

THE BULLETIN

ST THERESA'S PARISH

7 - 8 JANUARY 2023

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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.

Reflection

During Advent, receptivity and waiting were its themes. Epiphany highlights the themes of our response to God's presence in our lives. We are beckoned to move beyond all we think we know and allowing something new stir within us as we look for something new on the horizon. We strike out for something deeper. We do not just talk about our desire but walk intentionally toward it and making concrete choices along the way.

We often come across people who seem to have a greater awareness of God's hope for liberating oppressed communities even though they are outside the church. We can be surprised when they lead us to advocate for justice within society and within the church. The call is to expand our horizons and see ourselves as sisters and brothers in the world. Epiphany is a call to hope, rejuvenation, and awakening. Amidst darkness, we can see light where many people have not succumbed to apathy and refuse to continue being silent. Epiphany is a call to look for the love in the most insignificant places – to see traces of God's presence everywhere – especially in overlooked people and places. There is a continuous call to us to expand our horizons and see ourselves as sisters and brothers in the world. The pandemic that is still not over has opened the eyes of many to recognise the centrality of relationships, the importance of community, and intrinsic interconnectedness of all things. A deep awareness of our place in the Earth community has taught many to have a deep respect for the whole of creation and its sacredness. Its extension should find a way into our relationships and cause us to seek a 'politics of peace' and seeking alternatives to the 'politics of violence' that leads to destruction, inhumanity and neglect. We can show that a renewed life – a new normal - is possible for the most marginalised among us. It means working with those who prioritise justice and respond to the cries of the poor and being living witnesses of God's presence in a broken world. By refusing to be silent, we can reveal new and radical alternatives that offer new and creative ways of being together.

We have choices. We can respond to the broadness of God of mercy or contain God within the bounds of our doctrines and imagination? The magi chose another road. They chose to do things differently – to be 'about the things of God' - the things close to God's heart. As we begin another year, we might listen to those seekers, especially young people, who want more than what conventional and ritualised religion can offer. God is always waiting to encounter us anew, somewhere beyond our expectations - bigger than any ritual or tradition. Epiphany is any time when God appears in surprising places and pushes against our constructed realities. It may surprise us in the places and people where we might meet God. It may also surprise God when we courageously show up in places and situations and be with people because we have taken another road. God is proclaiming to each of us and to the whole church: You are beacons of my love for all the world to see. You are invited to be a part of it all: the glory of God with us, the brightness of the dawn, the gathering of all peoples. You are invited to arise and shine, see and be radiant, thrill and rejoice. (*con't*)

RECENTLY DECEASED

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI
Graham Lane (Jo Hodal's brother)
HEALING FOR THE SICK

Parishioners:

Brian Powell	Leo Flynn
Christine Scott	Anne Thomas
Brian Carter	Moya Schaefer
Glenda Walsh	Bert Pervan
Murray Doyle	

Friends and Family

Lisle Stephenson
(Kathy Sternes' Friend)

Jennifer Fogarty
(Beverley Patterson's Friend)

Di Winterton

Erica Armagnacq (Bill Armagnacq's
Daughter in Law)

Margaret Chiesa

Janette Ansell (Patricia Stevens sister)

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)

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)

Indiana Harman

(Ray & Madeline Taylor's (Granddaughter)

Louis Gandini (Lina Pervan's brother)

Connie Bamgart (Lina Pervan's friend)

Simon Riethmuller (Shirley's son)

Max Shearer (Grandson - Judy Shearer)

John Mullen (Helen McNaught's
nephew)

Rev. Brian Sparksman

Fr Peter McGrath .CP

Molly Schmidt (Aileen Collins' friend)

Peter Brown (Denis' brother)

The Dowling Family

Reg Parsons (Powell family group)

Glynis Grosskopf (Powell family group)

ANNIVERSARIES

Maisie Hutchins **Pat Ruming**

Arthur Murphy **Dan Shine**

Lorraine Turner **Andrew Clark**

Pam Griffin **Carl Erbs**

Helena Eksa sgs **Janet Taylor**

Anthony Volmer **Molly Walsh**

Margaret Blackie **Bridget Walsh**

Maureen Shelvey sgs

Wanda Beardmore

Fr John Rasmussen **Fr William Hall**

MASSES


MON	NO MASS
TUE	NO MASS
WED	LAY LED LITURGY 9AM
THU	NO MASS
FRI	LAY LED LITURGY 9AM
SAT	6PM VIGIL
SUN	9.30AM MASS
If you are Gluten intolerant and require a special host, please advise the coordinator.	

