

THE BULLETIN

ST THERESA'S PARISH

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.

14–15 February 2026

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

POPE LEO'S LENS

© Nick Brodie

'Let us remember', Pope Leo says, 'that no one can give what they do not have.' Our witness to Christ is most effective when we strive to be Christ-like.

'The words of Jesus', the Pope explains, 'convey to us how God sees the world, at every moment and in every place.' We see thereby that 'the Lord looks into the hearts of people.' Jesus is more concerned with inner truth than outward appearance.

Recognising this characteristic of Our Lord, the Pope suggests that 'through his eyes, we can also recognise one who is in need.' Those forgotten by the world are those to whom Jesus drew the attention of his followers.

'God's saving work is the beginning of our mission,' the Pope reminds us, 'because it invites us to give of ourselves for the good of all.'

'Listening to Moses and the Prophets,' the Pope continues, 'means remembering God's commandments and promises, whose providence never abandons anyone.' We must always remember that God's law is merciful, oriented to salvation.

As the Pope suggests, we need to know and proclaim and love the 'the truth that saves us' – Jesus, our Risen Lord. Such loving of Our Lord, he says, 'leads us to understand the Gospel, for love transforms us by opening our hearts to the word of God and to the face of our neighbour.'

[Quotes from Homily for the Jubilee of Catechists, 28 September 2025: <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/homilies/2025/documents/20250928-omelia-giubileo-catechisti.html>]

REFLECTION

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Truth-Telling

We have just heard the least observed command of Our Lord in the Sermon on the Mount. Referring to oaths he taught, 'Do not swear at all ... instead let your "yes" mean *yes* and your "no" mean *no*. Whatever goes beyond these simple words is from the Evil One.'

This is strong language. Why does Our Lord say this?

In the same Sermon on the Mount, he teaches us the proper use of God's name: 'Our Father'. It is our privilege as adopted children of God to *use* God's name in that way. The use of God's name for oath-swearing is an *abuse*.

Our Lord was trying to establish a new sort of society (The Kingdom) within which truth-telling was of paramount importance, where there is no two-tiered way of speaking the truth.

Truth telling should issue simply from the character of the person – the truthful person *truthes*.

We know this at the very private level of intimate relationships. As a Church, we need to heed this passage and listen to the epistle of St James recalling this passage almost verbatim. (*James 5:12-13*)

We could pause for a moment to pray that the Church herself heeds the Great Commission: 'Teach them to keep *all* that I have commanded you.' (*Matthew 28:20*)

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: *Sirach 15:15-20*

Responsorial Psalm: *Ps 118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34.*

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 2:6-10*

Gospel: *Matthew 5:17-37*

Next Week's Readings—1st Sunday of Lent

First Reading: *Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7*

Responsorial Psalm: *Ps 50:3-6, 12-14, 17.*

(R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Second Reading: *Romans 5:12-19*

Gospel: *Matthew 4:1-11*



BAPTISMS

15 February 2026

we welcome into our parish

Vincent Griffin

Baptism are celebrated during the 6.00pm Saturday Vigil or 9.30am Sunday Masses.

Baptisms are also celebrated on the second and fourth Sunday's of the month after Mass at 11.00am.

Birthday Blessings

For Neil Lynch turning 90 on Tuesday 17, February.

MASS TIMES

MON	NO MASS
TUES	NO MASS
WED	ASH WEDNESDAY 9.00am
THURS	NO MASS
FRI	9.00am
SAT	6.00pm
SUN	9.30am

If you are Gluten intolerant and require a special host, please advise the Mass Coordinator.

ASH WEDNESDAY—18 February

Mass—7.00am Mary MacKillop Centre, Highfields

Mass—9.00am St Theresa's

Mass—5.30pm St Patrick's Cathedral & St Thomas More's

PARISH LENTEN PROGRAM 2026

The parish Lenten Program commences **Monday, 16 February, 10.00am at the Parish Office.** If you have forgotten to add your name to the Lenten Program we do have a few books available.

PARISH FUNDRAISER—4 MARCH 2026

A Repertory Theatre production, 'The Game's Afoot' - a COMEDY murder mystery whodunit, with a Sherlock Holmes theme. Our very own parishioner, Mike Taylor is the production's director. To help make the fundraiser a Huge success we are **seeking donations** of cash towards the purchase of drinks and snacks which will be sold on the evening and other consumables such as plates, cups, napkins etc. We are also **seeking donations** of prize items for the multi-drawer raffle which will be drawn on the evening. **Thank you for all the generous donations we have received,** it will mean that all money raised from the event will be able to go towards urgent church building repairs and maintenance. Watch the bulletin for further updates. In next week's bulletin we will be seeking volunteers to help on the evening. Details next week.

