

THE BULLETIN

ST THERESA'S PARISH

7 – 8 DEC 2024

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

YEAR C

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.

Francis' Focus

'The voice of the Baptist still cries in the deserts of humanity today', says Pope Francis. There is, the Pope observes, a desert of indifference in our world filled with 'closed minds and hardened hearts.'

During Advent we are all called to heed the Baptist's cry. Christians, the Pope suggests, should therefore repent from any selfish inaction on our part. We cannot simply affirm that 'we're okay' because we are Christian and that 'things are fine as they are and we don't need any kind of conversion.'

Rather, the Pope encourages us to ask ourselves whether 'we have within us the same feelings that Jesus has? Is it true that we feel as Christ feels?' Do we see the needs of others – for forgiveness, companionship, or aid – or are we focused on ourselves?

Having heard the cry, we are also called to share the Baptist's mission to make Jesus known. And the best way to preach the Gospel, the Pope advises, 'is to open a door.'

We open a door to belief when our faith is lived authentically and we are attentive to those around us. We must 'lay low the mountains of pride', the Pope affirms, 'fill in the ravines dug by indifference and apathy', and 'make straight the paths of our laziness and our compromises.' © Nick Brodie

Gospel Reflection

We are John the Baptists

Do we have to be like John the Baptist, eccentrically dressed and scavenging for food, to prepare the way of the Lord? No.

You and I are called to be a John or Joan the Baptist, preparing people's hearts in our own time and place.

But we have to allow God to prepare *our* hearts for this role. John the Baptist challenges us to 'Repent', i.e. to turn around our own lives seeking God's forgiveness. John then challenges us to see the big picture which is that 'All who live shall see the salvation of God'.

Pope Francis is the exemplary universal pastor inspiring us to become 'les merciful sans frontieres'. And young people through social media are already saying 'We are one community of human beings on this fragile planet'.

The challenge for most of us is more immediate and apparently of smaller scope. The challenge this Advent is to identify the one person whose heart you can help prepare to celebrate the coming of the Lord Jesus in three weeks' time. The best method is to let that person see your faith and joy centred on that little Jewish baby lying in a manger.

Do that, and who knows what may happen because that little baby is in fact the Sovereign Lord of history and of the whole cosmos. With God's grace, you don't have to be as eccentric or bizarre as John the Baptist to play your part in changing the course of history!

We could take a moment to pray that, repenting of our own sins where necessary, we may prepare the heart of at least one person so that the Lord Jesus may enter in this Christmas, helping him fulfil his mission that all who live shall see the salvation of God. © Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com



RECENTLY DECEASED

HEALING FOR THE SICK

Parishioners:

Noel Murphy John Erbs
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)

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

Darryl McNamara

Rev. John O'Brien

Tony Sheridan

Peter Burke

Terry Connor

Neville Dredge

Mick Grayndler

Gordon Walton

Michael Butler

Jack Hurley

Bernadette (Detta) Gleeson

Ann Lowe

Harold Humphrey

St Theresa's Parish

MASSES

MON	NO MASS
TUE	NO MASS
WED	9am MASS
THU	NO MASS
FRI	9am MASS
SAT	6pm VIGIL MASS
SUN	9.30am MASS
<p>If you are Gluten intolerant and require a special host, please advise the coordinator.</p>	

READINGS

2nd Sunday of Advent Year C
First Reading *Baruch 5: 1-9*
 Take off your robe of mourning, put on the splendour of glory.
Responsorial Psalm: *Ps 125. R.v3*
 The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.
Second Reading *Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11*
 He who has begun the good work in you will bring it to completion.
Gospel Acclamation:
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.
 Alleluia!
Gospel: *Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36*
 John the Baptist proclaims a baptism of repentance.
Next week's readings:
3rd Sunday of Advent Year C
Zephaniah 3:14-18
Philippians 4: 4-7
Luke 3:10 - 18

NOTICES

BAPTISM



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

PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS

In a service with music, symbols and readings
 St James choir with singers from *Ars Cantorum*
 St James Anglican Church
 Sunday 15 December at 5pm.
 Followed by 2 course dinner in the parish centre.
 \$20/head
 RSVP Wed 11 Dec.
 See flyer on notice board

FUNDRAISER: CHRISTMAS CARDS

The Mukuru Promotion Centre (MPC), a ministry of the Sisters of Mercy in Kenya, is organizing a fundraiser to help the marginalised youth in the slums by selling Christmas Cards. By purchasing a packet of 10 cards and envelopes for \$15, you're not just getting beautiful Christmas cards designed by young Kenyan artists but also making a significant difference in the lives of marginalised youth in Nairobi slums. The inside message is written by Srs Maureen Mohen and Kathy Kettle. Your support will go a long way in empowering these young individuals. All proceeds from the sales go towards the vocational training program.
 See flyer on the notice board in the foyer.



CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER - SPRED RECIPE BOOK

SPRED has been operating in the Diocese of Toowoomba for close to 40 years – a ministry of belonging, fostering the spiritual life of adults living with intellectual disabilities. The recipe book is a collection of sweet and savoury treats collected from volunteers and families over the years. This fundraiser will assist SPRED in maintaining essential resources used to create this successful ministry.
 Copies are \$10 each. Call the SPRED office on 4632 8427 or email spred@twb.catholic.org.au to order.



