

THE BULLETIN

ST THERESA'S PARISH

8—9 MARCH 2025

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

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.

Lenten Reflection

The Church's celebrations are like pearls. Pearls start with an itch in an oyster. The oyster surrounds the itch with layers of mother of pearl, which eventually becomes the rounded pearl we prize. Lent develops in the same way. It began with the belief that God has forgiven our sins and given us life through the death and rising of Jesus. That led Christians to dedicate a special feast to celebrate Jesus' dying and rising. That was surrounded by layers of story, prayer and other Christian practices.

SERIOUSNESS

These included fasting, a regular part of Jewish and later of Christian practice. Fasting marked seriousness. It was associated with acknowledging sin and communal renewal of faith. The fast was then surrounded by other stories relevant to Jesus' death. They included the story of God freeing the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt, which was celebrated in the Jewish feast of the Passover. The link to the Passover was also central in the Gospel story of Jesus' death.

The length of the Lent fast was also shaped by stories. The people of Israel spent 40 years in the desert before entering the promised land. Jesus spent 40 days fasting and praying in the desert before beginning his public ministry. In time the fast was lengthened from five weeks to 40 days.

When the Roman Empire tolerated Christianity and Christians returned to Jerusalem, another layer was added. During the fast they celebrated Jesus' last days from his entrance to Jerusalem, to the Last Supper, imprisonment, and crucifixion. These ceremonies were gradually adopted by the rest of the Church.

A final layer was placed after Lent became the favoured time for people to prepare for Baptism at Easter. It symbolised their dying with Christ in baptism and rising to a new Christian life. During Lent, too, Christians also confessed publicly serious sins and dressed in sackcloth and ashes before being received back into the Church at Easter.

This history is reflected in the sombre colours of Lent and in the sprinkling of ashes on Ash Wednesday, the final layer in the pearl of the celebration of Easter.

MANY JOURNEYS

If Lent has grown like a pearl, it also brings together many journeys: first, God's journey with the human race through creation and through calling the people of Israel to be his own. It focuses especially on Jesus' journey with us on earth and particularly on his final journey to eat which his disciples, to the humiliation of arrest torture and death, and to rising from the dead.

Lent also marks our human journey of entering more deeply into God's journey with us through Christ. In our Lenten journey we ask ourselves what matters to us. We also reflect on God's calling to follow Jesus, on our sinfulness, and on how God overwhelmed our sins by the gift of forgiveness. Lent is a journey of growing in love.

Finally, Lent is a shared journey. It is shared silently in our hearts in prayer. It is also shared in our association with people by reflecting together on the Gospel, joining with people who are preparing for Baptism, joining in our recognising our weakness and receiving forgiveness, and by sharing in the joy and light of Easter. There the pearl layered in Lent is seen in its full lustre. © Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ

RECENTLY DECEASED

HEALING FOR THE SICK

Parishioners:

Merv Otto	Phil Wareham
Noel Murphy	Neil Lynch
Susan Quirk	Anne Thomas
Dr. Rob Rimmer	June Murphy

Friends and Family

Jeanette Grant (Susanne Gilshenan's friend)
Ann Lowe (Susanne Gilshenan's friend)
Imogen Atkins (niece of Lelia Fallon)
Catherine Castelli (Pat Powell's sister)
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)
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)
Ros Carlson (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)
Kate Hopkins (friend of Good Samaritan College)
Marty Heysen (Meg Hicks' brother-in-law)

ANNIVERSARIES

Peg Ashton
Dennis Tildesley
Leith Belot
Ellis Kingsley
George Wilson
Breeg Henly-Smith
Bill Jones
Ivy Butler
Elizabeth Crompton
Max Winter

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

1st Sunday of Lent Year C

First Reading *Deuteronomy 26: 4-10*
Moses tells the Israelites of God's care for them.

Responsorial Psalm: *Ps 90:1-2.10-15.R. v.15*
Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble

Second Reading *Romans 10: 8-13*
All who call upon the Lord will be saved.

