

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.

5—6 September 2026

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

GOSPEL REFLECTION—Leo's Lens

© Nick Brodie

‘Jesus calls us to engage with his story’, Pope Leo says, ‘in order to write new pages of history.’ As the Pope makes clear, ‘we are called to read the Scriptures with the Master, to interpret our own times and to make decisions by following his path.’

This communal calling is evident in the Gospel today. ‘The Church exists to lead us into this dynamic of listening and decision-making,’ the Pope explains, ‘in which we come to understand for whom we are to live and how we are to live.’

‘The Church is the community in which we learn to discern the voice of God’, as the Pope puts it, the community through which we ‘dare to obey the Holy Spirit’. As such, our paths ‘are opened by listening to the heart, obeying the Holy Spirit, and following the Risen One wherever he has chosen to go before us.’

‘Let’s go to the margins,’ the Pope encourages us, ‘where the injustice and arrogance of a few deny the dignity and dreams of many.’ In doing so, we risk ridicule and conflict. But fear should not dissuade us from following Jesus, ‘breaking free from the culture of power, and tearing down the walls that separate human beings from one another.’

[Quotes from Homily in Assisi, 6 August 2026: <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/homilies/2026/documents/20260806-visita-assisi-messa.html>]

SEASONS OF CREATION

Each year from September 1 to October 4, the Christian family unites for this worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. This year, the theme for the Season is “Living Water.”

“Season of Creation [is] an ecumenical initiative to be celebrated from 1 September to 4 October (...). Environmental justice implicitly proclaimed by the prophets – can no longer be regarded as an abstract concept or a distant goal. It is an urgent need that involves much more than simply protecting the environment. For it is a matter of justice social, economic and human. For believers it is also a duty born of faith, since the universe reflects the face of Jesus Christ, in whom all things were created and redeemed.”

(Taken from his Message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation 2025)

His Holiness Pope Leo XIV, Bishop of Rome, Roman Catholic Church.

SEPTEMBER 2026 THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource,
so that everyone may have equal access to it

Leo P.P. XIV

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 94:1-2.6-9.

(R.) O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-10

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

Next Week's Readings—24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Sirach 27:30 – 28:7

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 102:1-4. 9-12.

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful;
slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Second Reading: Romans 14:7-9

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

BAPTISMS

Baptism are celebrated during
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.

WINTER MASS TIMES END

Starting
Saturday, 5 September
Saturday Vigil Mass—6.00pm
Sunday Mass at 9.30am



SYNOD
Toowoomba Diocese
23–24 October 2026

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.

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

St Vincent de Paul Society

During the month of September, the St Vincent de Paul Society celebrates the feasts of:

Blessed Frederic Azanam – the founder of the Society

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati – the recently canonised saint

St Vincent de Paul – the patron saint of charity and all charity works

And to celebrate these saints, the Members of St Theresa's Conference would like to thank you for your support and to let you know where some of the areas of your support has been directed. We would also like to encourage you to discern whether this is something that you could do.

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.



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Friday, 18 September and will re-open Wednesday, 7 October

The old building near the Parish Office will be demolished and the entrance off Curzon Street will be completely fenced off which means there will be no parking behind the Parish Admin building. While the office is closed, Monica and Cheryl will be undertaking training on a new computer program and implementing new computer processes. During this time the phones will be diverted for urgent calls. If anyone needs to meet with Fr Brian, Monica or Cheryl a time can be arranged to meet in the Church Foyer.

PRAYER REQUESTS

ANNIVERSARIES 5–11 September

Ray Stein, Aaron Preston, Margaret Thompson, Patrick O'Shea, Michael McQuillan, Frank Noel, Mick Madden, Sr Mary Veronica Hannon olsh, Ted Levy, John Pitt, Edna Fitzgerald, Nancy Long, Molly McRae, John Power, Les Boland, Kevin Rowland & John Gagen

HEALING FOR THE SICK

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

Friends and Family: 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.

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@svidpqlld.org.au

PRAYER FOR FATHERS

Heavenly Father,

We thank You for the gift of fathers.

Bless all dads with wisdom, patience, and unconditional love.

Strengthen them in their daily work and guide them as they lead their families.

For those who have gone before us, grant them eternal rest.

For fathers who are struggling, bring comfort and peace.

May all fathers mirror Your love, faithfulness, and compassion. Amen.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL—FLORAL DISPLAY: 18—22 Sept, 9.00am—5.00pm daily. St Pat's welcomes you to come along and experience the beautiful displays from our local catholic schools and community organisations.

