

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 March 2026

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

YEAR A

POPE LEO'S LENS

‘So many forms of poverty oppress our world!’, Pope Leo cries. ‘The tragedy that cuts across them all’, he adds, ‘is loneliness.’

This plague of loneliness, the Pope suggests, ‘challenges us to look at poverty in an integral way, because while it is certainly necessary at times to respond to urgent needs, we also must develop a culture of attention.’

In short, he suggests we need to learn how to be aware of those people who the world overlooks: those who are pushed to the edges of our politics, our economic system, our communities.

The Pope encourages us, therefore, to ‘be attentive to others, to each person, wherever we are, wherever we live.’ We all have a calling to be sensitive to the needs of others, whether at home, at work, abroad or online. As individuals and communities, he says, we should always be ‘reaching out to the marginalised and becoming witnesses of God’s tenderness.’

‘In the midst of persecution, suffering, struggles, and oppression in our personal lives and in society,’ the Pope reminds us: ‘God does not abandon us. He reveals himself as the One who takes our side.’

But more than that, ‘the presence and word of Christ become gladness and jubilee for the poorest’, inviting us to play our part in making him present in the here and now, always taking the side of those in need.

[Quotes from Homily for 9th World Day of the Poor, 16 November 2025: <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/homilies/2025/documents/20251116-messa-giornata-poveri.html>]

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REFLECTION

Spittle and Mud

Our Lord, by the power of his word alone, could have healed the dis-ease of this man, blind since birth. Yet, he made a paste with spittle and put it over the eyes of the blind man. Just as God would have moistened the dust of the earth to shape the first human being, for the blind man, it was as though he had been created anew.

God rarely works by telepathy but has a preferred way of working through the elements of creation, especially in the Sacraments. So, with the Anointing of the Sick, pressing olive oil onto the forehead and hands of the sick or dying symbolises the Holy Spirit entering the very pores of the sick person, relieving that person of undue anxiety and giving strength for the next stage of life.

This sacrament is a formal ritual of healing by the Church. But there are a million informal ways, such as putting one’s arm around someone who is lonely or unwell, which are sacramental to the world.

We could pause for a moment that we might go into the world like the man healed by Jesus, eyes wide open to see where we might exercise the healing power of the Lord of the Gospel.

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4th Sunday of Lent

First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 22

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel: John 9:1-41

Next Week's Readings—5th Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 129.

(R.) With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11

Gospel: John 11:1-45



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.



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.

Sacramental Program 2026

Preparation sessions for the Confirmation and First Eucharist program are underway. Sessions are held Monday's at 3.15pm and **Wednesday's sessions at 5.30pm have finished and will recommence after the school holiday break**.

These sessions are in the parish office meeting room. If you have any questions contact the parish office or Monica Brennan, the pastoral associate by phone: 4639 4588 or email: sttheresas.pastoralassociate@twb.catholic.org.au

Holy week and Easter liturgy Rosters

The rosters for volunteers for various ministry roles for Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday Veneration of the Cross, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday morning are available in the foyer.

Please take the time to look at them and add your name. We appreciate your support over these special liturgical celebrations.

Chrism Mass

Monday, 30 March at 5:30 pm in St Patrick's Cathedral Toowoomba.

Every year before Easter, at cathedrals around the world, the people of God celebrate the Chrism Mass. Ancient and symbolically rich, it is one of the most significant liturgical events in the Church outside of Christmas and Easter. Although it might not feature strongly in many people's minds, participating in the Chrism Mass is a great way to come to a deeper appreciation of the sacramental life of the Church. During the Chrism Mass, Bishop Ken Howell, joined by every priest in the Diocese, blesses the oils that are going to be used in the sacraments in the year ahead. With the bishop, priests and lay faithful participating together, the Chrism Mass is a particularly strong symbol of the unity of the people of God.

Excerpts <https://melbournecatholic.org/>

Any singers who may want to join the choir for the Chrism Mass are welcome. Contact Pam Duane either by phone/message on 0428 195 255. or email:cathedralmusic@twb.catholic.org.au. If you require music scores on the day (or earlier), please let me know in advance. St Pat's choir rehearses on Tuesday nights at 6pm in the cathedral. Looking forward to hearing from and meeting singers and musicians from other parishes.

Belated Birthday Blessings

For Kathy Humphreys
80 years young.

MASS TIMES

MON	NO MASS
TUES	NO MASS
WED	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.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Helen Muller—Funeral Tuesday, 17 March at 10am

ANNIVERSARIES —14—20 March

Paul Morton, Margaret Stuart, Patrick Dunne, Alec Koltermann, John Waldron, Tracey Leonard, Marilyn Northeast, Noreen McGarry, Laureen Mueret, Joachim Kayiba & Leo Roessler.

HEALING FOR THE SICK

Parishioners Robert Gillespie, Betty Bagley, Anne Thomas, Susan Quirk, Marie Ah See. John & Thérèse Erbs & Elizabeth Curtis

Friends and Family June Pascoe, Darrell Callinan, 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.



