



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.

16—17 May 2026

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

YEAR A

HOMILY—Richard Leonard SJ

When I was a boy, Sir Edmund Hillary came to speak at my school. I can remember the fuss surrounding the visit of the first person to scale Mt Everest. And though there is now a school of thought that holds that he was beaten to the summit by Tenzing Norgay, his Tibetan colleague, there was an aura around this New Zealander who had been to the top of the world.

Some of my usually dour teachers were in awe of Sir Edmund. There was more than a little hero worship going on that day. Rather surprisingly in his address Sir Edmund did not say very much about his adventure to the peak. He was much more interested in what we do to each other on the plains than what he did on the mountain top. He spoke about justice, peace and the dignity of humanity. I can vividly remember him sending us out at the end of his speech to create a better world for all people everywhere. When questions came, there were several about whether he felt closer to God at the top of Mt Everest, and although he said he did, he mentioned there were life and death moments on the way up and down, where God's presence and companionship were much more real to him.

Hillary's visit to my school is not far from what happened to the disciples in today's Gospel. Matthew tells us that the eleven men who worshipped Jesus were commissioned by him to go out to the world and they were promised that he would stay with them until the end of time.

Worship is a word Catholics don't use all that often. While other denominations describe their liturgy as 'worship', we tend to use it only in a more secular way like in 'hero worship' or 'not an altar at which I worship'. The concept behind this word, however, is an important one. To worship God is to admit that we are not God. We are creatures and our worship is directed toward our Creator, Saviour and Sustainer.

Whether we realise it or not we are commissioned to go out to the world at the end of every liturgy, 'Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.' This changes our worship. We are not here just for ourselves. Mass, which comes from a word meaning 'to be sent', indicates that our liturgy is about celebrating what God has done in the world in and through us, and is a preparation for what God still wants to accomplish.

Finally, we continue to experience the abiding presence of Christ in our daily lives or else we wouldn't be here. God, as revealed in Jesus Christ, is not distant to our lives or impervious to our needs; we believe in a Companion-God who seeks our company as much as we need his.

In this Mass, then, let's thank God for the mountain top of Christ's Ascension that lifts us up out of our everyday life to celebrate that we are creatures, not the Creator. Let us hear again Christ's call to each of us to move away from the complacency of a spiritual cafeteria to a church moving out to change the world. And let's rejoice in Christ's presence which abides before us, behind us, over and in us, within and without, now and forever. Amen.

The Ascension of the Lord

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 46:2-3. 6-9.

(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

Next Week's Readings—Pentecost Sunday

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 103:1. 24. 29-31. 34.

(R.) Lord, send out your Spirit
and renew the face of the earth.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13

Gospel: John 20:19-23



BAPTISMS

We welcome into our Parish Community

16 May 2026

Bowie Royan Hearn

17 May 2026

Reginald Allan Tomasel

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.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2026—Recommences: Preparation sessions for the Confirmation and First Eucharist program are underway. Next session **Monday, 18 May at 3.15pm & Wednesday, 20 May at 5.30pm.** 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 ph: 07 4639 4588 or email: sttheresas.pastoralassociate@twb.catholic.org.au

WINTER MASS TIMES

June—August

Winter Mass times commence from Saturday, 6th June

Saturday Vigil Mass at 5.00pm

Sunday Mass at 9.30am

TOOWOOMBA WINTER SHELTER PROGRAM: For the past four years, St Theresa's Parish and St Thomas Moore's Parish have been participating in the Toowoomba Winter Shelter program from June - August. Last year, we opened the doors every second Friday 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 we will again host Winter Shelter every second Friday night for 13 weeks, alternating between St Theresa's Parish and St Thomas More's Parishes.

We need a large group of volunteers to make this program truly successful. This year we will also be putting together care packs for men and women and seeking donations if items eg, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, socks, underwear, famine Hygiene items etc. Donations can be left in the marked container in the church foyer or left at the parish office. More details to come in future bulletins. For more info contact:

Matt Boyd 0427 058 655 or cityboyd03@gmail.com or the parish office.

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.

CALLING ALL BAKERS! HELP NEEDED! We are looking for volunteers to join our baking roster. Whether you are a master baker or a packet-mix expert, we would love your help to make homemade treats for our monthly morning tea or for other special parish occasions. If you are able to help please to add your name to the roster by adding your name to the clip board in the church foyer or contacting the office sttheresasparish@twb.catholic.org.au

PRAYER REQUESTS

ANNIVERSARIES —16—22 May

Vicki Spanjou, Maureen Godsall, Richard Mark Butler, Mons. Edward Concannon, Mary Kalinoski, Tom Clark, Celie Lyons, Ernie Otto, Eddie Strickland, Jim Murphy, Maureen Godsall, Patricia Hundt, Pat O'Brien, Kaylene Otto.

HEALING FOR THE SICK

Parishioners John & Thérèse Erbs, Roger Douglas, Steve Anning, Isabel Gall, Robert Gillespie, Betty Bagley, Anne Thomas, Marie Ah See, & Elizabeth Curtis.

Friends and Family Carmel Hicks, Jim Curtis, Margaret Mary Lawson, Sharon Ryan, June Pascoe, Darrell Callinan, Nicholas Grunden, 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.

MAY 2026 THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food. *Leo P.P. XIV*



TOOWOOMBA SYNOD LISTENING SESSIONS: The Synod Listening Sessions are an integral part of the Synod process. These sessions enable us to gather as a diocese, share our joys and sorrows, pray together, and discern where the Holy Spirit is encouraging us to take action for our future. This is an opportunity for each person in the diocese to contribute to our Synod, with the information gathered at these sessions being directly fed back to the Bishop for his discernment and deliberation for the Synod assembly which will be held **23-24 October 2026**.

