

# THE BULLETIN

ST THERESA'S PARISH

16 - 17 SEPTEMBER 2023

24TH 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.*

## Forgiveness

The Jews were fascinated by the number seven. It reminded them of the seven days of creation and suggested perfection. So, when Peter queried whether he would be a great hero if he forgave someone seven times, he was speaking in a very Jewish way. Seven times would be perfect. No, says Jesus. You have to be prepared to forgive seventy times seven, an 'over the top', totally extravagant proposition which was meant to jolt Peter to see that there are no limits to the need to forgive. But Jesus still keeps the sevens resonating in his answer because he wants to say that to forgive is like a new act of creation: it creates life where there was the deadly desire for revenge, and light where there was darkness. So, let's look at this sort of forgiveness more closely, at the macro and the micro levels. I once had the great privilege of shaking hands with Nelson Mandela at a Parliament House reception. Why was the crowd pressing up to this man, hoping to touch him? Partly because of his great victory over apartheid in South Africa. (Doesn't that word sound so apt in English: apart-hate.) Mostly, I think, because when he came to power he did not set out 'to get even', making sure that the 'punishment fits the crime', to exact revenge on those who had killed and tortured the blacks and coloureds of his beloved country. Rather, he offered forgiveness to the offenders. Through the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, confession and admission of complicity in apartheid would lead to the closing of the books and a new beginning. It is that sort of forgiveness – the closing of the books and a new beginning – which we dare to ask of God for ourselves. But here's the catch: it is that sort of forgiveness which we must practise towards others. When we don't, we are like the principal debtor in Jesus' story. In harshly dealing with a disproportionately minor debtor, he refused to share his king's quality of forgiveness. If we don't pass on this aspect of God's life to others, then we are warned that we will end up in a hellish situation unable to share in divine life.

After all, don't we pray daily: '... forgive us our trespasses *as we* forgive those who trespass against us ...'

Let us keep going at the micro level. I don't like the phrase: 'Forgive and forget'. It is impossible to forget some terrible hurts or injustices done to one. In fact, it could be dangerous to forget because one could put oneself in a vulnerable situation again. Remembering can be an important part of healing. So, forgiving is not forgetting. It is about giving up the desire 'to get even'. It is to give up the all-consuming passion to make sure the wrongdoer 'pays the full price' for the wrongdoing. And it is good for us. As the Chinese proverb says: 'If you desire revenge, dig two graves. One for the wrongdoer, one for yourself.'

It is easy to talk 'big picture' such as Mandela in South Africa. I know it is much harder within the family and within our circle of acquaintances. Here we can carry resentment for weeks or months or years. Forgiveness is to give up the cold shoulder and the wounding silences when you know the other person is desperate for one gesture, one word. In my experience, when deeply wounded by someone, it may take years to forgive them. It seems impossible to simply will it. But we have to ask for the grace to do it.

After all, a lot is at stake:

'Our Father who art in Heaven ....

... forgive us our trespasses *as we* forgive those who trespass against us.'

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## RECENTLY DECEASED

**Patrick Grimster**

(Kathryn Marangelli's Nephew)

