

THE BULLETIN

ST THERESA'S PARISH

5-6 OCTOBER 2024

27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR B

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.

During World War II, Mary was one of hundreds of Australian women who fell in love with an American soldier. She married her Episcopalian Army Major at the side altar in a Catholic Church in 1945. He was dashing and handsome and by the time it came for him to return to Philadelphia in 1946, they were expecting their first child. Upon arrival at her new home Mary found that her brave soldier was not as fearless as she thought. He was completely dominated by his aristocratic, wealthy mother who made it clear from the beginning that she opposed the marriage. Mary's life in the family home was a nightmare. The tensions boiled over when Brendan was born. Regardless of the promises his father had made in Australia to have their children baptised Catholics, the soldier waged no war against his mother who declared that if any grandchild of hers was baptised a 'papist' she would disinherit the three of them. The Major buckled under the maternal pressure and demanded that Brendan be baptised an Episcopalian. Mary was devastated. She gathered her few possessions together, had her son baptised a Catholic and fled home.

In 1950, by now a divorcee, she met Maurice, a wonderful man who wanted to marry her and be a father to Brendan. When they went to see the local parish priest, he told them they could not be married in the Church and if they contracted a civil marriage they ran the risk of going to hell for eternity. They were tough days. Catholicism was one of the reasons Mary left the USA. In turn, the very Church she defended shut her out.

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks directly about marriage and divorce. In Jesus' day only a few women had rights before the law. These were wealthy women from the priestly families. They could divorce their husbands. The vast majority of women, however, were seen as possessions of their father, husband or son. A husband could draw up a divorce writ for any reason he wished and so force his wife out of their home into destitution or humiliate her by sending her back to her own family. No wonder Jesus lays down the law so strongly about fidelity and commitment. His new interpretation of the Law of Moses defended women's rights to dignity and security.

Every Catholic parish today has parishioners who are divorced and remarried; no doubt some are here at this Mass. In the face of the negative messages you hear, I want you to know how much we admire your often heroic faith, how much God loves you and how grateful we are that you hang in here with us. The problem for the Church is that, on the one hand, we want to keep affirming the permanence of married love, and yet, on the other hand, we have an increasing number of Catholics who are divorcing. We are caught between the fine ideal Jesus teaches and the frail human condition we all carry in different ways. We have not got the balance right yet.

The Church's remedy to marriage breakdown is an annulment. An annulment is not a Catholic divorce. A civil divorce says the parties that were married are not now. An annulment says that there were factors, often unknown to the couple on the day, which meant that there was never a full and true Christian marriage in the first place. The sacrament is therefore null and void.

Some Catholics, and certainly people who are not Catholic, cannot face up to the long, complex and legal process involved in an annulment. It can be a traumatic experience. Others argue that the Church might step away from the more recent legal approach to dealing with marriage and, like the Orthodox Churches, use the Sacrament of Penance to nullify the Sacrament of Marriage. Whatever of the process, Christian teaching on this issue must always be metered with compassion.

From 1951 until 1993 Mary and her second husband did not receive the Sacraments. At my encouragement, she instigated annulment proceedings in 1990. In 1993 they received communion for the first time in 42 years. God had never moved away from them, embracing them in his arms, laying his hands on them every day and blessing them. At that Nuptial Mass in 1994, Maurice's best man was Brendan, born in Philadelphia in 1946. Maurice had legally adopted Brendan the day after he married Mary. And as we all received communion, with tears streaming down our faces, we understood that it is to human, frail and open hearts that the Kingdom of God belongs. © Richard Leonard SJ

RECENTLY DECEASED

John Ford

Lorna Cumming (Janet Weier's mother)

Alan Searle (Kathy Sternes' friend)

HEALING FOR THE SICK

Parishioners:

Noel and Mary Murphy

Susan Quirk **Anne Thomas**

June Murphy

Friends and Family

Imogen Atkins (niece of Lelia Fallon)

Mary Relf (Pat Powell's Sister)

Naser (Mary Tanous' brother)

Elke Windley

(Gailene Jurgs' Granddaughter)

Madeline (Sally) Gray

(Kathy Sternes' Mother)

Mary Gleeson

(Anne McNally's Sister)

Geraldine Hurley (Gay Jorgensen's Sister)

Iain Bruce (Rylee & Joseph Hunt's Grandad)

Jennifer Fogarty

(Beverley Patterson's Friend)

Erica Armagnacq (Bill Armagnacq's Daughter in Law)

Margaret Chiesa

Janette Ansell (Patricia Stevens sister)

Geoff Doyle (Mary Otto's brother)

Anna O'Toole (Maryanne Long's friend)

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)

Max Shearer (Grandson - Judy Shearer)

John Mullen (Helen McNaught's nephew)

Fr Peter McGrath .CP

Molly Schmidt (Aileen Collins' friend)

The Dowling Family

Samy Boulis (Sam Tanous' brother-in-law)

