

# THE BULLETIN

ST THERESA'S PARISH

29—30 MARCH 2025

FOURTH 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.*

### **Gospel Reflection** © Richard Leonard SJ

Bright and early on a Monday morning, in times that were much less ecumenical, Mick and Paddy, a pair of Irish ditch diggers, were repairing a Dublin road directly across the street from a house of ill repute.

Soon, they saw the Protestant Minister lurking about the place and then ducking into the house.

'Would ya look at that Mick!' said Paddy.

'What a shameful disgrace. That Protestant Minister sinning in the likes of that place!'

'Well', said Mick, 'he's got a ticket to hell anyway Paddy, so that's only getting' him an upgrade on the seat.'

A short time later they watched as a Jewish Rabbi looked around cautiously and, when he was satisfied no one had spied him, darted into the house.

'Did ya see that Paddy?', Mick asked in shock and disbelief. 'Is nothing holy to those Jewish people?'

'God in heaven above', Mick replied, 'Do they have "half price Monday" for the clergy at that sinful place?'

'Well, all I know Paddy is that a man of the cloth indulging himself in sins of the flesh is a terrible shame, I tell ya!'

Not long had passed when they saw a third man, Fr O'Donovan, their parish priest, lurking about the house looking around to see if anyone was watching and then quietly sneaking in the door.

'Mick, look it's Father O'Donovan', said Pat removing his cap.

'Ah Mick', said Paddy, taking off his own cap, 'one of the poor girls musta died ...'

Often our history colours everything about us, even those toward whom we can give the benefit of the doubt, be compassionate and forgive.

What is so shocking about Jesus' parable of the prodigal son is, that as the story goes, everything about the Jewish culture of first century Palestine set the boy up for a fall: he was greedy for his father's inheritance; we can assume he left the chosen land for the far country where he squandered his inheritance recklessly; he ended up eating with the unclean pigs; and then he had the temerity to return and ask for forgiveness.

This was the least likeable kid in town. He did not deserve to be treated better than a slave. That's what makes the boy's father so magnificent in love. He was derided by his faithful older son for this folly of the heart and he would have been considered a fool by his neighbours. And this is the model of compassion Jesus gives us to emulate.

The context for this story, however, matters. The author of Luke 15 has Jesus responding to charges about the company he was keeping and especially those with whom he dined.

In Jesus' day, one only ate with intimates and Jesus shared his table with losers. Three parables are given as an explanation for this practice: the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son. In each case the shepherd, the woman and the father go to ridiculous lengths to save that which is lost.

Who was admitted to the table of Luke's community was a huge issue. It seems some things never change. The action and words of Jesus, however, lead us to conclude the table is here for those of us who know the frailty of our lives enough to recognise our hunger and thirst for the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation. Today's Gospel is not just about each of us being welcomed into the arms of our compassionate God, it is also a challenge for us to defend the right of the outcasts, the public sinners and the losers who seek to turn their life around to be welcomed here as well.

This is not just about the table of the Eucharist, either. To the degree that we help our country be more hospitable to the most defenceless, the poor and the displaced then we live out the power of this parable.

May this Eucharist then, help us live beyond our history, which so often colours those toward whom we can give the benefit of the doubt and show compassion and may it give us the courage and faith to be ridiculously generous, and magnificently loving.

## RECENTLY DECEASED

**Phil Wareham**

**Merv Otto**

*(Funeral 11am Thursday 3rd April)*

## ANNIVERSARIES

*Steve Barnett Terry Bugler*

*Bishop Michael Putney*

*Andrew Roy*

*Patricia Shine*

*Bert Mitchener*

*Tom Noonan*

*Patrick Gabriel Mulligan*

*Andrew McMahon*

*Eunice Crawley*

## HEALING FOR THE SICK

### Parishioners:

Noel Murphy

Neil Lynch

Anne Thomas

June Murphy

Susan Quirk

Dr. Rob Rimmer

### Friends and Family

**Jeanette Grant** (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)

# 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><b>If you are Gluten intolerant and require a special host, please advise the coordinator.</b></p>	

## READINGS

### 4th Sunday of Lent Year C

**First Reading:** *Joshua 5:9-12*  
The Lord removes the reproach of Egypt.

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Ps 33: 2-7. R.v.9*  
(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

**Second Reading** *2 Corinthians 5:17-21*  
All is new in Christ.

#### Gospel Acclamation:

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:  
Father, I have sinned against heaven and  
against you.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Gospel:** *Luke 15:1-3, 11-32*  
Parable of the prodigal son.

### Next week's readings

### 5th Sunday of Lent Year C

*Isaiah 43: 16-21*  
*Philippians 3: 8-14*  
*John 8:1-11*

## NOTICES

### BAPTISM

This weekend we welcome into  
our parish

**Sienna Kate Kliese**

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

### Francis' Focus © Nick Brodie

Pope Francis says that today's Gospel parable 'leads us to the heart of God'.