## HEALING FOR THE SICK

### Parishioners:

**Doug Meiklejohn**    **June Murphy**

**Anne Thomas**        **Brian Carter**

**Glenda Walsh**       **Peter Conaghan**

### Friends and Family

**Geraldine Hurley** (Gay Jorgensen's Sister)

**Iain Bruce** (Rylee & Joseph Hunt's Grandad)

**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)

**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)

**Fr Peter McGrath** .CP

**Molly Schmidt** (Aileen Collins' friend)

**Peter Brown** (Denis' brother)

**The Dowling Family**

**Reg Parsons** (Powell family group)

## ANNIVERSARIES

**Agnes Thompson**

**Ignazio Ginardi**

**Anna Sinclair**

**Les Kreis**

**Brian Meacle**

**Bill Lyons**



**Des Pauli**

**Kath Murphy**

**Maud Humphrey**

**Celia Dowlings**

# St Theresa's Parish

MASSES		READINGS	NOTICES
MON	NO MASS	<b>24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A</b> <b>First Reading:</b> <i>Sirach 27:30-28:7</i> Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. <b>Responsorial Psalm:</b> <i>PS 102: 1-4, 9-12</i> The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion. <b>Second Reading:</b> <i>Romans 13: 7-9</i> Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord. <b>Gospel Acclamation:</b> Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia! <b>Gospel:</b> <i>Matthew 18: 21-35</i> I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.  <b>Next week's readings: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A</b> <i>Isaiah 55: 6 - 9</i> <i>Philippians 1: 20 - 24, 27</i> <i>Matthew 20: 1 - 16</i>	<b>BAPTISMS</b>  This weekend we welcome into our parish <b>Harvey Andrew Dall</b> through the Sacrament of Baptism    Baptisms are celebrated on the second and fourth Sunday of the month either during Mass at 9.30 or after Mass at 11.00am  
TUE	NO MASS		
WED	9AM MASS		
THU	NO MASS		
FRI	9AM MASS		
SAT	6PM VIGIL		
SUN	9.30AM MASS		
<b>If you are Gluten intolerant and require a special host, please advise the coordinator.</b>			

### UNDERSTANDING THE VOICE:

You are welcome to respectful and open conversation on the Voice on any of the Wednesday evenings between now and the Referendum on Saturday 14 October. These Voice conversations will be held in St Pat's Parish Conference Room between 6pm and 8pm on each Wednesday evening, beginning on Wednesday 06 September. Fr Peter Dorfield and Mr Phil Armit will host each occasion. As the Australian Catholic Bishop's have instructed us it is of great importance to be fully informed as we prepare to vote on the Voice Referendum.

### FUNDRAISING FOR MARY MACKILLOP TODAY

**Help us by collecting stamps!**

**Want a simple and easy way to help Mary MacKillop Today?**

All you need to do is collect your stamps, new or used, it doesn't matter (we'll even take your collections and albums).

### THE SEASON OF CREATION SEPTEMBER 1 - OCTOBER 4



To celebrate the Season of Creation, the liturgy team encourages parishioners to bring along vases of flowers, pot plants etc each weekend to decorate our sacred space. They can either be brought along each weekend and added or spend the month of



September in our parish centre. We hope to see our creation space grow throughout this time.

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The Toowoomba Diocese invites you join us as we Gather to Celebrate.

***Festival Gathering 2023***

Venue: St Patrick's Cathedral Toowoomba

Date: Sunday 15th October

Time: Commences 9am-3pm

Address: 123 Neil St

RSVP: Friday 29th September 2023

Ada Boland: Ada.Boland@svdpqld.org.au  
or (07) 4699 5222

### PRF FATHER'S DAY APPEAL

Thank you to everyone who has supported this year's appeal supporting the Priests' Retirement Foundation. If you have yet to donate, and still wish to, there are envelopes in the foyer.

### CARNIVAL OF FLOWERS

**Carnival of Flowers** display in St Patrick's Cathedral will be open from Friday 15-Monday 18 September 9am -5pm. Gold coin donation is appreciated. Come along and see how "We are the Seeds of Hope".

# St Theresa's Parish

## ADVENT GOSPEL REFLECTION BOOKLETS



The year is rolling along and Advent starts 3<sup>rd</sup> December – about 12 weeks away. Both Diocese of Wollongong and Brisbane have created Gospel reflection booklets for 2023-2024 Year B Advent season.

Wollongong's program is *"The Sign"* and includes daily gospel reflections from the beginning of Advent (3 December 2023) through to the Baptism of the Lord (8 January 2024). The Sign also features beautiful religious artworks from the Masters such as Caravaggio, Di Pietro, Carolsfeld, Copley, Le Brun and Fra Angelico, with enlightening "Artwork Spotlight" reflections written by the popular

Monsignor Graham Schmitzer.

**Cost - \$5/book**



Evangelisation Brisbane has produced *"With Expectant Hearts"*. With Expectant Hearts is a new 22-day reflection resource that can be used during Advent by individuals and groups. Its main purpose is to help us to find a few minutes each day to practice what it means to sit with God and to trust God to lead us forward.