ANNIVERSARIES

Mary Ryan

Irene Shine

Jack Herbert

Stephanie Taylor

Irene Leonardi

Clothilde Zardo

Keith Rasmussen **John Reavey**

Lorraine Hill

Fr. Ray OLeary

Christine Dent

Damian Flynn

Arthur Shooter

Richard Neal

Bruno Borserio

Julie Hannon

Gwen Savage

Alf Franzmann



Emmett Fitzgerald **Denis Davey**

Karen Pannach **Colleen McMahon**

Jack Stacey **George Cartwright**

Neal Jackson-Hope

St Theresa's Parish

MASSES		READINGS	NOTICES
MON	NO MASS	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B First Reading <i>Genesis 2: 18-24</i> The Lord God creates woman. Responsorial Psalm: 127.R.v.5 May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives. Second Reading <i>Hebrews 2: 9-11</i> Jesus was made low to taste death for all people. Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! If we love one another, God will live in us in perfect love. Alleluia! Gospel: Mark 10: 2-16 'Let the children come to me.' Next week's readings: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B <i>Wisdom 7: 7-11</i> <i>Hebrews 4: 12-13</i> <i>Mark 10: 17-30</i>	Baptisms are celebrated on the second and fourth Sunday of the month either during Mass at 9.30am or after Mass at 11.00am  Fr. Brian <i>Best wishes for a restful holiday.</i> <i>Enjoy a well deserved break.</i> 
TUE	NO MASS		
WED	9AM MASS		
THU	NO MASS		
FRI	9AM MASS		
SAT	6PM VIGIL		
SUN	MASS 9.30AM		
If you are Gluten intolerant and require a special host, please advise the coordinator.			

ADVENT GOSPEL REFLECTION BOOKLETS

The year is rolling along and Advent starts 1st December – about 9 weeks away. Both Diocese of Wollongong and Brisbane have created Gospel reflection booklets for 2024-2025 Year C Advent season.

EVANGELISATION BRISBANE has produced "*Hope Reigns*". *Hope Reigns* is a new **25-day reflection resource** that can be used during Advent by individuals and groups. Our guest writer Br. Damien Price cfc (Christian Brother of the Oceania Province) has written heart-warming and mission-oriented daily reflections. Each weekday is tailored for individual reflection and includes a short scripture text, a reflection, some questions to ponder and a concluding prayer. With small groups in mind, we have purposefully reformatted the Sunday reflections to make this resource more open to use in an Advent small group setting. Each Sunday has a longer format including small group prompts, an opening prayer, the Gospel reading, a Sunday reflection, discussion questions and a closing prayer. **Cost - \$6/book**

WOLLONGONG'S PROGRAM is "*The Light*". *The Light* is a beautiful 88-page book of daily reflections designed to deepen your spiritual journey from the beginning of Advent (1 December 2024) through to the Baptism of the Lord (12 January 2025), offering profound insights and contemplative thoughts that invite you to explore the depths of your faith and anticipate the joy of God's presence in the world.

The Light is more than just a guide; it is a beacon of hope and renewal, leading you through the enduring narratives of Advent and Christmas that have touched the hearts of the faithful across generations. Whether you are looking to deepen your understanding, find spiritual solace, or celebrate the essence of the seasons, this book is an invaluable companion for your spiritual path.

The Light also features beautiful religious artworks from the Masters such as Hunt, Van Dyck, Breenbergh, Giordano, Luini, Raphael, Stom and Bellini, with enlightening "Artwork Spotlight" reflections written by the popular Monsignor Graham Schmitzer. **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 9 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

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE APPEAL

During the month of October, Joann Hodal is generously giving of her time to organise the collection of items which she will then make into the domestic violence packages from St Theresa's. Thank you Joann for the tremendous gift of your time and energy for these precious packages of dignity.

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 into or they can be left at the parish office during office hours.

We thank you all sincerely for your continuing support for this community outreach project.

St Theresa's Parish

JUBILEE OF ORDINATION MASS

Date: 16/10/24 Wednesday

Time: 11:00am

Where: St Patrick's Cathedral, Tmba

Bishop Ken Howell warmly invites all parishioners to celebrate milestone Jubilees of Ordination for some of our priests at a special Mass. Fr Kerry Costigan will mark 60 years of Ordination. Frs Jim Cronin and John Maher will mark 50 years of Ordination. Frs Jamie Collins and Michael O'Brien will mark 25 years.

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE

Date: 5/10/24 or 26/10/24 (Both Saturdays)

Where: Mt Carmel Parish Coorparoo or All Saints Parish Albany Creek

Make a Joyful Noise! offers a valuable formation opportunity for singers, conductors, cantors, organists, pianists, guitarists and all involved in music ministry. Bring your whole music team to help all appreciate the vital role of music in vibrant, uplifting and welcoming parish worship. (Discounted parish tickets available)

Please refer to flyer in the foyer for further information.