On the one hand, it shows us that 'God always forgives. We are the ones who tire of asking for forgiveness.' What the prodigal son's Father shows us is God's boundless mercy.

But on the other hand, the parable also shows how easily we humans can slip into what the Pope calls 'the indignation of the elder son'. If we do not see God as our merciful Father, then we can easily fall into 'living a distant religion, made of prohibitions and duties.' When we judge and exclude, we try to limit God's mercy.

Falling into that mindset, we lose sight of our relatedness. We can become like the resentful elder son who calls his own brother 'this son of yours'.

To combat this mindset of 'rigidity towards our neighbour' the Pope suggests that, like the Father, we 'make merry and rejoice'. We should try to 'demonstrate our closeness to those who repent or who are on the way, to those who are in crisis or who are far away ... we have to offer them a warm welcome that encourages them to go ahead.'

In our lives, we should always treat others without judgment. And in our churches, we should always warmly welcome them home.

### TOOWOOMBA WINTER SHELTER PROGRAM

For the past two years, St Theresa's Parish and St Thomas Moore's Parish have been participating in the Toowoomba Winter Shelter program. Last year, they opened the doors every second Monday night to provide up to 10 guests an opportunity for a meal, a hot shower and a warm place to sleep for the night. This year, they have been approached to host guests every Friday night for 13 weeks, alternating between the two locations.

This is an opportunity for the wider Catholic community to participate and support. In an open letter to parishes within reasonable distance of St Theresa's and St Thomas More's Parishes, people are given practical ways to support.

To find out more contact:

Matt Boyd on [cityboyd03@gmail.com](mailto:cityboyd03@gmail.com) or  
phone 0427 058 655.

### Ars Cantorum presents Towards Easter

a concert of Eastertide Music more information can be  
found on the Parish Notice Board, enquires 0439 355 089

### KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS TOOWOOMBA BRANCH CENTENARY:

6/4/25 @ 9:00am, St Patrick's Cathedral Toowoomba.

### LENTEN GROUPS 2025

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

**Monday at 10am** in the **Parish Office meeting room**

or

**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.

# Campbell St Catholic Corner

EDITION #2  
FEB-APRIL 2025



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



Enjoy the read and children remember to count the eggs.



## Easter Ceremonies

**Wednesday, 9 April—2<sup>nd</sup> Rite of Reconciliation**  
6.00pm at St Theresa's Parish Centre

**Monday, 15 April—Chrism Mass**  
5.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral

**Thursday, 17 April—Holy Thursday**  
6.00pm at St Theresa's Parish Centre  
Combined with Mary MacKillop Parish Highfields.

**Friday, 18 April—Good Friday**  
Stations of the Cross  
10.00am at St Theresa's Parish Centre  
Veneration of the Cross  
3.00pm at St Theresa's Parish Centre

**Saturday, 19 April—Easter Vigil**  
6.00pm at St Theresa's Parish Centre

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April—Easter Sunday**  
Mass 9.30am at St Theresa's Parish Centre

## 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

11. I also ask for a firm commitment to respect for the dignity of human life from conception to natural death, so that each person can cherish his or her own life and all may look with hope to a future of prosperity and happiness for themselves and for their children. Without hope for the future, it becomes hard for the young to look forward to bringing new lives into the world. Here I would like once more to propose a concrete gesture that can help foster the culture of life, namely the elimination of the death penalty in all nations. This penalty not only compromises the inviolability of life but eliminates every human hope of forgiveness and rehabilitation. [18] In addition, following in the footsteps of Saint Paul VI and Benedict XVI, [19] I do not hesitate to make yet another appeal, for the sake of future generations. In this time marked by wars, let us use at least a fixed percentage of the money earmarked for armaments to establish a global Fund to eradicate hunger and facilitate in the poorer countries educational activities aimed at promoting sustainable development and combating climate change. [20] We need to work at eliminating every pretext that encourages young people to regard their future as hopeless or dominated by the thirst to avenge the blood of their dear ones. The future is a gift meant to enable us to go beyond past failures and to pave new paths of peace.



**PROJECT COMPASSION**

## Fourth Sunday of Lent 29th and 30th of March 2025

**Irene** lives in a remote village in the Kongolo Region in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Life hasn't been easy for Irene. After losing her father in a war, Irene and her family were forced to flee their home. Life became even more challenging when her husband left, leaving Irene to raise her 2 children alone. Without finishing her education and with few job opportunities in her village, she struggled to provide even the basics for her family. Things began to change when Irene joined the Youth Capacity Strengthening Program (YCSP), run by Caritas Kongolo with the support of Caritas Australia. Through the program, Irene learned sewing skills and was provided with a sewing machine and fabric. Irene also gained farming skills. Now, she grows enough food to feed her family and even shares her sewing knowledge by mentoring other women in her community. *"Before, women depended on men's income, but now, with our sewing skills, we can take care of ourselves,"* Irene said. Your support of Project Compassion helps women like Irene to create brighter futures for themselves and their families.



