

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.

8—9 August 2026

19th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

REFLECTION by Pope Francis, 13 August 2023: Today's Gospel recounts a particular prodigious deed of Jesus: He walks at night on the waters of the lake of Galilee toward his disciples who are crossing the lake in a boat (cf. Mt 14:22-33). The question is: Why did Jesus do this? Like a show? No! But why? Maybe because of an urgent, unforeseeable need to help his disciples who were blocked by a headwind? No, because he himself had planned everything, he had made them depart that evening. The text even says he "made them" (cf. v. 22). Maybe he did it to give them a demonstration of his greatness and power? But this is not like him, who is such a humble person. So, why did he do it? Why did he want to walk on the waters?

Behind the walking on water there is a message that is not evident, a message we need to grasp. In fact, at that time, great expanses of water were held to be the haunts of evil powers that man was not able to master. Particularly when storms made them turbulent, these abysses were symbols of chaos and recalled the darkness of the underworld. Now, the disciples found themselves in the middle of the lake when it was dark. They are afraid of sinking, of being sucked in by evil. And here comes Jesus who walks on the water, that is, over the powers of evil. He walks over the forces of evil and says to his disciples: "Take heart, it is I; have no fear" (v. 27). This is the message Jesus gives us. This is the meaning of the sign: the powers of evil that frighten us, that we cannot master, immediately take on smaller proportions with Jesus. By walking on the waters, He wants to say, "Do not be afraid. I put your enemies under my feet" — a beautiful message — I put your enemies under my feet — not people! — not that type of enemy, but death, sin, the devil. These are the enemies of the people, our enemies. And Jesus tramples on these enemies for us.

Today, Christ repeats to each of us, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear!" Take heart because I am here, because you are no longer alone on the turbulent waters of life. And so, what should we do when we find ourselves on the open sea at the mercy of headwinds? What should we do when we face the fear of the open sea, when we see only darkness and we feel we are going under? We need to do two things that the disciples do in the Gospel. What do the disciples do? They call on and welcome Jesus.

At the worst moments, in the darkest of storms, call on Jesus and welcome Jesus. The disciples call on Jesus: Peter walks a little on the waters towards Jesus, but then gets frightened. He sinks and then cries out: "Lord, save me!" (v. 30). Invoke Jesus, call on Jesus. This prayer is beautiful. It expresses the certainty that the Lord can save us, that he conquers our evil and our fears. I invite you to repeat it now all together. Three times together: Lord, save me! Lord, save me! Lord, save me!

And then the disciples welcome. First they call on, then they welcome Jesus into the boat. The text says that as soon as he got into the boat, "the wind ceased" (v. 32). The Lord knows that the boat of our life, as well as the boat of the Church, is threatened by headwinds, and that the sea on which we sail is often turbulent. He does not spare us the hard work of sailing; rather — the Gospel emphasizes — he pushes his disciples to depart. He invites us to face difficulties so they too might become salvific places, so Jesus can conquer them, so they become opportunities to meet him. In fact, in our moments of darkness, he comes to meet us, asking to be welcomed like that night on the lake.

So, let us ask ourselves: How do I react when I am afraid, in difficulties? Do I go ahead alone, with my own strength, or do I call on the Lord with trust? And what is my faith like? Do I believe that Christ is stronger than the adversarial waves and winds? But above all: Am I sailing with him? Do I welcome him? Do I make room for him in the boat of my life — never alone, always with Jesus? Do I hand the helm over to Jesus? faithcircles.dow.org.au

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:9.11-13

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 84:9-14.

(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

Next Week's Readings—20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 56:1.6-7

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8.

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

Second Reading: Romans 11:13-15. 29-32

Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

Becoming a Catholic

St Theresa's Parish welcomes people of all ages, backgrounds, and walks of life—anyone who has a desire to learn about and enter into a life of faith in Jesus Christ. To learn more contact Fr Brian Noonan or the parish office.

BAPTISMS

Baptism are celebrated during the 5.00pm 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.

MASS TIMES

MON	NO MASS
TUES	NO MASS
WED 12 August	10.00am Anointing & Mass
THURS	NO MASS
FRI	9.00am
SAT 15 August	9.00am Feast of the Assumption Mass 5.00pm
SUN	9.30am

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

REGIONAL SEMINARY APPEAL - 2-9 Aug 2026

This annual appeal is run by the Archdiocese of Brisbane via the Diocese of Toowoomba.

Every priestly vocation is shaped by prayer, formation and the quiet support of the faithful. Your gift helps form the men discerning God's call to serve our parishes and communities. It reminds our seminarians that they are held in prayer and accompanied by people who care deeply about the future of the Church.

