

MISSION STATEMENT

St Theresa's Catholic Parish is a vibrant, inclusive andwelcoming 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.

24 - 25 October 2026 **30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** **YEAR A**

GOSPEL REFLECTION

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Pope Leo's Lens

'Are we content with material goods, immediate satisfactions, the countless little idols that promise us everything but leave our hearts empty?', Pope Leo asks.

Obviously not. 'We all long for happiness, love and fulfilment', he notes. Indeed, he affirms that 'only God can fill the emptiness within us.'

Reflecting on how 'Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, leads us, as a shepherd leads his sheep', the Pope reminds us that Jesus shows us how to love: 'He carries the weary and wounded sheep on his shoulders, and gently brings back those who have gone astray.'

Jesus' love is gentle and persistent, directed to each person in a unique manner. 'Jesus reveals God's unconditional love for us', the Pope reminds us. 'In his eyes, none of us is merely a number or an entry in a register, but a unique and irreplaceable person.'

Experiencing such divine love, we are called to share it with others. 'Do not keep this faith in Jesus Christ to yourselves', the Pope says. 'Let it overflow, so that those you meet may be refreshed and their thirst satisfied. You are called to bring hope wherever discouragement and spiritual dryness prevail.'

Each of us is called to live 'the holiness of those who worship the true God and generously serve their brothers and sisters in charity.'

[Quotes from Homily, 26 September 2026, Place de la Concorde (Paris): https://www.vatican.va/content/leoxiv/en/homilies/2026/documents/20260926-francia-messa-parigi.html]

Francis Focus

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Loving God and each other, Jesus makes so very clear, are interconnected. Our existence and purpose both flow from the fact that God didn't just create me – he created us. We are social beings, connected creatures. And our great calling is to respond to God's love and to share it. We are meant to be signs of God's love for the world.

In his encyclical on human fraternity, *Fratelli tutti*, Pope Francis posed an interesting rhetorical question. 'I sometimes wonder why,' he asked, 'it took so long for the Church unequivocally to condemn slavery and various forms of violence.' 'Today,' he added, 'we have no excuses.' The Church of today cannot maintain its past complacency. We must love *everyone*.

The Pope's musing came at the end of a discussion about our duty to care for our neighbours. But while he wrote a lot, adding greatly to the Church's teaching about care for our world and each other, Pope Francis stayed firmly focused on the essentials. Which is why this Gospel is really at the very heart of his teaching and preaching. In his apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* the Pope asked, 'if we have received the love which restores meaning to our lives, how can we fail to share that love with others?'

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Exodus 22:20-26
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51.
(R.) I love you, Lord, my strength.
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10
Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

Next Week's Readings All Saint - Solemnity

First Reading: Revelations 7:2-4. 9-14
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 23:1-6
(R.) Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.
Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-3
Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

BAPTISMS

25 October 2026
we welcome into our parish

George O'Connell
Penelope O'Connell
Margot Frith

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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.

MASS TIMES	
Monday	NO MASS
Tuesday	NO MASS
Wednesday	9.00 am
Thursday	NO MASS
Friday	9.00am
Saturday	6.00 pm
Sunday	9.30 am

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

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE APPEAL

During the month of October, Joann Hodal will be organising the collection of items, which with many hands will be made into domestic violence care packages from St Theresa's.

These care packages are simple but practical ways to give a helping hand to families and individuals who are the victims of domestic violence in our community.

Toiletries, toothpaste and personal hygiene items etc are ideal donations as a gift of dignity. Cash donations are also gratefully accepted.

Baskets will be available in the foyer for you to place your donations into. They can also be left at the parish office during office hours.

We thank you all sincerely for your continuing support for this community outreach project

SCROLLING OF NAMES

Our annual scrolling of names will be held **during mass on 7 & 8 November**.

To assist with the liturgy, 2 different sets of sheets have been placed in the foyer.

One list is for the recently deceased between Nov 2025 and Oct 2026.

The second list is for other loved ones who have died, please include their anniversary of death or approximate date.

This will assist us in updating the anniversary book of deceased.

ST MARY MACKILLOP PARISH, HIGHFIELDS TRIVIA NIGHT

21 November at 6.00pm at Mary MacKillop School Hall

$20.00 per person 6-8 per team. Tickets must be purchased prior to event. (pizza included in ticket).

Bar available. Raffles, Games, bring gold coins.

Bookings contact Patti at alan.mcnaught@bigpond.com

PLEASE JOIN US.

RECENTLY DECEASED - Catherine Castell & Kay O'Sullivan (Funeral 26 October at 10.00am)

ANNIVERSARIES 24 - 30 October

Terry O'Brien, Norm Higgs, Estelle Stein, George Keryk, Bernice Herbert, Veronica Power, Jack Lalor, Jack Murphy, Matthew Dunne, Mary Murphy, Dale McGaw, Monica Mahoney, Paul O'Leary, Ken Meiklejohn & Mary Relf.

HEALING FOR THE SICK

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

Friends and Family: Maree Howe, Ron Grunden, Carmel Hicks, Jim Curtis, Margaret Mary Lawson, Darrell Callinan, Jan Boyd, Aye Aye Hla, Imogen Atkins, Naser, 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, Judy March and Pam Newman

OCTOBER 2026 **THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS**

Let us pray that the metal health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illness . Leo P.P. XIV

ADVENT TO CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

Advent Programs will begin on the week of the First Sunday of Advent (29 November) and continue through to the Baptism of the Lord (10 January). The parish will be offering two Advent Reflection Groups, Monday morning & Wednesday evenings with details to follow shortly. This year the theme of the Program is 'Presence' and booklets will cost $8.00. **Please add your name to the list in the church foyer or contact the parish office if you would like a copy.**

COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR 2027

the parish will also look at placing orders for next year's Columban calendar in October. Each year the parish gives a Columban Calendar at Christmas to all those who are visited in nursing homes or who receive home visits within our parish. An order sheet will be available in the next couple of weeks. Please also consider making a donation towards these Christmas gifts.