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](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion)  
**Or by calling:** 1800 024 413

## DATE CLAIMER

### PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT

Friday 23 May 2025

5.30pm Sausage Sizzle available for 6pm start  
\$10/person. Primary school students free  
Sausage sizzle and bar available, 8 to a table.  
Individuals welcome to attend and join to make a table.

See Parish Church Bulletin Board for more Information

- ⇒ Engaging Your Faith Online Lecture Series  
[ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith/](http://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith/)
- ⇒ Tony Alonso – Brisbane May 2025. Internationally renowned Composer, Theologian & Recording Artist
- ⇒ Ignite Youth National Catholic Conference 2025

## Chrism Mass—Singers Needed

St Patrick's Choir would like to extend an invitation to all parish choir members to join with them **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 5.30pm to celebrate the Chrism Mass.** Practice will be: **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 6pm, St Patrick's Cathedral.**  
RSVP – Vicky Coccozza – 0428 781 209 or [vickycoccozza@hotmail.com](mailto:vickycoccozza@hotmail.com)

# St Theresa's Parish

## CONTACTS

### Parish Priest:

Fr Brian Noonan ph:4696 7094

*New email address*

*e-mail: [b.noonan@twb.catholic.org.au](mailto:b.noonan@twb.catholic.org.au)*

*[brianjnoonan@bigpond.com](mailto:brianjnoonan@bigpond.com)*

### Pastoral Associate

Monica Brennan

Ph.: 4639 4688

*New email address*

*e-mail: [sttheresas.pastoralassociate@twb.catholic.org.au](mailto:sttheresas.pastoralassociate@twb.catholic.org.au)*

### Parish Secretary:

Cheryl Rens

Ph.: 4639 4688

*e-mail: [sttheresasparish@twb.catholic.org.au](mailto:sttheresasparish@twb.catholic.org.au)*

*Church: Cnr Campbell & Curzon Sts, Toowoomba*

*Office: 55 Curzon Street, Toowoomba*

*Parish Website [www.sttheresas.org.au](http://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



## NOTICE

### MARCH/APRIL

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>30 March</b>	SPRED led Parish Mass 9.30am
<b>Monday</b>	<b>31 March</b>	Lenten group 10am Parish Office meeting room
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>2 April</b>	Lenten group 5.30pm 39 Collins St
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>3 April</b>	Parish Pastoral Council meeting 6pm
<b>Friday</b>	<b>4 April</b>	End of school term 1 Mater Dei
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9 April</b>	Parish Finance Committee at 4.30pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9 April</b>	<b>Reconciliation liturgy for Lent 6pm</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>13 April</b>	Palm Sunday— start of Holy Week
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>17 April</b>	Holy Thursday—Mass of the Lord's Supper 6pm
<b>Friday</b>	<b>18 April</b>	Good Friday Stations of the Cross 10am Good Friday Veneration of the Cross 3pm
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>19 April</b>	Easter Vigil 6pm
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>20 April</b>	Easter Sunday Mass with baptism 9.30am
<b>Monday</b>	<b>21 April</b>	<i>Easter Monday Public Holiday Office Closed</i>



### NEW OFFICE HOURS

**Monday** : 9am - 4pm

**Tuesday** : **CLOSED**

**Wednesday** : 11am – 4pm

**Thursday** : 9am – 2pm

**Friday**: 10am— 4pm

### **I Will Lift My Eyes – An Evening Concert with Tony Alonso**

All are invited to an uplifting concert by internationally renowned USA Catholic composer & recording artist Tony Alonso. Tony will be joined by St Laurence's College students and a Combined Parishes Choir.

**6.30 pm – 8:00 pm, Friday 16 May 2025**

**St Laurence's College, South Brisbane • \$20.00.**

Tickets: email [liturgy@liturgybrisbane.net.au](mailto:liturgy@liturgybrisbane.net.au) or see flyer

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR VARIOUS MINISTRIES**

St Theresa's is still looking for volunteers for the various ministries: Weekly money counter (Mon or Wed), Sound desk operators, Sunday Roster organizer. Parishioners are always welcome to join other ministries not listed. Please contact the Parish office if you can help.

### **HEALING OF THE HEART, A TALK ON PRAYER**

Presented by Brother Massimo Chang of the Community of the Sons and Daughters of God

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at Sacred Heart Parish** Wilsonton 6pm Mass, followed by a talk, Q&A Discussion, and a light supper and **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April at Sacred Heart Parish** 10.30am Talk, Q&A Discussion. 12 noon Mass to follow.

Contact Marion on 0418 609470 for any queries.

All welcome. [saintaugustinecfd@gmail.com](mailto:saintaugustinecfd@gmail.com)

### **Care & Concern Meeting 2nd Monday of the Month**

*Care & Concern Meeting*

Monday 14th April 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*