READINGS


The EPIPHANY of the LORD Year A
First Reading: Isaiah 60: 1-6
 The glory of the Lord shines upon you.
Responsorial Psalm: 71: 1-2, 7-8
 Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.
Second Reading: Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6
 The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.
Gospel Acclamation:
 Alleluia, Alleluia!
 We have seen the star in the east; and have come to adore the Lord.
 Alleluia!
Gospel: Matthew 2: 1 - 12
 We have come from the east to worship the king.
**Next week's readings,
 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A**
Isaiah 49: 3, 5 - 6
1 Corinthians 1: 1-3
John 1: 29 - 34

NOTICES

This weekend through the Sacrament of Baptism we welcome **Brayla Jade Finch** into our parish.



The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the second and fourth Sunday of the month either during Mass at 9.30 or after Mass at 11.00am



(con't) May this holy season be for each of us a time of moving beyond what is 'reasonable' and toward the star of wonder.
 God, move us beyond grasping tight to what we have to unclenching our hands and letting go.
 God, lead us to the Light, moving beyond competition toward cooperation, seeing that all humans are sisters and brothers. Moving beyond the anxiety of small concerns towards the joys of justice and peace. May the transforming acceptance of Mary and Joseph, the imagination of the shepherds, and the persistence of the magi, Guide us as we seek the Truth, always moving toward the Divine promise, always aware that God may be hidden in the frailest among us, always open to the unexpected flash of Grace, to the showing forth of that Love that embraces us all. Amen.
 Compiled by Claude Mostowik msc, Director, Missionaries of the Sacred Justice and Peace Centre

You've got a lot to give beyond Christmas gifts.
In January you can prepare for mission at home or abroad.

Palms Australia has trained Australians to live and work within cultures and communities overseas since 1961. Now four days of that training will be available for parishioners interested to assist harness the diverse gifts of our community and make it stronger.


At Home

Palms' Neighbours Without Borders program (January 7 – 11) will “focus on building communities that are welcoming to all, with particular attention to those on the margins of society and the church” as urged by the recent Plenary Council.

Overseas

Completing a further four days (January 12 – 15) will prepare you to meet one of the many requests Palms has from communities in Africa, Asia and the Pacific who need educators; health professionals; administrators and others to assist build on the strengths of their people who otherwise have little opportunity for training.

Enquire about Palms Orientation for mission via www.palms.org.au or call 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567.


Palms Australia
 Reach Beyond

St Theresa's Parish

LENTEN PROGRAM 2023

Ash Wednesday is February 22nd so the Lenten program booklets are already printed and orders are being asked from the Dioceses.

This year Evangelisation Brisbane has developed *From Ashes to Hope*.

From Ashes to Hope has been written to provide each of us with the opportunity to spend a few minutes a day calling out to God from our hearts. Based on the readings for each day of Lent, Holy Week and the Easter Octave, this prayer and reflection resource provides an opportunity for each of us to turn the eyes of our hearts to God as God leads us beyond ashes to hope.

This resource has been written by Shane Dwyer, Associate Director for Adult Formation at Evangelisation Brisbane- an experienced speaker, faith resource writer, course provider and Janiene Wilson, a clinical psychologist who has worked in private practice and in the Church context for many years.

A leaders' guide will be provided for those who will be journeying with a group over the Lenten period.

Wollongong Diocese has produced *Triumph* as their Lenten program resource.

Triumph is an 88-page full colour book (240x170mm) containing short daily reflections (from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday) perfect for individual devotional reading in addition to the longer-form Sunday Scripture readings and reflections, prayers and questions that traditionally form part of Lenten group gatherings.

For those part of a Lenten group, we are honoured to have the insightful **Fr Mark De Battista** (administrator at St Patrick's Catholic Parish, Port Kembla, and chaplain to *Mass for You at Home* on Network Ten and Foxtel around Australia), breaking open the Sunday Gospels for us.

We are also excited to have **Mother Hilda Scott OSB** (abbess at the Benedictine Abbey in Jamberoo NSW) back to provide spiritual direction based on the Sunday Gospels.