ENGAGING YOUR FAITH

Date: October 2024

Where: Online

"Engaging Your Faith" is a series of short online presentations that invite participants to reflect on what it means to be people of faith in the contemporary world. Experienced lecturers from Catholic Theological College present on a variety of topics such as Philosophy, Spirituality, Biblical Studies, Christian Meditation, Theology, Interfaith Relations, and issues in Science and Religion



VOLUNTEERS WANTED: ST VINCENT'S CARE SERVICES

St Vincent's Care Services (Lourdes Home), 227 Spring Street, Toowoomba, is looking for volunteers to help In the following areas:

Communion ministry on Tuesday mornings (contact Pastoral Care on 0447 720 604)

Rosary Groups Tues, Wed & Thu (contact Pastoral Care on 0447 720 604)

Assist residents to play Bingo on a Thursday morning (contact Rod, Lifestyle, on 4592 6900)

1-on-1 Social visits Monday to Friday (contact Rod, Lifestyle, on 4592 6900)

If you have some time to spare, your contribution would be greatly appreciated.

BISHOP MICHAEL PUTNEY MEMORY LECTURE

Date: 22/10/24 Tuesday

Time: 7:00pm - 9:30pm

Where: Francis Rush Centre, Brisbane

Cost: \$10 in person, \$5 live stream. Register with QRcode

This year's lecture is titled "You are My Flesh and Blood: The Ecology of God" at the guest speaker is Archbishop Mark Coleridge.



SYCHAR HOUSE OF PRAYER AND SPIRITUALITY

Where: 69 Margaret Street, Toowoomba

SIMPLICITY: THE ART OF LETTING GO

Date: Six Tuesdays starting 15/10/24

Time: 9:45am for 10:00am start - 12:30pm

[*Register through TryBooking*](#)

The sessions offer a compelling call to live with greater mindfulness, inspired by the timeless wisdom of the Franciscan Tradition. We will be encouraged to shift from seeking security in external things to finding peace within, allowing for a more authentic and meaningful spiritual life.

UNIVERSAL SISTERHOOD PODCAST PRESENTS

KNOWN

Womens' Day Retreat Saturday, 2nd November 2024

9am to 5.30pm 8.45am Registration Holy Name Parish, Toowoomba

REGISTER VIA <https://www.trybooking.com/CSMKN>

Contact Jane Naug on 0437 233 314 with any inquiries RSVP 21/10/2024

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER 2024

October: For a shared mission

When bishops and laypeople meet for the second part of the Synod on Synodality during October, the faithful are asked to pray that "the Church continues to sustain a synodal life-style in every way."



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, Monica Brennan, Elizabeth Curtis,
 Kathy Doherty, Greg Hallam, Gerard Hore, Julie Raitelli,
 David Rogan, Martin Stinson, Bernadette/Glen Whisson,
 Dave Wilson.

Finance Committee

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

Liturgy Team

Fr. Brian Noonan, Jan Mayo, Peter Kenny,
 Monica Brennan, Gay Jorgensen, Elizabeth Stewart.

Musicians

Norma Kenny, Kathy Sternes, Elizabeth Stewart,
 Libby Rosentreter.

Baptism Team:

Jenny Ryan, 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
 0409 662 047

RCIA

Coordinator: David Wilson
 0451 131 849



NOTICE

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

Thursday	3 Oct PPC Meeting
Saturday	5 Oct Liturgy with Communion Infin8 @ 10.30am all welcome
Monday	7 Oct Public Holiday Kings Birthday
Thursday	10 Oct Office closed for Professional Development in-service day
Wednesday	16 Oct Jubilee mass 11am St Patrick's Cathedral
Friday	1 Nov Parish Trivia Night Parish Centre 5.30pm

COLLECTION 26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Unavailable at time of printing



DATE CLAIMER – PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT – FRIDAY 1ST NOVEMBER

St Theresa's Parish will be holding a Family Trivia Night.

When: Friday 1st November in the Parish Centre.

Time: 5.30pm for 6pm start

Where: Parish Centre

Cost: \$10/person over 10years OR \$80 for a table of 8
 A Sausage Sizzle will be operating \$2/snag and a drinks bar will be available.

Tea and coffee will be available for no cost.

Patrons are welcome to bring nibblies for their table.

Bookings to made through the parish office

PH: 4639 4688

PUBLIC ROSARY RALLY

Date: 12/10/24 Saturday

Time: 2:00pm-4:00pm

Where: Queens Park, Cnr Margaret & Lindsay Street, Tmba

All are welcome to join a public praying of the Rosary in Queens Park. This is part of a nationwide Rosary held each year on the Saturday closest to the 13 October, being the date of the final apparition of Our Lady of Fatima in 1917.

Care & Concern Meeting

Care & Concern Meeting Monday 14th 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. (Grade 7-12 people) PH: 4636 0461