Each day's reflection is inspired by a short text of scripture and concludes with a thought or two to take away and with a prayer. **Cost - \$6/book**

More information and an order form is in the foyer for you to register to buy one or both and multiple copies can be ordered. Orders need to be in by Wednesday 4 October so that we are able to have the books before Advent commences. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office

Ph 4639 4688 or email [monica@sttheresas.org.au](mailto:monica@sttheresas.org.au)

## "THE BIG PICTURE - LIVING IN HOPE & AWARENESS



Rev Tim Costello is coming to Toowoomba

**When:** Sunday 22 October

**Time:** 1.30pm for a 2pm start

**Where:** St Theresa's Parish Centre

**Cost:** \$25.00 afternoon tea included, children 14 and under free

This event is sponsored by the Missionary Sisters of Service and their mission entity "Highways & Byways" which continues the work of the Sisters.

Bookings and Payment by Thursday October 12 using the following Trybooking link:

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1082911> or by scanning QR Code

**All enquiries:** [hbqueensland@gmail.com](mailto:hbqueensland@gmail.com)



## SPRED FUNDRAISING EVENING AT THE REPERTORY THEATRE-

*"William Shakespeare – Complete Works"*

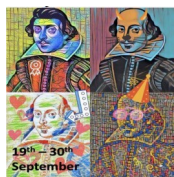
Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September. 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Tickets \$25.00 includes wine on arrival, supper at interval and 5 x raffle tickets.

Tickets available at SPRED office

Cnr Hume & Jellico St 9am – 3.30pm Mon - Thurs

Ph: 4632 8427 / [spred@twb.catholic.org.au](mailto:spred@twb.catholic.org.au)



## WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

This year, the theme as declared by Pope Francis for World Mission Sunday is, "Hearts on Fire, Feet on the Move" (Lk 24:13-35).

For the 2023 Catholic Mission Church Appeal, they invite you to partner with them to support the Salesian Sisters and the Church in Venilale, Timor-Leste. The Salesian Sisters run a life-saving clinic in Venilale but with an increase in the demand for treatment, they need assistance to restock with essential health care resources.

On the weekend 16/17 September, St Theresa's parish will hold its appeal. During masses on this weekend we will welcome Kevin McMahon a Mission Ambassador from Catholic Mission who will speak at the appeals.

## PILGRIMAGE IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP

The Sisters of Saint Joseph have prepared an Australian Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop" commencing in Melbourne on 17 October, journeying through Victoria and South Australia, and ending at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney on 28 October 2023. During the pilgrimage we visit many places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry.

I am happy to answer any questions and provide an itinerary and application form, and may be contacted at [national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au) or on 02 89124818.



**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, David Rogan,

**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:**

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 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER**

Sunday	<b>24 September</b> World Refugees & Migration Day
October	<b>World Mission Month</b>
	<b>October Dedicated to Prayer for Peace for Ukraine</b>
Monday	<b>2 October</b> King's Birthday Public Holiday
Saturday	<b>7 October</b> St Theresa's Prayers & Communion 9.30am @ Infin8
Saturday	<b>21 October</b> St Theresa's Prayers & Communion 9.30am @ Infin8

**MASS: FEAST OF ST LORENZO RUIZ, FIRST FILIPINO SAINT**

Date: 1 October 2023, Sunday

Time: 12:00pm

Where: St Patrick's Cathedral, Toowoomba

There will be a multicultural Filipino Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral. All are warmly welcome to celebrate.

**OCTOBER DEDICATED TO PRAYER FOR PEACE FOR UKRAINE**

Pope Francis calls for October to be dedicated to praying for peace in Ukraine. Insisting that there is "a need for more prayer, for conversion, and an end to the conflict" in Ukraine, and in a response to a request from Ukrainian Bishops, Pope Francis "expressed his desire that during the month of October, especially in [Marian] Shrines, the Rosary be dedicated to peace and reconciliation in Ukraine." Read more at Vatican News.

**POPE FRANCIS'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER**

**For people living on the margins**

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.



**First Sunday of the Month**

Parish Morning Tea 1st Sunday of the month after 9.30am Mass

**Care & Concern Meeting**

Care & Concern Meeting Monday 9 October @ 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.

