

# Welcome to OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH

153 Holberton St, Toowoomba | p: 4634 1453 | f: 4634 1940

Email: [olol.parish@bigpond.com](mailto:olol.parish@bigpond.com) | <https://ololparish.org.au> 

Priest in Residence - Rev John Quinlan

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm

Pastoral Coordinator: Jenny Ferguson Email: [olol.pastoralcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:olol.pastoralcoordinator@gmail.com)

Reconciliation: Saturday 4.45pm

Mass times: Saturday: 6:00pm Vigil | Sunday: 9.30am & 5.30pm

weekday masses - Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10am

Primary School: e: [lourdes@twb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:lourdes@twb.catholic.edu.au) | p: 4591 1200

<https://www.ololtwb.catholic.edu.au>



We would like to acknowledge the Giabal and Jarowair peoples, Traditional Owners of this land and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

## Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024 Third Sunday of Lent - Year B

### First Reading

[Exodus 20:1-17](#)

A reading from the book of Exodus

*The Law was given through Moses.*

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. 'You shall have no gods except me. 'You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. 'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it. 'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work on that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, nor your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred. 'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you. 'You shall not kill. 'You shall not commit adultery. 'You shall not steal. 'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. 'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

### Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 18:8-11. R. Jn 6:68](#)

(R). Lord, you have the words of everlasting love.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul. The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple. (R.)
2. The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart. The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes. (R.)
3. The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever. The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. (R)
4. They are more to be desired than gold, than the purest of gold and sweeter are they than honey, than honey from the comb. (R)

### Second Reading

[1 Corinthians 1:22-25](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*We are preaching a crucified Christ, a scandal to many, but to those who have been called, the wisdom of God.*

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

### Gospel

[John 2:13-25](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up..*

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said. During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

Next Week's Readings (9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> March 2024) – Fourth Sunday of Lent – Year B  
1st Reading: [2 Chronicles 36:14-16. 19-23](#) 2nd Reading: [Ephesians 2:4-10](#) Gospel: [John 3:14-21](#)

## Parish Activities

**ANAM CARA** – Wednesday 9.00am in the Presbytery

**BAPTISM** information nights are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month. Please phone the office if you wish to attend.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY** - 9.30AM Mass (except school holidays) for children in Prep - Yr 4.

**CRAFT & FRIENDSHIP GROUP** - meet every Thursday at 10:30am in the quiet room at the church.

**ECUMENISM GROUP** - meet the 4th Saturday of each month at 9:30am in the Children's Liturgy Room followed by a cuppa.

**LITURGY GROUP** - meet every 4th Monday of the month at 7:00pm in the Quiet Room.

**LOURDES PRAYER GROUP** - meet after the 10am Mass every Tuesday.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL** – meet the 1st Monday of each month at 6.30pm in the Quiet Room.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE** - meet 1st Sunday of the month at 10:30am in the quiet room of the Church.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL** - meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday mornings in the quiet room at the church at 8:00am.

## Parish Councillors

Cristianne Dias, Jo Johnston, Ray Johnston, Candice Poulton, Bernadette Witham, Anna Chandler, Emma Dever, Melissa McLean and Julie Whittaker.

## Safeguarding Children, Young People and Adults at risk:

In Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, we commit ourselves to ensuring the safety and well-being of children, young people and adults at risk in our Parish community. The best interests of the child, young person or adult at risk come first.

Our Parish takes a zero tolerance approach to all forms of abuse. Concerns about the safety of children, young people and adults at risk may be raised with our Parish Safeguarding Representatives (**Joe & Sarah Kelly 0437 839 838**). If you believe anybody is at immediate risk of harm you should phone 000. You are encouraged to provide feedback on Safeguarding policies and procedures.