SPRED COMMUNITY MASS CELEBRATING 40 YEARS IN TOOWOOMBA DIOCESE: Sunday, 22nd 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.

FR MICK MCCLURE FAREWELL FROM HELIDON CELEBRATION: Sunday, 22 March - 2.30pm at St Joseph’s Church, Gunn St Helidon. All are warmly welcome to join the Helidon community in giving thanks for the dedicated ministry of Fr Mick McClure. A Thanksgiving Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Ken Howell, and refreshments will follow. Please RSVP to Helidon Parish by 15/3/26 for catering helidon@twb.catholic.org.au

ST PATRICK’S IRISH NIGHT: Saturday, 21 March at 6:00pm St John’s School, 29 Duke Street Roma. Tickets: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/st-patricks-irish-night-march-2026-tickets-1983021560870. All Saints’ Parish Roma invites you to celebrate St Patrick’s Day in style with a night filled with Irish music, dancing, and fun! Join us for an evening of traditional Irish food, live music, and plenty of Guinness. Wear your best green outfit and get ready to dance the night away.

SAVE THE DATE: BISHOP HOWELL’S PARISH PASTORAL VISIT: 12-14 June 2026: St Theresa’s Parish & Mater Dei School.

SAVE THE DATE: DIOCESAN SYNOD: Friday, 22—Saturday, 23 October.

HARVEST JOURNEYS - DOMINICAN PILGRIMAGE: September 2026. You are welcome to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters on a pilgrimage through Spain, France, and Italy, in the footsteps of St Dominic, St Catherine of Siena, and other Dominican saints. Departing 26 September 2026, returning 9 October 2026. For more information, see flyer on notice board in foyer, go to harvestjourneys.com/PV2656 or email Sydney@op-tn.org

A MORNING’S PRAYER: Sunday, 18 April from 9:00am-12:00pm at Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston. Cost-\$25pp, Liam Desic from the Brisbane Archdiocese Adult Formation team will lead this session on the theme, Out of the Desert, Into New Life. Easter is a time to celebrate the joy of the resurrection, and to recognise just how far we’ve been carried to get here. More info or book tickets. https://app.tickets.org.au/eb/amp26_1

Autumn Afternoon of CHORAL MUSIC: Sunday, 29 March at 2.00pm. Toowoomba Community Baptist Church, 100 Glenvale Rd. Glenvale. Entry by donation to support **Winter Shelter Toowoomba** \$2 and over tax deductible. Enquiries: Kent 0417 976 098

MARCH 2026 THE POPE’S PRAYER INTENTIONS

Let us pray, Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue, and diplomacy instead of violence. *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
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

Fourth Sunday of Lent

14—15 March 2026

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

Thank you for standing with us,
as we *Unite Against Poverty* this Lent.



A Prayer for the 800th Jubilee Year of St. Francis of Assisi

Saint Francis, our brother, you who 800 years ago went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace, intercede for us with the Lord.

In the Crucifix of San Damiano you recognised true peace, teach us to seek in Him the source of all reconciliation that breaks down every wall.

You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world erects borders.

In this time plagued by conflict and division, intercede so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ. Amen.

HOLY WEEK Palm Sunday—Easter Sunday

CHRISM MASS

30 March—5.30pm St Patrick's Cathedral

PARISH RECONCILIATION

1 April—6.00pm

HOLY THURSDAY—LAST SUPPER

combined with Mary MacKillop Parish

2 April—6.00pm

GOOD FRIDAY—3 April

Stations of the Cross—10.00am
Veneration of the Cross—3.00pm

HOLY SATURDAY

4 April—Easter Vigil—6.00pm

EASTER SUNDAY

5 April—9.30am

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

We gather on the steps of the St Patrick's Cathedral to carry the cross around a variety of key locations in the CBD.

GOOD FRIDAY—3 April at 7.30am

Each stop is a 'station' and we will pause, read a reflection and pray. The reflections will help us be in solidarity with some of the may injustices in our world. We will return to the Cathedral for our final 'station' around 9am. Please join us as we walk with

Jesus. Inquiries contact David on 0428 130 895 or
dtutty@twb.catholic.org.au.

(please wear good walking shoes, water bottle etc).

Social Justice Commission—Toowoomba Diocese

Planned Giving

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

March—April

16 Monday Parish Lenten Program 10.00am Parish Office
Sacramental Preparation 3.15pm

18 Wednesday **NO Sacramental Preparation**

23 Monday Parish Lenten Program 10.00am Parish Office
Sacramental Preparation 3.15pm

25 Wednesday **NO Sacramental Preparation**

27 Friday **Show Holiday—OFFICE CLOSED**

28 Mar—5 Apr **HOLY WEEK** (*see times above*)

3-19 Apr School Holidays