ROSTERS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY

Christmas Mass rosters are available in the foyer.
 Christmas Eve roster is on **yellow paper**. Christmas Day roster is on **blue paper**.
 Christmas Eve mass is at 6pm. Christmas Day mass is at 8.30am
 Volunteers are asked to write their name against the ministry which they would like to be involved in.
 We will need help adding extra chairs into the parish centre prior to Christmas Eve mass.





Thank you to our sponsors and supporters for helping us publish our first Edition. We hope you enjoy the read.
If you wish to sponsor our next publication (March/April 2025),
please contact a member of the Parish Council or the Parish Office.

WELCOME DIOCESAN DIRECTOR OF CARITAS - JOE KELLY

We welcome Joe Kelly as our new Diocesan Director of Caritas. Joe is currently the APMI at St Ursula's College Toowoomba. No doubt you will hear from Joe in the coming weeks. In the meantime, you can contact him on joseph.kelly@caritas.org.au or mobile 0407 305 512.

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL STANTHORPE 150 YEAR DINNER DANCE

Date: 8/2/2025 Saturday

Time: 6:00pm start

Where: Bathersby Centre, Stanthorpe

All are welcome to come celebrate this wonderful milestone for St Joseph's School in Stanthorpe.

Ticket information will be available soon. [Follow the Facebook page for updates.](#)

For more information, please email SJS150Years@twb.catholic.edu.au

SAVE THE DATE: TONY ALONSO

Date: 15-17/5/25

Where: Brisbane, see flyer for details

Liturgy Brisbane has scored a major coup in securing renowned US liturgical composer and theologian, Tony Alonso during his Australia/NZ tour in May 2025. Tony will offer a public lecture, a full-day schools-focused presentation, a public concert and a workshop for parish music ministers.

[Please see the Save the Dates flyer for further information.](#)

Full details and registration will be available in late January 2025.

HOW OUR CHURCH IS CHANGING

Date: 10/12/24 Tuesday

Time: 7:30pm-9:00pm

Where: St Ignatius Church, 30 Kensington Terrace, Toowong. Also available online, see flyer.

What will be the washup now for the Church after the final session of the Vatican Synod on Synodality? What might change for us? Have other Christian Churches taken an interest in it? Will it have any implications for our relations with these Churches? Presented by Bishop Shane Mackinlay, who was a member of both sessions of the Roman Synod on Synodality. Joined by leading Ecumenist Margaret Naylon, the Brisbane Archdiocesan Executive Officer of Council for Ecumenism & Inter-religious Relations.

See flyer on the foyer notice board.



Christmas Gifts from Palms!

*Are you looking to give something really special this year?
Something that makes a tangible difference?*

Palms has the shop for you!

*Whether it be a GIFT directly supporting our overseas
development program, or some unique Timorese GIFTS for your
loved one's home, you'll find that perfect GIFT here!*

Just scan the QR or go to palms.org.au/donate/palms-gift-shop



Happy shopping! And yes, your purchase assists the amazing communities overseas



MERRY CHRISTMAS!



**POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER
INTENTION FOR DECEMBER
2024**

FOR PILGRIMS OF HOPE

In anticipation of the Church's next jubilee, the faithful are asked to pray during the month of December that "the coming Church Jubilee Year 2025 strengthens us in our faith, helping us to recognize the risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope."



CONTACTS

Parish Priest:

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 brianjnoonan@bigpond.com

Pastoral Associate

Monica Brennan
 Ph.: 4639 4688
 e-mail: monica@sttheresas.org.au

Parish Secretary: On Long Service Leave

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

DECEMBER

Wed 18 Dec 6pm Advent Reconciliation Liturgy
 Parish Centre
Tues 24 Dec 4pm Mary MacKillop Christmas Eve Mass
Tues 24 Dec 6pm St Theresa's Christmas Eve Mass
Wed 25 Dec 7am Mary MacKillop Christmas Day Mass
Wed 25 Dec 8.30am St Theresa's Christmas Day Mass
Friday 27 Dec No 9AM MORNING MASS

FINAL MASS
PERANGA CHURCH



8/12/24 @ 9:00am,
 Our Lady of the Annunciation Church
 Peranga.



CHRISTMAS GIFTING TREE

An initiative by the Parish Pastoral Council in conjunction with the St Theresa's Vincent de Paul conference. This year we have a Christmas Tree in the foyer with tags tied to the branches. Each tag has the gender and age of child requiring a Christmas gift. Please take a tag, buy an appropriate gift and return it to the tree, **unwrapped**. We will then give the gift, paper etc to the parents of the child/children so that they can wrap it and have the joy and pleasure of giving their child a gift.

ADVENT GOSPEL REFLECTION BOOKLETS

There will be a gospel reflection group during Advent on Mondays at 10am starting November 25 for 4 weeks, in the Parish Office Meeting Room. Everyone is welcome

SACRED HEART JUMBLE SALE ON AGAIN!

Date: 8/12/24 Sunday
 Time: 7:00am-12:00pm
 Where: Sacred Heart Church, North St Tmba
 Thank you once again for your generous donations and support of our Jumble Sale last month. We still have many of your wonderful items, so we're hosting another sale. In addition to great bargains, we'll be offering a delicious sausage sizzle, spring rolls, baked goods, and festive treats.

Care & Concern Meeting 2nd Monday of the Month

Care & Concern Meeting
 Monday 10th February 2025 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