**Toowoomba Diocese Safeguarding Resources** can be found at <https://www.twb.catholic.org.au/safeguarding-policy-resources/>

## Scriptural Context

*This episode of outrage in the Temple is recorded in all four of the Gospels. Interestingly, the three synoptic gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke place the event in the final days leading to Passion events while the Gospel of John places the event in the very early days of Jesus' public ministry. While the three synoptics are likely to be more chronologically correct, the Gospel of John uses the event very deliberately to make the point that Jesus is the new Temple – the new focus of God's presence in the world; the Word made flesh.*

## Sunday Reflection...

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Israel believed that the temple was built over the navel of the universe, the *axis mundi*, that spot where the world above and the world below met the world of history, thus enabling the three worlds to communicate. When Jesus called himself the new temple, he was claiming to be the centre of the universe, the spot where three-way cosmic communication occurs, the presence of God in the midst of the community. When we accept him in faith, we are accepting these claims. We may profess this belief, but do our lives reflect it?

Although some consider the law a rigid set of precepts, it is really more a collection of directives that have grown out of the experience of life. To say that Jesus is the wisdom of God means that God's wisdom is made known in him and that he is the way that points to God. While laws often embody distinctive cultural values or customs, as wisdom of God, Jesus crosses cultural boundaries and breaks down cultural distinctions. As the wisdom of God, Jesus fulfils the expectations of any and all codes of law.

Both the law and the temple witness to the power of God in the lives of believers. However, both institutions pale in the light of Jesus who is identified as the power of God. This divine power is not revealed in lofty precepts or in magnificent stones, but rather in the broken and pierced body of Jesus Christ. How willing are we to accept him?

## Historical Context

*In Jewish tradition, the Temple marked the point of physical connection between God and humankind and between the past and the present. It was where God's story and humanity's story met. However, in the year 70 C.E. – some 40 years after Jesus – the Temple was destroyed by the Romans. The gospel of John is written another 20+ years later and so the reality of the Temple's destruction is still trying to be absorbed by the people. It was a very powerful image for the gospel writer to suggest that Jesus was the new Temple – the new point of connection.*

## Different View

### Just like Jesus

*This gospel passage must be one of the most commonly misused passages in the Bible. So often it is used as justification for someone losing their temper, or worse, an outrageous temper tantrum, or 'dummy spit'. People will declare in their defence, 'Well, Jesus lost his temper and got angry in the Temple!' They fail to appreciate the difference between their own hot-headedness and the outrage against injustice that was being expressed by Jesus. They also seem to miss the significance of the fact that this was a 'one off' for Jesus!*

## Thought of the day.....





**Please Pray For...**

**Recent Deaths:**

**Anniversaries:** Jeanette Dennis, Gerard Gabbett, Thomas Joseph MacGinley, Joyce Brennan, Maureen Metcalfe, Fr Michael Sheehan

**Those Who Are Sick:** Patrick Byrne, Eileen Reedy, Robert McLean, Kevin Arnott, Con Sullivan, Carmel Green, Ernie Kupfer, Jasmine Fletcher, Margaret Conrick, Hazel Soriano, Tim & Olivia Zvirblis, Damian Laurence, Audrey Bentley, Yvonne Oliveiro, Gregory and Genia Casey, Trish Betros, Noel Lipp, Michael (Micky) Lynch, Kevin Boland, Frank Kenneally, Carmel & Ron O'Brien, Lillian Roberts, Brian Thomson, Judy Reardon, Peggy Thies, John Axtell, Noel O'Mara, Mick O'Mara, Patrick Wright

**March Birthdays:** Thelma Johnstone, Pat McGovern, Regina Thompson, Ron O'Brien, Judy Wilson, Peter Reynolds, Sarah Dias, Harrison Dwan, Kevin Mahoney,