To make a tax deductible gift:

Envelopes are available in the church foyer or

Call: (07) 3324 3200 or visit: catholicfoundation.org.au/provincialseminary

ANOINTING AND HEALING MASS

Anointing and Healing Mass followed by Morning Tea

10.00am on Wednesday, 12 August

in St Theresas' Parish Centre

Everyone is welcome

RSPV: Wednesday, 5 August (for catering)

Parish Office Ph: 4639 4688 or

Email: sttheresasparish@twb.catholic.org.au

Raffle on the day. Tickets - 3 for \$5.00

Catering by the Good Samaritan College



LAUNCH: ACBC SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT – Friday, 7 August - 9.00am at the Francis Rush Centre, Brisbane, watch livestream online at: https://www.youtube.com/live/bO_orapNEsA. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has been releasing Social Justice Statements since the 1940s. Through this tradition the Conference contributes to the development of local Catholic social teaching and encourage the community to reflect and act on social, economic and ecological issues. As you may be aware, the Conference is releasing two Social Justice Statements this year. The first was issued in February. The second is scheduled to be launched in Brisbane and is entitled 'Living the Gospel in Times of Social Division'. The release of the second statement comes ahead of Social Justice Sunday on August 30. The statement will be posted to the Social Justice Statements page prior to launch.

PRAYER REQUESTS

ANNIVERSARIES 8–14 August

Margaret Van de Heuvel, Kevin Murphy, Katie Aramayo, Thomas & Nora Black, June Milne, Jack Schumberg, May Atzeni, Glenda Walsh, Les Bagley, Jack Seeber, Evelyn Lenihan, Iris Gralow, Trevor O'Brien, Ramon Schaefer, Aleyamman Joseph, and Rona Koltermann.

HEALING FOR THE SICK

Parishioners: Greg Hallam, Roger Douglas, Isabel Gall, Anne Thomas and Elizabeth Curtis.

Friends and Family: Mick Hay, Carmel Hicks, Jim Curtis, Margaret Mary Lawson, Darrell Callinan, Jan Boyd, Aye Aye Hla, Imogen Atkins, Catherine Castelli, Naser, Madeline (Sally) Gray, Mary Gleeson, 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, Marty Heysen, Fr Peter McGrath CP, Judy March, Pam Newman.

AUGUST 2026 THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community. *Leo P.P. XIV*

CENSUS: CATHOLICS ENCOURAGED TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES: On August 11, Australia will hold its five-yearly national Census. The Census of Population and Housing, conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, is a “comprehensive snapshot” that reveals the changing economic, social and cultural demographics of the nation.

National Centre for Pastoral Research director Dr Trudy Dantis said data from the religion question was crucial to helping Catholic parishes, schools, dioceses and organisations understand their communities and plan for ministry and mission.

In recent times, some groups in Australia have tried to encourage people not to identify with a religion unless they are actively practising, inviting them to tick the “No Religion” box instead. However, research shows that many non-practising Catholics continue to identify as Catholic because it remains an important part of who they are. Dr Dantis encouraged all Catholics to tick the “Catholic” box this year, while noting that some may need to identify in a slightly different manner.

WALKING TOGETHER IN THE KIMBERLEY- Friday, 14 August: 6:00-8:00pm at the Irish Club Hotel, Russell Street Tmba. St Vincent de Paul, Toowoomba invites you to join us for to a conversation with Erica Bernard and Bishop Tim Norton. The evening will be facilitated by Mark Copland, Executive Officer for St Vincent de Paul Society. Mark worked with both Erica and Bishop Tim as Director of Pastoral Projects between 2023 and 2024. Bookings essential due to limited space. **RSVP 8/8/26** email kristie.mckean@svdpqld.org.au or call/text 0457355787. See flyer.

TOOWOOMBA WINTER SHELTER PROGRAM— Our next Winter Shelter will be held on Friday, 14 August. Each fortnight a list will be placed in the church foyer for ways to assist each upcoming Winter Shelter. For more info contact: Matt Boyd 0427 058 655 or cityboyd03@gmail.com or the parish office.

CATHOLIC MISSION: MISSION AMBASSADOR TRAINING SESSION – 29 August: 9:45am - 12:00pm (*Morning tea provided*) at *St Patrick’s Cathedral Parish Centre, Conference Room, 123 Neil St Tmba*. With fewer than 100 days until World Mission Month in October, all are warmly welcome to attend a Mission Ambassador Training Session for the Toowoomba community. This year holds special significance as Catholic Mission celebrates the 100th anniversary of World Mission Sunday. It is a wonderful opportunity to give thanks for missionaries around the globe and reflect on the Church's enduring commitment to supporting mission communities. Register attendance by 21 August brisbane.admin@catholicmission.org.au. Bring a friend on the day.

