

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.

23 August 2026

21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

GOSPEL REFLECTION

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The readings highlight two different but related themes: the character of our understanding of Christ, and our understanding of discipleship that flows from it. Christological reflections reach a climax in the question posed to the disciples: Who do you say I am? In this liturgical context, the same question is posed to us. Who is this one who multiplies loaves of bread, who walks on turbulent waters, who breaks the boundaries that separate insider from outsider? It is none other than the messiah.

When Peter testified to Jesus' identity, it was a relevant religious and political statement, for messianic expectation was a burning question at that time. But what does it mean for the average Christian today? Many believers consider messianic expectation a theological theme that belongs to the past. They feel that it is difficult to get excited about the coming of someone who we believe has already come and gone. If Jesus were to pose this question today, how would we answer?

Like Peter, we too may have good intentions, but when they are put to the test we realise that that was all that they were – good intentions. Still, we should not be discouraged by our weaknesses, for just as Peter's failure did not deter God from entrusting him with power and authority, so our failures need not be obstacles to God's grace in our lives. We watch God entrust the church to individuals who are weak and undependable, and we realise that judgments are inscrutable and God's ways unsearchable.

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Pope Leo XIV's General Audience, 19 August 2026 in St Peter's Basilica.

Summary of the Holy Father's words:

Dear brothers and sisters, in our continuing catechesis on the *Second Vatican Council's* Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, today we consider the importance of sacred music. Indeed, singing and playing a musical instrument are acts of prayer. Music thus fosters our unity in praising God and opens our hearts to be fashioned by his grace. Far from being merely decorative, therefore, sacred music is a treasure of profound value. It should always be dignified, draw inspiration from Sacred Scripture and reflect the grandeur of the mystery celebrated. Sacred music is also to reflect local cultures, expressing the authentic traditions of peoples, while promoting the universal Church's musical heritage. *The Council* also emphasized the need for solid liturgical formation and education in sacred music. Dear brothers and sisters, in the liturgy, may we join together in love, and – in the words of Saint Ignatius of Antioch – “with one voice sing to the Father through Jesus Christ.”

Singing and playing music during the liturgy is an integral and necessary part of the celebration, which means it is much more than something “decorative,” Pope Leo XIV said.

“In the liturgy, to sing and to play music means to pray, attuning one's heart to that of our sisters and brothers and to God, through active participation in the mystery that is being celebrated,” he said.

To read the full text visit: www.osvnews.com/full-text-pope-leo-xivs-general-audience-given-august-19-2026/

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 22:19-23

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 137:1-3. 6. 8.
(R.) Lord, your love is eternal;
do not forsake the work of your hands.

Second Reading: Romans 11:33-36

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

Next Week's Readings—22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 62:2-6. 8-9.
(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-2

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27

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	9.00am Lay Led Liturgy
THURS	NO MASS
FRI	9.00am
SAT	5.00pm
SUN	9.30am

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

TOOWOOMBA PRIESTS' RETIREMENT APPEAL - 2 September 2026

Our retired priests have given their lives in faithful service - supporting our communities, celebrating the sacraments, and being present in times of joy and sorrow.

In retirement, many rely on the Priests' Retirement Foundation for essential care, including accommodation, healthcare, and daily living support.

We ask you to keep our retired priests in your prayers during this appeal. If you would like to learn more or offer your support, please visit: <https://www.twb.catholic.org.au/ways-to-give-prf/>

Envelopes are also available in the church foyer

WINNERS OF THE RAFFLE at the ANOINTING MASS—13 August

Gift Basket—Brian Powell. **Gift Voucher & Chocolates**—Annamaria McGregor. **Fruit Trays**—Geraldine Caesar, Meg Hicks & Damian Carroll. **Woolworth's Vouchers**—Kim Gilliland & Marie Ah See.

Celebration of the Sacrament of Penance—First Reconciliation

Monday, 24 August at 6pm

SEASONS OF CREATION - Prayer service Lychee Tree Lawn, Botanical Gardens - Mt Coot-tha at 11am - Tuesday, 1 September. All welcome.

For more information contact admin@qct.org.au.

SAVE THE DATE: 150 YEARS OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN DALBY - 21-23 May 2027. The celebration weekend will include Mass, a Black Tie Dinner, and School Tours. Planning continues for our 150-year celebrations. We are hoping to welcome back past students and staff of St Columba's School (Primary 1877-2007), St Mary's College (Secondary 1963-2007) and Our Lady of the Southern Cross College (2008 - today) as part of our celebrations with current staff, students and families, so spread the word with all you know!