Don't Miss Out ! We have only 12 tickets remaining!!

Sacramental Program 2026

In 2026, St Theresa's parish will offer

Confirmation and First Eucharist in June and First Reconciliation in August. Confirmation and First Eucharist formation have begun in the parish. Children who are in year 4 or above are welcome to receive these sacraments. If you missed the Information night for Confirmation and First Eucharist, please contact the office to enable your child/children to be part of the program.

Preparation sessions for the program will be Mondays at 3.15pm or Wednesdays at 5.30pm in the parish office meeting room.

You are also welcome to prepare in small groups at home or within your own individual family.

If you have any questions please contact the parish office or Monica Brennan, the pastoral associate by phone: 4639 4588 or email: sttheresasparish@twb.catholic.org.au or sttheresas.pastoralassociate@twb.catholic.org.au

RECENTLY DECEASED – Austin Carter son of the late Brian Carter. Funeral 20 February, St Theresa's at 10.30am

ANNIVERSARIES –14–20 February

Len Hutchins, Dan Brady, Fred Powell jnr., Peter Long, Laurino Atzeni, Rose May Noonan, Brodie Ramsey, Noel Sullivan, Walter Ruffini, Dominic O'Connor, Jane McQuillan, Denis Ryan, Fr. John Bergin, Fr. Michael Hayes, Leo Reynolds, Fr. Michael Cronin & Fr. Henry McFarlane.

HEALING FOR THE SICK

Parishioners—Robert Gillespie, Betty Bagley, Anne Thomas, Susan Quirk, Marie Ah See & Elizabeth Curtis

Friends and Family—Lyn Lee, Hannah Parton, Jan Boyd, Aye Aye Hla, Lawrie Atzeni, Imogen Atkins, Catherine Castelli, Naser, Madeline (Sally) Gray, Mary Gleeson, Geraldine Hurley, Iain Bruce, Jennifer Fogarty, Erica Armagnacq, Geoff Doyle, Anna O'Toole, Phil Connolly, Shona Kraayvanger, Indiana Harman, Louis Gandini, Connie Bamgart, Max Shearer, John Mullen Molly Schmidt, The Dowling Family, Marty Heysen, Fr Peter McGrath CP and Judy March.



ACBC SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is releasing two Social Justice Statements this year – one in February and the second in August, ahead of Social Justice Sunday. The first, entitled *The Cost of Our Living: Economic and Social Justice for the Common Good*, was launched this past Monday (9/2/26). The PDF of the eight-page statement is available at this link on the catholic.au website: [Social Justice Statements](#). There are a couple of copies of the statement in the Church foyer. Please contact the parish office if you would like a printed copy. An audio version of the statement is available on the ACBC Audio Reads platform: [ACBC Audio Reads | Podcast on Spotify](#).

Our **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (WDP) Thursday 5 March 6:30pm at St Bart's Toowoomba** with guest speaker Ashley Saunders, the National Director of Barnabas Aid. Barnabas Aid does a lot of work in Nigeria, our country of focus this year.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER This year in Highfields, will be held at the **Lutheran church on the Highway on 6th March at 10am**. We pray this year for many women and in particular girls who face difficult circumstances. Come along and join in this wonderful service and enjoy a sumptuous morning tea afterwards.

DIOCESAN ACCOUNTANT The Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba is seeking a full-time Accountant to support the Diocesan Financial Administrator and assist with the accounting and payroll functions of the Finance Office. This role helps ensure efficient financial operations and compliance with regulatory and professional standards across the Diocese and its entities. To find out more and apply, visit www.seek.com.au/Catholic-Diocese-of-Toowoomba-jobs? **Applications close 27/2/26 5:00pm.**

SAVE THE DATE: BISHOP KEN HOWELL PARISH PASTORAL VISIT: 12-14 June 2026. Bishop Ken will be making a Pastoral Visit to Mater Dei Primary School on Friday, 12 June. The Bishop will be visiting St Theresa's Parish Community and celebrating Mass on Saturday and Sunday, 13-14 June.