SYNOD—Toowoomba 23–24 October 2026

Parish Ministries

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr Brian Noonan, Monica Brennan, Elizabeth Curtis, Allison Busiko, Greg Hallam, Gerard Hore, Julie Raitelli, David Rogan, Martin Stinson, 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

Winter Shelter

Matt Boyd 0427 058 655

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.

FEAST DAY: ST MARY MACKILLOP

Sunday, 9 August

Mary MacKillop, Australia's first saint, is remembered each year on 8 August. The date marks the anniversary of her death in 1909 and is observed in Catholic schools, parishes, and communities across Australia.

Quotes—Saint Mary MacKillop

"Love one another, bear with one another, and let charity guide you in all your life" -1909-

"Gratitude is the memory of the heart" 1907-

"Seek the poorest, most neglected parts of God's vineyard" 1900-

"Have courage, no matter what your crosses are" -1890-

Crows Nest Catholic Church Fundraiser PERFORMING WITH THE STARS CONCERT + AFTERNOON TEA: Saturday, 22 August at 2pm Venue: Crows Nest RSL Hall Acts include ballroom dancing demonstration, bush poet, drama acts, choir, country Western duo, soloist. Contact Tracey Brennan for more details and tickets (0418152073)

The St Vincent de Paul Society in Toowoomba are working to establish **Vinnies@UniSQ Club**. While the club is being launched in partnership with UniSQ Student Guild/Clubs, it is open not only to university students but also to young people and young adults from the broader community who are interested in making a difference.

Interested in making a difference?

Follow the QR code to learn more or contact **Kristie McKean**, Membership & Development Officer, St Vincent de Paul Society Toowoomba Diocese, at kristie.mckean@svdpqld.org.au.

ONLINE COURSES

WITH LITURGY PUBLICATIONS BRISBANE

At Liturgy Publications, we understand how vital well-prepared ministers are to the life of a parish. To help parish volunteers feel confident and thoroughly prepared in their roles, the following online courses are on offer.

Combined Course:

Ministers of the Word (Readers) & Communion

Comprehensive formation & training for those who serve as both Readers & Communion Ministers at Mass. Course includes a general introduction to liturgy, ministry and the

Mass along with specific training for the ministries of Word & Communion. Course Cost: \$32, bulk discount for 15 or more available. To find out more and book a spot <https://liturgy-brisbane-learn-discover.learnworlds.com/course/ccmwcm>

Lay Ministers of Holy Communion

Comprehensive formation & training for Lay Ministers of Communion. Course includes a general introduction to liturgy, ministry and the Mass along with specific training for Communion Ministers.

Course Cost: \$22, bulk discount for 25 or more available. To find out more and book a spot <https://liturgy-brisbane-learn-discover.learnworlds.com/course/lmhc1>

FREE WORKSHOP:

DIGITAL SAFETY AND WELLBEING

Monday, 24 August : 6:00pm-7:30pm

Our Lady of Lourdes School Hall, 8a Ascot Street Tmba All parents and carers of children aged from birth to Year 6 students are warmly welcome to attend a free workshop on digital safety and wellbeing presented by Steve Villani from Evolve Education. The interactive workshop aims to empower parents with skills and knowledge to navigate the digital world with their children. See Flyer

ABRAHAMIC FAITHS GATHERING

Date: 1/9/26 Tuesday Time: 5:45pm

Where: Garden City Mosque, 217 West St Tmba

The evening will begin with a short presentation by each faith group on "Religious Seasons and Important Days". Presentations will be followed by a light dinner. [See flyer for details.](#)

Regular Parish Gatherings & Meetings

Gospel Reflection Group Every Monday

10am at the Parish office meeting room.

Care & Concern Meeting 2nd Monday of Month

Meeting bi-monthly 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

August

10 Monday	Gospel Reflection Group at 10.00am
12 Wednesday	Anointing & Healing Mass 10.00am, light Luncheon to follow.
13 Thursday	Meeting—Finance & Pastoral Councils 5.30pm
14 Friday	Winter Shelter hosts
15 Saturday	Feast of the Assumption 9am Mass
16 Sunday	Mater Dei School family mass 9.30am Mass
17 Monday	Gospel Reflection Group at 10.00am
24 Monday	Celebration of the Sacrament of Penance—First Reconciliation. 6pm
28 Friday	Final Winter Shelter hosts