TOOWOOMBA TRAILS ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRA TOUR—Saturday, 26 September, 1:30-3:00pm Starting at TCSO carpark off Lawrence St Tmba. Cost \$28.50. Bookings at www.toowoombatrails.com.au/event-rsvp/cathedral-precinct-tour/. St Patrick's Cathedral has dominated the skyline for almost 140 years, 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. Stories of the building, precinct, Toowoomba and Darling Downs.

BATTLE OF MEEWAH COMMEMORATION SERVICE: Friday, 11 September. 12noon to 1pm at Tobruk Memorial Drive, Picnic Point. Everyone is welcome. This special community gathering creates space for remembrance and reconciliation. See Flyer in church foyer for info.

CARITAS: WOMEN FOR THE WORLD: No woman should face pregnancy or childbirth without access to essential healthcare. But for many women in rural Papua New Guinea, that is not always the reality. When labour begins, some women are too far from a health centre. Some health facilities do not have the equipment or infrastructure they need and some are left facing childbirth without the support that every woman should have. Learn more or donate today at www.caritas.org.au/wftw.

The Jubilee Celebration of Ordination

for Fr John Quinlan, Fr Peter Doohan and **Fr Brian Noonan** is at 11am on Wednesday, 21 October with Mass in St Patrick's Cathedral followed by refreshments in St Patrick's Cathedral Centre.

Please **RSVP** to stpatrickscathedral@twb.catholic.org.au or 4637 1500 (include dietary requirements) by Friday 16 October.

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.

Pope Leo XIV's Message—11th World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation 2026

“They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks” (Is 2:4) is the theme of Pope Leo XIV's Message for the 2026 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, published in the Bulletin of the Holy See.

The World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation will be on 1 September, thus beginning the Ecumenical Season of Creation, which will conclude on 4 October, the liturgical feast of Saint Francis of Assisi.

The Holy Father's Message highlights the connection between armed conflict and environmental degradation. Such degradation constitutes both a serious violation of our duty to care for creation, as well as a long-term threat to the lives of hundreds of millions of people.

In his Message, the Holy Father explains that “the interaction between armed conflicts and environmental degradation often creates a vicious cycle, which destroys ecosystems, contaminates essential resources, such as air and water, and undermines food security. This fuels poverty, inequality, and new social tensions that can contribute to the emergence of further conflicts.”

“What is more,” the Pontiff continues, “war creates wounds that damage the whole fabric of life” and “reveals a deeper failure to live in God's image and likeness, to respect life and to care for the earth entrusted to us.”

While underscoring political responsibility in the face of armed conflicts and environmental crises, Pope Leo XIV states that “the wounds of war and the degradation of the earth, then, are profoundly linked to the condition of the human heart,” and are therefore “an ethical and cultural crisis, including the loss of a sense of limits, the desire for domination, the pursuit of immediate profit, and the inability to recognize the God-given dignity of each human person.”

Thus, the Holy Father calls for “a deeper personal and collective conversion”—a renewal of hearts that opens up new possibilities, emphasising that “the prophetic call to ‘beat swords into plowshares (Is 2:4) is therefore not only a vision for nations, but a call to each person.” For every person, “is the path of authentic ecological conversion, where the effects of our encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in our relationship with the world around us.”

The Pope's hope, therefore, is that “what has been used for destruction” may be “redirected toward life, toward the care of the poor, the nourishment of the hungry, and the safeguarding of creation.”

“If we take up this task with humility and faith,” the Holy Father concluded, “we will become collaborators in God's work of renewal. We will move, slowly but surely, from desert to garden, from division to communion, and from violence to peace.”

Accordingly, Leo XIV extends this invitation to all of us: “Let us imagine a world in which the energies currently invested in war are directed toward integral human development, to overcoming poverty, protecting human dignity and reconciling divided peoples. Such a vision reflects faith in the coming of God's Kingdom”.

<https://www.humandevlopment.va/en/news/2026/messaggio-papa-leone-xiv-giornata-preghiera-creato-2026.html>

Planned Giving 27Aug–3 Sept : Envelopes:\$188.00 Loose:\$508.00 Direct Deposit:\$2035.00 Tap & Go: \$60.00

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

SEPTEMBER

5 Saturday

6 Sunday

7 Monday

8 Tuesday

10 Thursday

13 Sunday

14 Monday

18 Friday

Winter Mass Times Ends

- Father's Day # *no parish morning tea*

- Priests Retirement Fund Appeal

Gospel Reflection Group at 10.00am

Feast Day Mass—Mater Dei 2.00pm

RUOK? Day

Safeguarding Sunday

Gospel Reflection Group at 10.00am

Office Closed—IT upgrade

19 September—5 October OFFICE CLOSED