Gospel Acclamation:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel: *Luke 4: 1-13*

Jesus is tempted in the desert.

Next week's readings:

2nd Sunday of Lent Year C

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 9:28-36

NOTICES

BAPTISM

This weekend we welcome into our parish

Charlee Ava Belford
Payten Willa Belford
Savanna Faith Patterson
Paisleigh Maye Patterson
and
Miles David Death

through the sacrament of Baptism



Baptisms are celebrated on the second and fourth Sunday of the month after Mass at 11.00am or during Mass at 6pm vigil or 9.30am Sunday

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2025

The Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist will be celebrated in our parish in June. **Confirmation** will be **Wednesday 18th June** and **First Eucharist** will be **21st /22nd June**.

There will be 2 group sessions each week.

Session 1 on Tuesday after school at Mater Dei school, **starting Tuesday 4 March**

Session 2 on Wednesday after school in the St Theresa's Parish Office, **starting Wednesday 5 March**

Our sacramental team members are Kathy Doherty, Gay Jorgensen, David Wilson and Monica Brennan.

If you have any enquiries, please contact a member of the team or contact the parish office on 4639 4688 or email monica@sttheresas.pastoralassociate@twb.catholic.org.au



Francis' Focus © Nick Brodie

'Jesus does not converse with the devil', observes Pope Francis.

The Pope points out that Jesus never seeks the devil's opinion, nor does he get into a dialogue with the devil. Jesus only gives firm answers, rebuffing the devil with Scripture, even when the devil tries to warp Scripture to his own ends.

Hoping that Lent can be 'a time of the desert' for each one of us, a time when we can find silence and make time for prayer, the Pope also warns us against falling into a 'slumber of the conscience'.

Silence and prayer must never become dialogue with the devil. If we start to think of ourselves as holier than others, excuse ourselves from helping the poor, or judge others whose lives appear different from our own, then perhaps we have started listening to the devil's opinion.

This Lent we might reflect on this temptation to self-justify, to dialogue with evil. 'The devil does this with us', the Pope suggests. Too easily the devil can, as the Pope puts it, 'disguise himself with sacred, apparently religious motives!'

Therefore, we might begin Lent by praying for the fortitude to answer our own inner temptations with firm resolve.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH 2025

For families in crisis.

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

NEW PARISH EMAIL ADDRESSES

All parishes within the Toowoomba Diocese are changing to twb.catholic.org.au email addresses. The website and directories are currently being updated.

St Theresa's new office email address is
sttheresasparish@twb.catholic.org.au

Monica's email is
sttheresas.pastoralassociate@twb.catholic.org.au

Campbell St Catholic Corner

EDITION #2
FEB-APRIL 2024



Thank you to our sponsors and supporters for helping us publish our second Edition.



MATER DEI
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Enjoy the read and children remember to count the eggs.



JUBILEE YEAR 2025

Theme : *Pilgrims of Hope*

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE LVIII WORLD DAY OF PEACE 1st JANUARY 2025

Forgive us our trespasses: grant us your peace

III. A journey of hope: three proposals

9. If we take to heart these much-needed changes, the Jubilee Year of Grace can serve to set each of us on a renewed journey of hope, born of the experience of God's unlimited mercy. [15] God owes nothing to anyone, yet he constantly bestows his grace

and mercy upon all. As Isaac of Nineveh, a seventh-century Father of the Eastern Church, put it in one of his prayers: "Your love, Lord, is greater than my trespasses. The waves of the sea are nothing with respect to the multitude of my sins, but placed on a scale and weighed against your love, they vanish like a speck of dust". [16] God does not weigh up the evils we commit; rather, he is immensely "rich in mercy, for the great love with which he loved us" (Eph 2:4). Yet he also hears the plea of the poor and the cry of the earth. We would do well simply to stop for a moment, at the beginning of this year, to think of the mercy with which he constantly forgives our sins and forgives our every debt, so that our hearts may overflow with hope and peace.