SAVE THE DATE: ST MARY'S WARWICK CENTENARY: 15 March 2026. St Mary of the Assumption Church Warwick will be celebrating 100 years!

SAVE THE DATE: SPRED 40 YEARS IN TOOWOOMBA DIOCESE: Sunday, 22nd March 2026 at St Theresa's Parish Toowoomba. The wonderful ministry of SPRED is celebrating 40 years in our Diocese in 2026.

SYCHAR : House of Prayer & Spirituality—Toowoomba: Sychar welcomes all who thirst for inner growth and spiritual nourishment. To find events visit www.twb.catholic.org.au/ministry/sychar/ or call **0458 223 603**.

FEBRUARY 2026 THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

Let us pray, that children suffering with incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope. *Leo P.P. XIV*

Parish Ministries

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr Brian Noonan, Monica Brennan, Elizabeth Curtis, Allison Busiko, Greg Hallam, Gerard Hore, Julie Raitelli, David Rogan, Martin Stinson, Dave Wilson. Bernadette & Glen Whisson.

Finance Committee

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

Liturgy Team

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

Musicians

Norma Kenny, Kathy Sternes, Elizabeth Stewart, Libby Rosentreter, Charlotte Stinson & Emma Stinson.

Baptism Team

Jenny Ryan, Bernadette Hede, Jan Watkins, Anne Anderson, Jane Burgess, Catherine Cooper, Tracy Stinson, Elizabeth Curtis & Monica Brennan.

Sacramental Team

Monica Brennan, Alison Busiko, 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

Care & Concern Team

Damian Carroll 0409 662 047

RCIA

David Wilson 0451 131 849

St Vincent de Paul

For Assistance
1800 846 643

Parish Contact Details

St Theresa's Church—Cnr Campbell & Curzon Sts, Toowoomba

Parish Office— 55 Curzon Street, Toowoomba Qld 4350
Phone: 07 4639 4688 sttheresasparish@twb.catholic.org.au
Website: www.sttheresas.org.au

Office Hours—Monday 11.00am – 5.00pm
Wednesday 11.00am – 5.00pm & Friday 11.00am—4.00pm

Parish Priest—Fr Brian Noonan

Ph: 0458 967 094 bnoonan@twb.catholic.org.au
Pastoral Associate—Monica Brennan
sttheresas.pastoralassociate@twb.catholic.org.au

Parish Secretary— Cheryl Rens
sttheresasparish@twb.catholic.org.au

Project Compassion Sunday

14–15 of February 2026



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

Your generosity this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413



Special Year of St Francis

800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi.

(1181 or 1182 – October 3, 1226)

The Peace Prayer of St. Francis (Part III)

Though written in simple language, the Peace Prayer provides rich material for spiritual reflection. The following are some of my thoughts on the Peace Prayer inspired by the lines (printed in bold type) of this prayer and by the example of St. Francis.

Where there is despair, hope/Where there is darkness, light. Think of St. Francis embracing lepers and lovingly washing their sores. Surely, many of those suffering souls felt an inner surge of hope and human dignity when they experienced Francis' care.

(excerpts: www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

(Prayer for Peace)

Lord, make me an instrument
of your peace:

where there is hatred,
let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,

it is in pardoning that we are

pardoned,

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Planned Giving—8 Feb 2026: Envelopes: \$485.00, Loose: \$856.55, Direct Deposits: \$610.00 & Tap & Go: \$50.00

St Theresa's Catholic Parish (*Planned Giving Only*) **BSB: 064786 Account No: 100014392**

Regular Parish Gatherings & Meetings

Gospel Reflection Group Every Monday

10am at the Parish office meeting room. All welcome.

Care & Concern Meeting 2nd Monday of Month

Care & Concern Meeting Monday's at 3.00pm

Second & Fourth Tuesday of the Month

St Vincent de Paul St Theresa's Conference, 4pm,
Contact 0408 808 437

First Wednesday of the Month

Parish morning tea at 9.45am, Cobb & Co Museum

First Saturday of the Month

Infin8 Catholic Residents Mass & Prayer Liturgy

Upcoming Parish Events February

February

14-15 Sat-Sun Commitment during Mass for those preparing for Confirmation & First Eucharist

16 Monday Parish Lenten Program—10.00am Parish Office

18 Wednesday ASH WEDNESDAY 9am Mass

25 Wednesday Council of Priests—St Patrick's Cathedral
Lay Led Liturgy

28 Saturday Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament—5.00pm