



# THE BULLETIN

ST THERESA'S PARISH

28-29 JANUARY 2023

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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.*

## The Beatitudes ... A Call to Action

In the tradition of Moses on Mt Sinai, Jesus goes up a mountain, a traditional Jewish sacred site. As we might expect, we receive a revelation as to how God intends that human beings should live together.

Jesus doesn't start in a fantasy dream world of perfection. Jesus looks at the world as it often is for many people, perhaps for most people around the world. First, 'the poor in spirit': those suffering grinding poverty, a destitution which can crush their spirits, a lacking of the necessities of life such that their whole personality, bodymindspirit, is impoverished. Then 'those who mourn': perhaps especially those whose grieving comes from the too early death of those crushed by the society in which they live. Then 'those who are gentle': so often denied a fair share of the earth's resources which are taken by the strong and belligerent. Then 'those who hunger and thirst for justice,' for individuals and even for whole societies. Jesus astonishes the crowd by saying that such people are 'Blessed'. How can this be? It sounds callous, nonsensical or sarcastic. Is this the 'opium of the masses' about which Karl Marx had spoken? Certainly, it is paradoxical. The answer lies in our Lord's emphasis on the community, the new society, the new people he is establishing under the reign of God: what he calls 'the Kingdom of God'. Those in such wretched circumstances *will* have things set right, *will* experience a great reversal of their situation, but only if *other* people in this new group of the followers of Jesus do everything possible to lift the poor out of the poverty which crushes their spirit, do everything possible to comfort those who mourn, do everything possible to make sure the gentle share the earth's resources, do everything possible to satisfy the craving for justice. Our Lord describes the personality traits of those who will help bring about this reversal. 'The merciful.' The Hebrew word for mercy is closely allied to the word for womb and even beyond the womb. To be merciful is to be as caring as a mother would be towards the child of her womb. Our Lord is attempting to build up a community of followers as maternal as that. *How do we measure up?* 'The pure in heart.' This does not refer to ritual or sexual purity. It refers to people in whom there is no duplicity or hypocrisy. They are people of integrity. Our Lord is attempting to build up a community of followers as whole-some as that. *How do we measure up?* 'The peace-makers.' Here, Jesus is not so much interested in the noun: 'peace'. He is interested in the verb: 'peace makers'. *How do we measure up?* So, when we read the Beatitudes, we should not think that this is contradictory nonsense, still less a message advocating a passive 'suffer your lot because there is pie in the sky'. The Beatitudes are a call to action, a call to the followers of Jesus to be maternal, to be comforters, to be whole-hearted, to be active in overcoming those divisions which are unjust and destroy people, whether individuals or societies. *How do we measure up?* The authentic measure of humanity is Jesus Christ. Our Lord measured up superlatively.

We know He was finally measured out on the Cross. We ask him to measure us mercifully, for we will fall short of his full stature. But every time we say the 'Our Father' we *do* pledge ourselves to help construct this new society where the Beatitudes can come true: 'Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done *on earth* as it is in heaven.' © Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

## RECENTLY DECEASED

**Lisle Stephenson**

(Kathy Sternes' Friend)

**Kathleen le Gras** (Sister of Sr Una)

## HEALING FOR THE SICK

### Parishioners:

**Brian Powell**

**Tim Blades**

**Leo Flynn**

**Anne Thomas**

**Brian Carter**

**Moya Schaefer**

**Glenda Walsh**

**Bert Pervan**

**Murray Doyle**

### Friends and Family

**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)

**Fr Phil Hicks MSC** (Meg Hicks's Brother)

**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)

**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

**Patricia Shine** **Kent Schaefer**

**Michael Fogarty** **Patti Brady**

**Helen Richards** **Allen Blakeley**

**William McAuliffe**

**Laurie Schneider**

**John Thompson**

**Sean Carroll (Ireland)**

**John Cartwright**

**Kath Mulheran**

**Fr Howard Crowe (1936)**

# St Theresa's Parish

## MASSSES

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

## READINGS

**4th Sunday in Ordinary Year A**  
**First Reading:** *Zephaniah 2: 3; 12 - 13*  
 In your midst I will leave a humble and a lowly people.  
**Responsorial Psalm:** *145: 7 - 10 R:*  
 Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!  
**Second Reading:** *1 Corinthians 1: 26 - 31*  
 God has chosen what is weak by human reckoning.  
**Gospel Acclamation:**  
 Alleluia, Alleluia!  
 Rejoice and be glad; Your reward will be great in heaven.  
 Alleluia!  
**Gospel:** *Matthew 5: 1 - 12*  
 Happy are the poor in spirit.  
**Next week's readings,**  
**5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A**  
*Isaiah 58: 7 - 10*  
*1 Corinthians 2: 1-5*  
*Matthew 5: 13 - 16*

## NOTICES

Baptisms are celebrated on the second and fourth Sunday of the month either during Mass at 9.30 or after Mass at 11.00am



### Consolation Message

"Words no matter how kind, can't mend your heartache. However, those who care for you wish you comfort and peace of mind."



## 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.

See Term 1 schedule below and various program flyers on the foyer noticeboard.