LENTEN GROUPS 2025

There will be **2 Lenten groups** following the Wollongong program.

1. Monday at 10am in the Parish Office meeting room and **2. Wednesday at 5.30pm** at 39 Collins St. Anyone can join these groups. There is a sheet in the foyer to write your name if you wish to be part of a group. If anyone else in the parish wishes to offer another group time, please contact the Parish Office.

ST PATRICK'S DAY DINNER DANCE

Date: 15/3/25 Saturday Time: 6:30pm

Where: Cathedral Centre, Neil St Tmba Cost: \$50pp

Come and enjoy a great night out to celebrate the Feast Day of St Patrick! Tickets will include a meal, a live Irish Band, and plenty of dancing! Book tickets [through TryBooking](#) or contact the St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Office on 07 4637

DATE CLAIMER

PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT Friday 23 May 2025
5.30pm Sausage Sizzle available
6pm start



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

First Sunday of Lent
8th and 9th of March 2025

This Lent, we're invited to *Unite Against Poverty* with Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. This year is especially significant as we celebrate the Jubilee Year - *a time of renewal and solidarity*.

Project Compassion 2025 shares three stories from around the world. We'll meet **Toefuata'iga** - (*Toy-fo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) a young student from Samoa who faced severe water shortages at her school. Thanks to Caritas Australia and the generosity of supporters like you, her school now has a 10,000 L water tank, improving access to clean water and allowing teachers to prioritise education

We'll get to know **Lam** from Vietnam. Born with short stature, Lam faced social exclusion and limited employment opportunities. Through the I-SHINE program, Lam completed a course and is now a freelance graphic designer.

And we'll meet **Irene** from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) who faced immense challenges after losing her father to war and raising her children in poverty. With support from Caritas Australia, Irene received vocational training in sewing and farming and can now support her whole family.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

PROJECT COMPASSION MATERIALS

Project compassion boxes and envelopes are available for collection in the foyer.

Please support the work of Caritas Australia.

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
 New email address
 e-mail:sttheresas.pastoralassociate@twb.catholic.org.au

Parish Secretary:

Cheryl Rens
 Ph.: 4639 4688
 e-mail: sttheresasparish@twb.catholic.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

MARCH

Monday	10 March Monday Lenten group 10am
Monday	10 March Care & Concern meeting 3pm
Tuesday	11 March Sacramental preparation session after school at Mater Dei
Wednesday	12 March Sacramental preparation session after school in Parish office meeting room.
Wednesday	12 March Wednesday Lenten group 5.30pm starts at 39 Collins St, Mt Lofty.
Friday	14 March Mater Dei Grandparents' day liturgy 11.20am
Thursday	20 March Liturgy team meeting 2.30pm
Friday	28 March Office Closed. Toowoomba show Public holiday
Sunday	30 March SPRED led Parish Mass 9.30am

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Effective from Monday
 10 February

Monday : 9am - 4pm

Tuesday : **CLOSED**

Wednesday : 11am – 4pm

Thursday : 11am – 4pm

Friday: 10am— 4pm



VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR VARIOUS MINISTRIES

Thank you to those people who have volunteered for church linen washing, money counting and sound desk operator.
 St Theresa's is still looking for volunteers for the various ministries below:

Weekly money counters—Monday or Wednesday

Monthly Sunday roster organizer

Sound desk operators.

Parishioners are always welcome to join any other ministries not listed as well.

Please contact the Parish office or see Fr. Brian, Monica or Cheryl if you can help.

MARONITE MASS

Date: 23/3/25 Sunday

Time: 11:00am

Where: St Anthony's Church, Memory St Tmba

Fr Fadi Salami, the Maronite Priest from Brisbane, will be Celebrating Mass in the Maronite Rite on Sunday 23/3/25. Father is offering the Mass for all the members of the Lebanese Community who have died since the beginning of last year. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend.

Care & Concern Meeting 2nd Monday of the Month

Care & Concern Meeting

Monday 10th March 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