Registrations for these sessions are essential.

Visit: www.trybooking.com/eventlist/toowoombasynodlisteningessions
Listening Sessions hosted by the Diocese in Toowoomba:

- ◆ **Saturday 16 May**, 9.30-11.30am at Edmund Rice Cultural Centre, St Mary's College Toowoomba.
- ◆ **Tuesday 16 June**, 6-8pm at Micah Centre, Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office, Toowoomba
- ◆ **Online: Tuesday 26 May**, 10-11.30am via Teams

Can't get to a listening session? There are resources available to help you facilitate your own discussions within your parish, school, and other interested groups. Please contact the Synod Team to receive these documents: synod@twb.catholic.org.au Everyone is encouraged to join the conversation, to listen to others, and to discover our shared future as a diocese.

National Volunteer Week 18 - 24 May: National Volunteer Week is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteering. It recognises the contribution of millions of volunteers across the country and invites everyone to discover how giving their time and talents can create connection, purpose and stronger communities. This year's theme is "Your Year to Volunteer". Thank you to all who give of their time in support of our parishes, schools and ministries. Find more resources at www.volunteeringaustralia.org

Prayer for Volunteers

"Lord, bless all who generously give their time and talents to serve others.

May their efforts reflect your love and bring hope to those in need.

Grant them the strength to persevere in their service,
the courage to face challenges, and the grace to love without condition. Amen".

"St. Teresa of Calcutta (Patron of Volunteers), pray for us!

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 17 - 24 May: Everyone is welcome to join us for an ecumenical service at the following locations:

Tuesday, 19 May at 9.30am. St Anne's Anglican Church, 26 Highfields Road (Crn Kuhls Rd) Highfields. Refreshments after the Service.

Thursday, 21 May at 10.00am at St Luke's Anglican Church, Toowoomba. Let's come together to seek peace, healing and direction. Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend. Followed by refreshments. See flyer for details.

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 – 4.00pm

Wednesday 11.00am – 4.00pm & 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

Special Year of St Francis (1181 or 1182 – October 3, 1226)
800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi.

YOU ARE INVITED to the 2026 SPRED Appeal Launch - Celebrating 40 Years of Belonging, Faith, and Joy: **Thursday, 28 May 2026**, 11.00am – 12noon SPRED Centre, 34 Hume Street, Toowoomba. We would love you to join us as we launch the 2026 SPRED Appeal and celebrate 40 years of creating a place where people living with an intellectual disability, and the volunteers who accompany them, find friendship, faith, and a true sense of belonging **RSVP: 18 May**, Melissa McKay at spred@twb.catholic.org.au.

JUBILEE OF MIGRANTS CROSS 22 June–5 July: The National Pilgrimage of the Cross will travel to 28 Dioceses and four eparchies across Australia and will travel to Toowoomba Diocese from 22 June until the 5 July. During this time St Theresa’s Parish will host the Migrant Jubilee Cross. Date to be confirmed in the coming week.

CENT SALE–30 May: The Peter Claver Sisters are holding a Cent Sale on Saturday May 30 at the St Patrick's Cathedral Centre Neil St. Entry fee is \$10. Children 12 and under are free. Multi draw prizes include 2 hampers, fruit, vegetable and meat trays. Doors open at 12.00 noon. Afternoon tea is served at 1.30pm and calling will start at 2.00pm. All proceeds go to the Missions. The Sisters can be contacted on 07 46321818.

LAUDATO SI' WEEK Date: 17-24 May 26. One week. One concrete action. One global response. Laudato Si' Week is a global Catholic celebration. Inspired by Pope Francis’ encyclical Laudato Si’, it joins Catholics around the world in renewing our commitment to care for creation. This year the theme is Hope to Action and encourages each of us to take one action during Laudato Si' Week to care for our common home.

NATIONAL SORRY DAY Event–26 May at 7.30am: Yarning Circle, Gumbi Gumbi Gardens, USQ, Tmba All are welcome to participate in this meaningful event where we remember and acknowledge the mistreatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who were forcibly removed from their families.

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

Caritas Australia–Donate for Emergency Relief: Donate now to support vulnerable communities who have been impacted by disasters and emergencies around the world. Humanitarian aid saves lives in times of disaster. There are several emergency appeals you can support by visiting www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/

SYCHAR : House of Prayer & Spirituality–Toowoomba: Sychar welcomes all who thirst for inner growth and spiritual nourishment. We are currently offering ‘THE MYSTERY OF GOD IN LIFE’ 20 June 9.00am. To find events visit www.twb.catholic.org.au/ministry/sychar/ or call **0458 223 603**.

Planned Giving 9-10 May : Envelopes: \$ 220.00 Loose: \$490.00 Direct Deposits: \$1105.00 Tap & Go: \$140.50
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.
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 Friday or Saturday of the Month
Infin8 Catholic Residents Mass & Prayer Liturgy

Upcoming Parish Events

May

17 Sunday	Parish/School Family Mass
17-24	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Volunteer Week
17 Sunday	Parish & School Family Mass at 9.30am
18 Monday	Gospel Reflection 10.00am, Parish Office Sacramental Program 3.15pm at Parish Office
20 Wednesday	Sacramental Program 5.30pm at Parish Office
25 Monday	Gospel Reflection 10.00am, Parish Office Sacramental Program 3.15pm at Parish Office
26 Tuesday	Council of Priests—Chinchilla
27 Wednesday	Sacramental Program 5.30pm at Parish Office