

# 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.*

21—22 February 2026

1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

YEAR A

## POPE LEO'S LENS

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'Our Christian faith, founded upon Christ's Paschal mystery,' Pope Leo says, 'helps us to experience ... hope for the future.' We are called to be a people who are open to 'looking forward towards the goal of our journey, towards the safe harbour that God has promised us, towards the unending feast that awaits us.'

'This final destination, this banquet around which the Lord will gather us,' the Pope reflects 'will be an encounter of love.'

With this in mind, we might do well to start our Lenten journey by reflecting that our purpose is love, our goal is love, indeed our innermost calling – is love.

'For it was out of love that God created us,' the Pope continues, 'through the love of his Son that he saves us from death, and in the joy of that same love, he desires that we live forever with him.'

'For this reason,' the Pope reflects, 'whenever we dwell in love and show charity to others, especially the weakest and most needy, then we can journey towards our goal.' In doing so, we are manifesting God's love in the world.

'Love conquers death', the Pope reminds us, adding that 'if we journey together in charity, our very lives become a prayer rising up to God.'

*[Quotes from Homily for the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed, 2 November 2025: <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/homilies/2025/documents/20251102-messa-fedeli-defunti.html>]*

## REFLECTION

### *It is Written*

Jesus was offered three shortcuts for his ministry. Firstly, exceptional powers to satisfy his own needs (bread out of stones). Secondly, when he needed to take risks, angels to keep him safe. Thirdly, when he wanted to change the world, absolute political power.

These were the Temptations of Christ, but also for us. If you or I are tempted to sin, we will find the marks of this threefold pattern. We want the whole world to change to satisfy us, or we want to take stupid risks and come out unscathed, or we want to exercise total power over others.

How can we try to follow Jesus without the shortcuts of the fantasy world which the Devil may offer? Note that Jesus resisted each temptation with: 'It is written'. The forty days of Lent are a perfect opportunity to read what 'is written' in the Gospels about the episodes and pattern of the life of Jesus Christ.

We could pause for a moment to find what is written and to imitate what we find. That is how the Devil is defeated.

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### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent Time

**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*

### Next Week's Readings—2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

**First Reading:** *Genesis 12:1-4*

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22.*

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

**Second Reading:** *2 Timothy 1:8-10*

**Gospel:** *Matthew 17:1-9*



## BAPTISMS

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.



### Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> February  
5.00pm—6.00pm

### MASS TIMES

MON	NO MASS
TUES	NO MASS
WED	9.00am Lay Led Liturgy
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.

## PARISH LENTEN PROGRAM 2026

The parish Lenten Program is held every Monday during Lent at **10.00am in the Parish Office**. All are welcome to attend even if you are unable to come to all the sessions. We do still have a few Lenten 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 the evening run smoothly we are looking for volunteers to assist on the evening.** Please add your contact details to the list located in the church foyer if you are able to assist or by contacting the parish office. Our **multi-draw raffle** will be drawn on the evening. Tickets 3 for \$5.00. All funds raised will go towards urgent maintenance of the Parish Church and grounds.

**Don't Miss Out ! We have only 4 tickets remaining!!**

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## 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](mailto:sttheresasparish@twb.catholic.org.au) or [sttheresas.pastoralassociate@twb.catholic.org.au](mailto:sttheresas.pastoralassociate@twb.catholic.org.au)

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## LENT 4 KIDS

Are you looking for creative, fun and faith-filled ways to invite children into the liturgical season of Lent? The Children & Families Team from Archdiocesan Ministries has created a webpage with a variety of resources created to support you as you engage our youngest disciples in this Lenten season. Check it out at [tinyurl.com/Lent4Kids](http://tinyurl.com/Lent4Kids)

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### ANNIVERSARIES —21—27 February

M. B. (Babe) Kalinowski, Fr. Brian O'Dwyer, Marjorie Carter, Margaret Murphy, Tony Jones, Connie McGilvray, Alexandria Wright, Frank Heeney, Maurine Allport, Christopher Flynn, All Flynn Family, Fiona Darmody, Glad Herbert, Kathleen McGarry, Chris Relf, Winifred Relf, Bryan Connole, Nahla (Maksimous) Basely & Ian d'Abadie.