ABRAHAMIC FAITHS GATHERING—Tuesday, 1 September at 5:45pm 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.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Ron Walker, Boyce Morgan & Doug Clauson

ANNIVERSARIES 15—21 August

John Kolinowski, Noel Ruthmuller, Sr Carmel Martin, Agnes Thompson, Maureen Spelman, Denis Clinton, Brian Ahern, Brian Murray, Edwin Relf, Frank Hicks, Stanley Joseph Kelliher, Michael Green, Brian Stevens, Ann McMahon, Reg McRae, Matthew Rowland, Annie Murphy, Maud Humphrey and Vince Austin.

ANNIVERSARIES 22—28 August

Thomas Murphy, Barbara Blakeley, Heather Runing, Elizabeth Webb, John Ah See, Sid Preece, Paul Sturgeon, Fr Pat Doyle, Mary McAuliffe, Josephine Erbacher, Sr Francis Flint csb, Wonder Mudzudzu and Bernard Galow.

HEALING FOR THE SICK

Parishioners: Roger Douglas, Isabel Gall, Anne Thomas, Elizabeth Curtis, Martin and Annette O'Brien.

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*

TOOWOOMBA WINTER SHELTER PROGRAM— Our next and final Winter Shelter will be held on Friday, 28 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.

VINNIES@UNISQ CLUB—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. To register your interest contact Kristie McKean, Membership & Development Officer, St Vincent de Paul Society Toowoomba Diocese, at kristie.mckean@svdpqld.org.au

SIMPLICITY SEPTEMBER SUPPORTING PALMS INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERING—Palms Australia is a Catholic international development organisation that has been connecting Australians with overseas communities through its Global Mission program since 1956. This September, Palms is inviting people to take part in Simplicity September, a fundraising campaign that encourages participants to choose a personal simplicity challenge, reflect on the role of busyness in their lives, and seek sponsorship from family and friends as they build new habits and embrace a more **mindful** way of living. For more details visit: <https://simplicityseptember.org.au>

TOOWOOMBA TRAILS ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL TOUR—Saturday, 26 September, 1:30pm-3:00pm Starting at TCSO carpark off Lawrence St Tmba. The cost is \$28.50 per person. Bookings at www.toowoombatrails.com.au/event-rsvp/cathedral-precinct-tour/. St Patrick's Cathedral has dominated the skyline for almost 140 years as a fine example of a Victorian Gothic Church, a place of worship since its consecration on March 17 1889. The building has a myriad of stories to tell if you listen carefully. Stories not only of the building and precinct themselves, but also of the growth and development of Toowoomba and the Darling Downs.

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,
& 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.

MINUTE MEDITATIONS

LOVE BUILDS

From the depth of St. Francis' relationship with God, he intuited a profound understanding of the human ego. These words from St. Paul likely resonated with Francis: "Knowledge inflates with pride, but love builds up" (1 Cor 8:1).

Not unlike our age, Francis saw firsthand how "knowledge" led to division rather than connection: in the spiritual and scriptural justification for the Crusades, in the widening disconnect between clergy and laity, and in academia in which the study of theology remained in the head and never became "incarnational" in a person's life. In the Franciscan tradition, charity—which is rooted in love—arose from one's connection to the "other." Some scholars conclude Francis' Christian conversion fundamentally unfolded as his relationship with lepers continued to deepen and grow. Lepers who were once "bitter" to Francis not only became "sweet," but also held the key to his own continued conversion as a follower of Christ.

—from *St. Anthony Messenger's* "Building Peace in a Nation Divided" by Stephen Copeland. Franciscan Media.

FREE WORKSHOP: DIGITAL SAFETY & 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 in church foyer.

PREPARING THE LITURGIES OF THE EASTER TRIDUUM - Saturday, 10 October 2026, 9:30am-12:00pm. Holy Spirit Church, 17 Harriett Street, Auchenflower. Cost \$20 per person. Although Easter may seem a long way off, the best Triduum celebrations are those that are prepared thoughtfully and well in advance. Planning these liturgies often raises practical questions, and each year Liturgy Brisbane receives many enquiries from parishes seeking guidance. To support parishes in this important ministry, we invite you to join us for Preparing the Liturgies of the Easter Triduum, a practical workshop led by Dr Clare Schwantes and Michael Mangan. Together we will explore the theology, structure and practical preparation of the liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil, addressing many of the questions that arise each year.

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>

Planned Giving 14-15 Aug : Envelopes: \$280.00 Loose: \$887.50 Direct Deposit: \$1217.00 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.

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

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| 24 Monday | Gospel Reflection Group at 10.00am
Celebration of the Sacrament of Penance—
First Reconciliation. 6pm |
| 25 Tuesday | Council of Priests at Roma
Penitential Rite—SPRED 6.30pm |
| 26 Wednesday | Council of Priests at Roma
Lay Led Liturgy at 9.00am |
| 28 Friday | Final Winter Shelter hosts |
| 30 Sunday | Social Justice Sunday |
| 31 Monday | Gospel Reflection Group at 10.00am |