## FIRST TERM SCHEDULE: 23 January – 30 March 2023

### PLEASE NOTE CHANGES TO LIBRARY AVAILABILITY:

The work of attending to the library will now be on a more "ad hoc" basis, as need arises. As Tuesday mornings will be set aside for the program "Encountering the Christ of the Gospels: A Retreat in Everyday Life", this time would no longer be appropriate for using the library. Probably the best times to access the library would be before or after attending programs offered at Sychar or Wednesdays between 9.00 am and 12.00 noon. If none of these times are suitable, your need can be accommodated if you call or email.

| MONDAY  | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY   |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|
| CLOSED Except for<br><br>Evening Prayer in the style of Taize<br><br>Seven sessions<br>6.00 pm – 7.00 pm<br>6 February – 20 March.<br><br>(Flyer available) | Encountering the Christ of the Gospels: A Retreat in Everyday Life<br><br>Eight sessions<br>9.30 am to 12.00 pm<br>7 February – 28 March<br><br>(Flyer available)<br><br>Christian Meditation<br>4.00 pm -4.45 pm | 9.30am to 12.30pm<br><br>-----<br><br><i>Chrysalis</i><br>2.30 pm – 4.00 pm<br>8 February ff<br><br>-----<br><br><i>Inner Stillness</i><br>Fortnightly<br>5.15 pm – 6.15 pm<br>For information contact<br>Elaine Bartlett<br><a href="mailto:eln01@optusnet.com.au">eln01@optusnet.com.au</a> | <i>Contemplative Prayer:</i><br><i>Centering Prayer in the tradition of Fr Thomas Keating</i><br>11.00 am – 12.00 pm<br>9 February ff<br><br>-----<br><i>Quadratos</i> Eight sessions<br>4.00 pm – 5.30 pm<br>9 February – 30 March<br><br>-----<br><i>Men Seeking Wisdom</i><br>7.00 pm - 8.30 pm<br>For information, contact<br>Robbie Jayawardhana<br><a href="mailto:rjayawardhana@gmail.com">rjayawardhana@gmail.com</a><br>OR<br>Jason Obst<br><a href="mailto:job70644@bigpond.net.au">job70644@bigpond.net.au</a><br>OR<br>Peter Nolan<br><a href="mailto:nolan8@bigpond.com">nolan8@bigpond.com</a> | <i>Anam Cara</i><br>weekly 1.00 pm – 2.00 pm<br><br>(a spiritual conversation group in the Ignatian tradition)<br><br>For information, contact<br>Clare Smith<br><a href="mailto:clare_james1@bigpond.com">clare_james1@bigpond.com</a><br>OR<br>Mary Allen<br><a href="mailto:maryallen@inet.net.au">maryallen@inet.net.au</a><br><br><i>Anam Cara: Come and See</i><br>10 March & 24 March<br>(Flyer available) | Tentatively<br><br>18 <sup>th</sup> March<br><i>Reflection Day</i><br>(Topic yet to be determined) |

## St Theresa's Parish

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2023



St Patrick's Catholic Cathedral in James Street, are hosting the World Day of Prayer this year. It will be held on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023.



The focus this year is on TAIWAN 'I have heard about your faith' – from Paul to the Ephesians 1:15-20

There will be a planning and organising meeting **held on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 10.00am in St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Centre, 123 Neil Street in the Blue Room. Parking is available via the Lawrence Street entrance.**

**Please RSVP by Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January to [gsaide@bigpond.net.au](mailto:gsaide@bigpond.net.au) or by phone (please leave a message) if you wish to come along to this meeting.**

**Please see flyer in the foyer for further information.**



### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023



The Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist will be celebrated in our parish in June.

Confirmation will be Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June and First Eucharist will be 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> June. All children in year 4 or above including secondary students are invited to be part of the program.

Program Information Night is Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in the Parish Centre.

Monica will be at the parish centre from 5.30pm.

Invitation letters and flyers are in the foyer, please take one if you are interested.

We bless you, God of the universe, for this land,  
for its contrasts of landscape and climate,  
for its abundance of wealth and opportunity.

We bless you for our history,  
with all its struggle in adversity,  
its courage and hope,

Give us in our diversity  
tolerance and respect for each other  
and a passionate commitment to justice for all.  
Bless us so that we might be a blessing to others.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.



### 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](http://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!



# 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, 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 FEB/MARCH

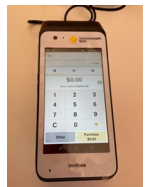
|         |  |
|---------|--|
| Sat/Sun | <b>4/5 February</b> Mater Dei Teaching Staff Commissioning during Parish Mass              |
| Wed     | <b>15 February</b> Confirmation/First Eucharist Parent Information Night 6pm Parish Centre |
| Fri     | <b>3 March</b> World Day of Prayer   |
| Sat/Sun | <b>4/5 March</b> Commitment Ceremony for Confirmation/First Eucharist Candidates           |

### MISSIONARY SISTERS OF ST PETER CLAVER FUNDRAISER

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver are hosting their first fundraiser for 2023. "Mother and Son" is a delightful comedy adapted for stage. It features everyone's favourite Mum and her long-suffering son Arthur. The play navigates the complex and hilarious relationships among Arthur and his mother, his new girlfriend and his dentist brother and wife who are always willing to assist with Maggie. The play is being presented at the Repertory Theatre on Tuesday February 21. Doors will open at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. Tickets are \$25 each and include supper. A raffle with excellent prizes will be available. Tickets can be purchased from The Sisters on 07 46321818 or Helen on 0416055976. All proceeds go to The Missions.

### 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.  
(Grade 7-12 people) PH: 4636 0461

