

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.

12—13 September 2026

24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

GOSPEL REFLECTION

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A distinctive feature of the teachings of Jesus is his exhortation to forgive. Very explicit about this, Jesus left us his own example by forgiving his executioners while he hung dying on the cross. Until recently we thought that forgiveness begins with the offender repenting of the offence and then asking for pardon. Today many maintain that reconciliation must begin with the one offended offering forgiveness. This willingness to forgive transforms a victim into a survivor. Such magnanimity might then touch the heart of the offender, who may thus be transformed from being an offender to becoming a friend.

If God has been so generous in forgiving us, surely we should be generous in forgiving others. The process of becoming a forgiving person takes time. For some, it may take a lifetime. Only little by little are our pettiness and indignation reduced and our desire to strike back diminished. Still, as disciples, we are expected to give the forgiveness that we have been given.

Such forgiveness does not provide an easy way out for offenders, for ultimately justice will prevail. If we remain untransformed by God's forgiveness of us, we will be liable to judgment. Our unwillingness to forgive can eat away at us, and we can carry hurts from childhood far into adult years. Forgiving others, as difficult as that may be, is in the long run much easier than bearing the weight of resentment, vindictiveness and unresolved frustration. When we forgive we truly begin to be healed.

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."

Seasons of Creation—Reflection

@ Nick Brodie

Twice in today's gospel we hear indebted servants cry 'Give me time'. Through this parable Jesus shows us that patience and forgiveness are high virtues. These inform the Church's teaching on what Pope Francis called an 'integral ecology', which basically insists that human progress should be sustainable and compassionate. All human beings exist as part of nature and in relation with each other. God too is part of this dynamic by virtue of the mystery of Creation, but also in a special way through Jesus in the Incarnation and through the Spirit in the Church. We Christians are called, therefore, to be patient and forgiving with nature and with each other as part of God's transcendent plan.

Our opportunities to do this come in many forms. We can reconsider whether our consumer habits are too burdensome on our planet, extracting resources more quickly than they can be replenished. We can choose to buy foods that are sustainably produced, and which justly supports small farmers. And we can encourage our political leaders to be like the good master, supporting debt relief for impoverished countries, abiding by international climate agreements, and taking other such actions that might give our world and its people time to heal.

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

Next Week's Readings—25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18.
(R.) The Lord is near to all who call him.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:20-24. 27

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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 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.

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

ANNIVERSARIES 12–18 September

Terry Doyle, Dawn Cartwright, Edward Meiklejohn, Margaret Sewell, Terry Johnstone, Elizabeth Moore, Bill Blackie, Gladys Schneider, Ann Brock, Patricia Preece, Greg Long, Paul O'Sullivan, Ray Barnes, Kathleen Hoysted, Roslyn Atzeni, Noreen Schfumberg, Agnes Thompson, Ignazio Ginardi and Anna Sinclair

HEALING FOR THE SICK

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

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.

National Survey of Newly Married Couples Over September

Couples in their first 10 years of marriage are asked to contribute their valuable insights to a professional survey into the experience of early married life. The survey is being funded by the Australian Catholic Bishops. All answers are anonymous and confidential, and participants can contact the researchers directly with any questions via the survey link at <https://thepmrc.org/survey>. The information gathered will inform pastoral responses and the development of resources for this vital stage of married life.

The survey is now open at <https://thepmrc.org/survey> with 300 hundred responses already collected and will remain open throughout September. We hope to reach 1000 respondents over September for best research results.

Thank you for your support of this important work.

Yours in Christ

Bishop Tony Percy, Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney
Bishop Delegate for Life, Marriage and Family
Bishops Commission for Life, Family and Public Engagement

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 CATHEDRAL 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.

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.

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>

SYCHAR : House of Prayer & Spirituality: Flyers in Church Foyer of programs on offer. www.twb.catholic.org.au/ministry/sychar/ or call 0458 223 603.

MISSIONARY SISTERS OF St Peter Claver: are holding a Variety Sale at 71 Margaret St to raise funds for the Missions. The Variety Sale is on Saturday September 26 from 7.00am - 1.00pm. There will be antiques, collectables, china, books, crafts and linen for sale. There will also be a sausage sizzle and cake stall. **Sisters' phone no. is 07 46321818.**

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

Safeguarding Sunday—13 September

Safeguarding Sunday is a time in which we are reminded of the need to ensure we have a safe church. All people who attend church activities need to be safe and feel safe. It is about building a safeguarding culture within all parishes, dioceses, countries and indeed in the world church. It requires an ongoing commitment from everyone. The theme for Safeguarding Sunday is that love protects. This theme highlights the need to respect and protect all people in our church communities. It requires an organisational culture that promotes ongoing and continued commitment to safeguarding. Bishop Karol Kulczycki states: ‘Safeguarding is not simply a compliance requirement; it is a Gospel responsibility that calls us to uphold the dignity and wellbeing of every person entrusted in our care’. This suggests that safeguarding is more than a training requirement or a compliance task. It is about how we protect the dignity and wellbeing of every person – everywhere.

Safeguarding needs to look at how to prevent abuse; how to respond to people who have been abused; how to improve our systems continually to ensure people are safe and feel safe. In keeping with the theme ‘love protects’ Australian Catholic Safeguarding Limited suggest: ‘For a Catholic community, love is not sentiment alone. It becomes visible when we notice vulnerability, respect boundaries, listen without judgement, challenge unsafe practice and follow through when concerns are raised’

Safeguarding ensures the need for every person to be respected and protected. It calls for all people to have a sense of belonging to a community that enables them to participate without fear. It also allows for people to be heard and to be taken seriously.

In a practical sense, there are a number of actions that people within parishes call do to ensure the safety and well-being of children, young people, vulnerable adults and indeed - all people. These include ensuring appropriate supervision of all events. Ensuring clergy, employees and volunteers all adopt safe practices. And having a suitable and accessible complaint system.

Safeguarding is everyone’s business and there is a need for everyone to look at how they can contribute to this mission of having a safer and more caring church. This calls for the recognition of the diversity of our church communities and the need for inclusion of people from all cultures. It should reflect Gospel values where Jesus was seen to include children, the vulnerable and outcasts. Safeguarding is about ensuring all people have a voice that can be heard. It is also about people having the capacity to be able to participate meaningfully in the safeguarding of our church communities. All members of the universal church share this responsibility to contribute to a safer and more inclusive church.

Parishes have an appointed Safeguarding Representative who will have their contact details displayed in the church. In addition to this, the Toowoomba Diocese has an appointed Safeguarding Officer who can be contacted on 0474 565 426 or on email at profstandards@twb.catholic.org.au.

There is also the Professional Standards Office, Catholic Church Queensland.
Their contact details are free call 1800 337 928 or 07-3324 3070 or on email: psoqld@catholic.net.au.

Safeguarding—The theological test is simple: if our faith teaches us to love our neighbour,
then our relationships and responses must make that love safer and more credible.

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

13 Sunday Safeguarding Sunday
14 Monday Gospel Reflection Group at 10.00am
18 Friday Office Closed—IT upgrade
19 September—7 October OFFICE CLOSED
No Entry from Curzon St.
20 Sunday Fr. Brian starts his annual leave.
27 Sunday Migrant and Refugee Sunday

OCTOBER

4 Sunday Feast of Francis of Assisi—
End of Season of Creation month
5 Monday King’s birthday Public Holiday—**office closed**