.

Sacramental Team:

Monica Brennan, Kathy Doherty, David Wilson,
Gay Jorgensen.

Consolation Team:

Fr Brian Noonan, Lyn McRae, Peter Kenny,
Bette Flamsteed, 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
0456 816 088



NOTICE



DATES TO REMEMBER FOR NOV/DEC

Sat/Sun	27/28 Nov 1st Sunday of Advent 27/28 Nov Centenary St Joseph's Church Dalby
Friday	3 Dec Mater Dei finishes for 2021
Wednesday	15 Dec Advent Reconciliation 2nd Rite liturgy 6pm St Theresa's Parish Centre
Friday	24 Dec 6pm Christmas Eve mass 7.30pm Christmas Eve mass
Saturday	25 Dec 8.30am Christmas Day mass

SISTINE CHAPEL EXHIBITION

Date: 27/10/21-2/1/22

Where: The Ice Cream Factory, Level 2, West Village,
97 Boundary Road, West End (Brisbane)

Take a life-size up-close perspective of Michaelangelo's Sistine Chapel. With special expertise and care, the ceiling paintings from the Chapel have been reproduced in a truly unique way using high-definition photos. Visitors are given a way to engage with the artwork in ways that were never before possible; seeing every detail, every brushstroke, and every colour of the artists 34 frescoes.
For session times and ticket prices, book online at Fever.

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 & Fourth 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