PARISH WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - MISSION AMBASSADOR

Saturday 31ST October & Sunday, 1 November.

This year, St Theresa's parish is invited to support the Church in Malawi, where the work of Fr Matthew Semba is changing lives through St Peter's Nyamikuta Primary School. Coordinated by Fr Matthew, the Church with your support can build a new school close to home, provide nutritious meals for students and purchase essentials like books, pencils and uniforms so that children can learn with confidence.

As we approach the 100th World Mission Day, Pope Leo XIV calls us to be "One in Christ, United in Mission" – a call to put Christ at the forefront, as we share His love with those who need it most. This is a powerful opportunity for your parish to be part of a life-changing mission.

This year Deacon Martin Lewis will be the Catholic Mission Ambassador and will be speaking at both masses.

SECOND COMBINED PARISH MASS - Saturday, 14 November 6.00pm

Twice-yearly St Theresa's Parish will combine a weekend masses as a way of bringing the whole parish community together in prayer, friendship and over a cuppa/meal. Our first combined Mass was held on Sunday, 2 August to celebrate Fr Brian's Jubilee. Our second and final combine Mass for 2026 will be held on Saturday, 14 November at 6.00pm. Please note that this will mean there will be **NO** Sunday, 15 November Mass. More details to follow shortly. # Nominations for membership to the Parish Council have been received and Fr Brian will announce at the new members that evening.

DATE CLAIMER: RELEASING OF MEMORIES

Friday, 27 November at 10.00am - St Theresa's Parish Centre.

Parish Ministries

Parish Pastoral Council
Fr Brian Noonan, Monica Brennan, ElizabethCurtis, 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 1800846643

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

MELBOURNE CUP HIGH TEA: THE DIGNITY PROJECT

Sunday, 1 November 2:00pm-4:30pm St Anthony's Parish Centre, Memory St Tmba Cost: Entry via donation. RSVP: 27/10/26 via justice@twb.catholic.org.au or 4636 1737 or 0407 758 988 All welcome, bring your friends! Join us for a fun afternoon of entertainment with music, trivia, raffles, phantom call with sweep and more. Bar to buy drinks. Afternoon tea provided. All money raised will go to support Refugees and Asylum Seekers living in the Toowoomba area. # please bring cash as we have no online banking facilities. Book your free ticket here: https://www.trybooking.com/DQFYL.

WOMEN'S FRIENDSHIP GROUP, FACILITATED THROUGH THE DIGNITY PROJECT.

DONATIONS OF COTTON FABRIC NEEDED

The Women's Friendship Group is seeking donations of cotton fabric to support their community projects. Meeting three times each month, the group brings together women from refugee and asylum-seeker backgrounds, offering friendship, connection and an opportunity to develop sewing and craft skills. The ladies use donated materials to create quilts for St Vincent de Paul and care bags provided to people accessing the Winter Shelter program. If you have clean cotton fabric that you no longer need, we would be grateful for your donation. Please deliver fabric donations to the parish office and once received we will organise for their collection.

Thank you for helping create connection, dignity and practical support for people in our community.

ANNUAL ANGLICAN-ROMAN CATHOLIC PRAYER SERVICE FOR RECONCILIATION

Each year the communities of the Anglican Diocese of Brisbane, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Brisbane and the Roman Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba are invited to come together in a prayer service. During the service we remember that a Covenant involving the three communities has existed since 2009 and we pray that Anglicans and Roman Catholics will always seek ways to work more closely together. This year's prayer service will take place at St Patrick's Cathedral, James Street, Toowoomba on Tuesday, 10 November at 11.00am. Roman Catholic Bishop of Toowoomba, Ken Howell, will preside and Anglican Bishop of Brisbane Diocese's Western Region, Cameron Venables, will preach. All are very welcome to attend.

ST PATRICK'S PARISH FETE

Saturday, 7 November 2026, starting 3.00pm at St Patrick's School Oval, St George. Join us for an afternoon and evening of family fun! Enjoy student class dances, games and activities, jumping castles, tug of war, yabby races, market stalls and delicious food from the community BBQ and sweets stall. The fun continues into the evening with a major raffle draw, featuring a premium Weber smoker, followed by the mega draw. Entry is free, and everyone is welcome!

Planned Giving 25-26 July : Envelopes: $191.00 Loose: $409.20 Direct Deposit: $1037.00 Tap & Go: $95.00
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
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 9.45am, Cobb & Co Museum

First Friday or Saturday of the Month
Infin8 Catholic Residents Mass & Prayer Liturgy

Upcoming Parish Events

November

1 Saturday	**Catholic Missions Appeal & Ambassador**
2 Sunday	**Catholic Missions Appeal & Ambassador**
3 Monday	Gospel Reflection Group at 10.00am
7 Saturday	Infin8 Prayer Liturgy at 9.30am Scrolling of Names
8 Sunday	Scrolling of Names
12 Thursday	Parish Council Meeting
14 Saturday	COMBINED PARISH MASS at 6.00pm
15 Sunday	NO SUNDAY MASS
25 Wednesday	Council of Priests Meeting
27 Friday	Releasing of Memories at 10.00am