If you are interested in purchasing a book, please write your name and contact details on the sheet in the foyer or email the office by Friday 27 January to enable ordering to occur. Copies do sell out.

We can organise parish groups for those who wish to participate in early February.

COSTS: Brisbane's From Ashes to Hope - \$5.00 Wollongong's Triumph - \$7.00

POPE FRANCIS'S MESSAGE FOR THE 56TH WORLD DAY OF PEACE

1 JANUARY 2023

Pope Francis' message for the 56th World day of Peace is available in the church foyer.

Please take a copy.

POPE FRANCIS'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY 2023

For educators

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.



FAITH CIRCLES - WEEKLY GOSPEL REFLECTIONS

Wollongong Diocese produces weekly Gospel Reflections which are named Faith Circles.

Faith Circles resources are made available here for free by the Office of Renewal and Evangelisation in the Diocese of Wollongong (Australia)

Each week copies will be made available for you to take home. If members of the parish wish to join in a weekly group, please contact Monica so that we can organise a meeting time and day.

Faith Circles are also available here at faithcircles.dow.org.au in a blog format. It will be the same as the printed version but, in the spirit of *Laudato Si*, it gives you an easy way to access the resource without printing, if you so desire. This version will adapt to whatever device you are viewing it on, whether that be on a computer or laptop, mobile phone, or tablet.

New Old Voices

Secondly, along with the voice of Pope Francis, we have now included homilies and reflections from Pope St John Paul II and Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. Many of these writings have been translated from their original Italian and German. Pope Francis remains our main contributor each week but with the addition of two of his predecessors, we feel it adds a depth to our discussions that might not be there otherwise. It is always confronting to realise that the human issues of the 70s remain relevant today!



SYCHAR HOUSE OF PRAYER & SPIRITUALITY

69 Margaret Street Toowoomba



Please view the website for current happenings at Sychar. You are most welcome to visit Sychar 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.

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, Matt Boyd, David Wilson, Kath Doherty, Trish Kennedy-Lee, Glen/Bernadette Whisson, Greg Hallam, Elizabeth Curtis. Monica Brennan.

Finance Committee

Fr. Brian Noonan, Warren Dredge, Ray Taylor, Shane Blakeley, Pat Richardson, Tim Burgess.

Liturgy Team

Fr. Brian Noonan, Jan Mayo, Peter Kenny, Peter Nolan, Monica Brennan, Gay Jorgensen, 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 Tracy Stinson, Elizabeth Curtis, Monica Brennan

Sacramental Team:

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

Consolation Team:

Fr Brian Noonan, Peter Kenny, Josephine Nolan, Monica Brennan

Welcome & Hospitality Team:

Paul & Kathryn Marangelli, Maureen Burke.

Family Groups:

Contact Parish Office 4639 4688

Care & Concern Team

Coordinator: Damian Carroll

RCIA

Coordinator: David Wilson
 0451 131 849



NOTICE

DATES TO REMEMBER FOR JANUARY

Sun 8 Jan - Sat 14 Jan Priests' Retreat - Lismore
Wednesday 11 January 9am Lay led service
Friday 13 January 9am Lay led service
Thursday 26 January Australia Day Parish Closed Office
Friday 27 January Lay Led Liturgy

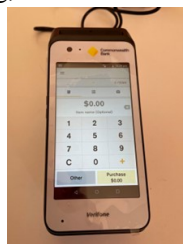
CLERGY RETREAT MASS TIMES

The Clergy Retreat is being held from the evening of Sunday 8 January to Friday 13 January 2023. You may wish to advertise in your parish bulletin that during this time, Masses will be celebrated by Fr Michael Cooney at St Patrick's Cathedral as follows:

- 5.30pm Sunday 8 January 2023
- 5.30pm Monday 9 January 2023
- 9am Tuesday 10 January 2023
- 7am Wednesday 11 January 2023
- 7am Thursday 12 January 2023
- 7am Friday 13 January 2023

ELECTRONIC COLLECTIONS DEVICE

St Theresa's now has the ability to accept donations/money for the collection through cards electronically. It does not replace Planned Giving envelopes or Direct Credits. This device enables you to donate any amount you choose using your cards, either by tapping, inserting or swiping the card. Once your transaction has occurred, a paper receipt will be printed for you to take. An instruction procedure is near the electronic device pictured.



Care & Concern Meeting

Care & Concern Meeting 13 February 2023 @ 3pm

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.