## HEALING FOR THE SICK

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

**Friends and Family**—Nicholas Grunden, 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, Dowling Family, Marty Heysen, Fr Peter McGrath CP and Judy March.



**The WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:** is an international ecumenical Christian laywomen's initiative. It is run under the motto "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action," and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. The movement aims to bring together women of various races, cultures and traditions in a yearly common Day of Prayer, as well as in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year. Locations: **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. **Friday, 6th March 10am Lutheran church on the Highway.** 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.

**ST MARY'S WARWICK CENTENARY: Centenary celebration Sunday, 15 March 2026.** Eucharist will be celebrated 8.30am by Bishop Ken Howell. Festivities to celebrate the occasion to follow and will include luncheon, live music, coffee van, children's entertainment & historical displays. To **RSVP please use the QR Code** located on the notice board in church foyer.

**SPRED COMMUNITY MASS CELEBRATING 40 YEARS IN TOOWOOMBA DIOCESE: Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026, 11.00am** at St Theresa's Parish. Followed by a catered luncheon in Mater Dei School Hall. For seating and catering please **RSVP by Monday, 2 March.** Either via phone 07 4632 8427 or email: [spread@twb.catholic.org.au](mailto:spread@twb.catholic.org.au).

**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. To find out more and apply, visit [Seek?](#) **Applications close 27/2/26 5:00pm.**

**THE LONG WALK FOR WATER** Sign up for 'The Long Walk for Water' to support Project Compassion this Lent. Caritas Australia is calling on individuals, schools, parishes, and community groups across the country to sign up for The Long Walk for Water challenge ahead of Lent and walk in solidarity with the 703 million people worldwide who still lack safe drinking water. Visit Caritas Website on back of this bulletin for more info.

**SAVE THE DATE: BIG BAND ON THE GREEN:** Sunday, 17 May, 2-4pm at the TCSO lawn, overlooking St Patrick's Cathedral. Tickets \$25pp, bookings **Try Booking** [www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1534864](http://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1534864). Family friendly afternoon of big band favourites, performed live by the Jim Miller Big Band. Settle in with your picnic, relax, and enjoy. Cathedral Restoration Project.

**SAVE THE DATE: BISHOP HOWELL'S PARISH PASTORAL VISIT:** 12-14 June

#### 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, Elizabeth Stewart, Kathy Sternes, Libby Rosentreter, Charlotte & 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](mailto:sttheresasparish@twb.catholic.org.au)

**Website:** [www.sttheresas.org.au](http://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](mailto:bnoonan@twb.catholic.org.au)

**Pastoral Associate**—Monica Brennan

[sttheresas.pastoralassociate@twb.catholic.org.au](mailto:sttheresas.pastoralassociate@twb.catholic.org.au)

**Parish Secretary**— Cheryl Rens

[sttheresasparish@twb.catholic.org.au](mailto:sttheresasparish@twb.catholic.org.au)

## First Sunday of Lent

21—22 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](http://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 IV)

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.

**And where there is sadness, joy.** The secret of St. Francis' joyful spirit was his vibrant belief in a God of overflowing goodness and love. St. Francis was so in love with God that at times he would pick up two sticks from the ground, tuck one under his chin like a violin and move the other over it like a bow. Then, in an ecstasy of joy, he would sing in French songs of love and praise to God. Francis used to say that he wanted his followers to go about the world like strolling minstrels, "to inspire the hearts of people and stir them to spiritual joy."

*(excerpts: www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-francis-of-assisi)*

## 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—15 Feb 2026:** Envelopes: \$315.00, Loose: \$755.05, Direct Deposits: \$1587.00 & Tap & Go:  
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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

- 23 Monday Parish Lenten Program 10.00am Parish Office  
Children's Sacramental Program 3.15pm
- 25 Wednesday Council of Priests—St Patrick's Cathedral  
Children's Sacramental Program 5.30pm
- 28 Saturday Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed  
Sacrament—5.00pm

### March

- 2 Monday Parish Lenten Program 10.00am Parish Office
- 4 Wednesday Parish Morning Tea 9.45am Cobb & Co  
Repertory Theatre Fundraiser—seated by 7.25pm
- 5 Thursday Parish Finance Committee Meeting 4.30pm  
Parish Council Meeting 6.00pm