**Parish News...**

Sat 2/3	o 4.45pm Reconciliation o <b>6.00pm Mass</b>
Sun 3/3	o <b>9.30am Mass including Children's Liturgy</b> o 10.30am Social Justice Meeting in Church o 4.30pm Jam Session in Church o <b>5.30pm Mass</b>
Mon 4/3	o 6.30pm Parish Council Meeting
Tue 5/3	o <b>10.00am Anointing Mass</b> o 10.30am Prayer Group in Quiet Room
Wed 6/3	o 9.00am Anam Cara in the Presbytery o <b>10.00am Mass with School Children</b> o 6.30pm SPRED in the Quiet Room o 7.00pm Baptism Information Evening
Thu 7/3	o <b>10.00am Mass</b> o 10.30am Friendship & Craft Group in Quiet Room
Fri 8/3	

**Date Claimers:**

- 10<sup>th</sup> March – 10.30am Sacramental Workshop 2
- 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> March – Parish Council Nominations
- 16<sup>th</sup> March – Youth Night
- 18<sup>th</sup> March – The Feast of St Patrick
- 19<sup>th</sup> March – The Feast of St Joseph
- 19<sup>th</sup> March - 6pm Communal Rite of Reconciliation
- 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> March – Palm Sunday
- 29<sup>th</sup> March – Good Friday
- 31<sup>st</sup> March – Easter Sunday



**Birthday Wishes:**

Congratulations and Happy Birthday wishes to Peter Reynolds who will celebrate his 94<sup>th</sup> Birthday on the 6<sup>th</sup> March.

**Anointing Mass and Communal Reconciliation**

If you require transport to the Anointing Mass on the 5<sup>th</sup> March at 10am or Communal Reconciliation on the 19<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm, please contact the office as soon as possible on 4634 1453 or alternatively, place your name on the sheet at the back of the church.

**Easter Ceremonies – Help Needed**

We are looking for volunteers for the Easter Ceremonies. If you are able to help, would you please put your name on the sheet on the table at the back of the church. We need as much help as possible during this busy season. Please don't leave all the work to just a few.

**Tours of the new school buildings**

LOL school is offering a tour of the newly renovated Prep classrooms. This tour will take place after the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March. All are welcome to attend.

**Spiritual Spring-Cleaning tips**

**Missed the start of Lent?** No bother – start whenever you can – even an imperfect attempt is better than none. Make a plan. Make it achievable. And write it down. Poorly defined goals tend to get lost in the clutter of life.

**Keep forgetting to honour your Lenten promise?** Diarise it. Set the alarm on your phone. Put sticky notes on the bathroom mirror. Pen it on the back of your hand. Get an accountability partner (kids make excellent ones!)

**Regressed to bad habits?** Just start over. Don't let the evil one discourage you – recommit regularly to your Lenten promise.



	Altar Servers	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Ministers	I pad Operator	Piety Stall
<b>9<sup>th</sup> Mar at 6pm</b>	E Ward T Kelly	B Witham M Cushway	J Wilson	C Ferguson S Kelly	M & J Wells	J Kelly	Kelly Family	K Ward
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Mar at 9.30am</b>	E McLean L Anderson	L Dwan A Cournane	J Anderson	C Anderson J Bonell	Watson Family	Consie Hudson	Jackie Cash	P Town
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Mar at 5.30pm</b>	H Ryan E Haylock	J & C Sullivan	K Langdale	J Axtell A Jessen	A Brown C Brown	J Johnston	A Hickey	V Barker

## Third Sunday of Lent – 3<sup>rd</sup> March

Samoa may be a country surrounded by water, but access to clean drinking water is scarce in some areas, with many families facing extreme hardship as a result. Leaia lives with her five children, husband, brother and sister-in-law on the island of Upolu in Samoa. Not having access to a reliable source of clean water caused Leaia a lot of worry. Their home is not connected to a piped water system, so they had to rely solely on rainwater collected in old fridges. When their water ran out, Leaia had to walk with her young children to collect water in buckets and containers from a neighbour down the street. With the support of Caritas Australia's local partner, Caritas Samoa, a water tank was installed at Leaia's home. She and her family now have a steady supply of clean drinking water at home. Next year, they will also have a toilet built, with the support of Caritas Samoa, which will further improve their health and living conditions. "We are very thankful and grateful for the water tank. It has helped us so much and made our daily life easier," Leaia said.

### Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations.**


You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.



Photo: Laura Womersley/Caritas Australia

**PROJECT  
COMPASSION**  
FOR ALL FUTURE  
GENERATIONS


**HE IS RISEN**



**LOL Young People**  
Grades 5 – 8 Welcome  
LET'S CELEBRATE EASTER!

MARCH 16, 2024 | 6PM MASS  
FOLLOWED BY ACTIVITIES & DINNER

REGISTER ATTENDANCE VIA THE PARISH OFFICE  
[LOL.PARISH@BIGPOND.COM](mailto:LOL.PARISH@BIGPOND.COM)



# E NEWS UPDATE

A newsletter from the Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba for clergy, parishes, schools, staff and the wider community.

## **CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF ST PATRICK**

Date: 16/3/24 Saturday

Time: Doors open 6:30pm

Where: Cathedral Centre, Neil St Tmba

Cost: \$50 per ticket

Come and enjoy a great night out to celebrate the Feast Day of St Patrick! Tickets will include a meal, a live Irish Band, and plenty of dancing! [Book tickets now.](#)

## **LIVE LEARNING: DIGNITY IN SAFEGUARDING**

Date: 1/3/24 Friday

Time: 10:00am-11:00am AEDT (Melbourne)

Where: [Online via Zoom](#)

Cost: \$65 per person (free for paid subscribers of ACSL)

The dignity of the human person is central in Catholic Social Teaching, and in safeguarding we also pay close attention to the dignity of risk in the provision of ministry and services to vulnerable people. In this one-hour interactive session led by Dr Simon Longstaff AO, participants are invited to join this discussion and bring their own examples. This Live Learning opportunity is not only for Catholic leaders and safeguarding professionals but for anyone providing social services to children or adults at risk. Hosted by Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd. [Register here](#) or email at [info@acs ltd.org.au](mailto:info@acs ltd.org.au)

## **NOMINATIONS FOR TCS EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

Nominations for the Toowoomba Catholic Schools Excellence Awards will open on Monday, 4 March 2024 and close on Sunday, 5 May 2024 at 5.00pm. Start thinking about your nomination now! The selection criteria for each of the awards can be found here: <http://tinyurl.com/mt9ymvaw>

## **ASRC FEAST FOR FREEDOM**

Date: 17/3/24 Sunday

Time: 5:30pm

Where: St Anthony's Parish Hall, Memory Street Tmba

The Dignity Project, Social Justice Commission, and St Anthony's Parish Toowoomba warmly invite all to this year's Feast for Freedom. Bring a plate to share and celebrate the many journeys to freedom undertaken by newcomers to Toowoomba. If you wish to donate to the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC) there will be options available on the night.

RSVP 15/3/24 to [dignityproject15@gmail.com](mailto:dignityproject15@gmail.com)

Flyer for noticeboard

## **St Patrick's Dance – St Pat's Cathedral Centre**

Book your tickets now for the Feast of St Patrick's Dance on March 16. Celebrate with Fr O'Brien and Fr Webb. Dance the night away with Irish band McCarthy's Reel. Feast on a sumptuous 3 course meal. Guinness available at the bar, doors open at 6.30pm. Tickets are \$50 each and available from the office or book and pay using the QR Code or via <https://www.trybooking.com/1170674>



## **Jubilee Mass**

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver invite you to celebrate the **65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Religious Consecration of Sr Miriam Lorenz S.S.P.C.** A Jubilee Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Ken Howell and Fr Michael O'Brien at 11.30am on Saturday 16 March 2024, in St Patrick's Cathedral, 123 Neil Street, Toowoomba. Please join us afterwards at our convent: 71 Margaret Street, Toowoomba, for light refreshments and also to meet Mother Selin, our Mother General. **For catering purposes, please RSVP by Friday March 8th. Telephone: (07) 4632 1818.**