

Welcome to OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH

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

Email: 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

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 | 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, 4th February 2024 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

First Reading

[Job 7:1-4, 6-7](#)

A reading from the book of Job

I am filled with sorrow all day long.

Job began to speak:

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery?

Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages, months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief.

Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!' Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind.

Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 146:1-6. R. v.3](#)

(R.) Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

1. Praise the Lord for he is good; sing to our God for he is loving: to him our praise is due. (R.)

2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem and brings back Israel's exiles, he heals the broken-hearted, he binds up all their wounds. He fixes the number of the stars; he calls each one by its name. (R.)

3. Our Lord is great and almighty; his wisdom can never be measured. The Lord raises the lowly; he humbles the wicked to the dust. (R)

Second Reading

[1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23.](#)

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

Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the Gospel.

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

Gospel Acclamation

[Matthew 8:17](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering.

Alleluia!

Gospel

[Mark 1:29-39](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

Next Week's Readings (10th/11th February 2024) – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B
1st Reading: [Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46.](#) 2nd Reading: [1 Corinthians 10:31 – 11:1](#) Gospel: [Mark 1:40-45](#)

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/>



Have you thought? Simon's Wife?

In this week's reading, it is Simon's mother-in-law who is healed. This obviously means that Simon is married. However, there is no mention whatsoever about his wife. Is she alive or dead? Do they have children? We have no indication. It is not until the writings of Paul (1 Cor 9:5) that we learn Simon Peter was indeed married and that his wife accompanied him on his travels. Perhaps this visit to his family home was to announce to his wife and family that he had decided to follow Jesus and give up fishing.

Sunday Reflection...

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Today we see three snapshots from the photo album of life. Suffering comes to everyone. It can take such a hold of us that the happiness of the past is swallowed up, the beauty of better days is forgotten, and the hope of a brighter future is imperilled. Life ceases to be an adventure and takes on the guise of drudgery. At such times suffering appears to be our permanent fate, and life seems too short for suffering to run its course. If we become identified with our distress, we will be tormented. Jesus knew the harshness of life, because he was one of us. He saw it in the lives of those he loved, and he was touched by their torment. He came to release people from the demons that possess them, from the illness that undermined their lives. He came to bring the reign of God, the reign of peace and fulfilment. He came to heal the brokenhearted, to bind up their wounds.

Paul was a messenger of this gospel of salvation and fulfilment. He was so committed to his mission that he empathised with all those who heard his preaching – the slaves, the weak, the brokenhearted, all those who knew well the harshness of life. Now it is our turn. We are the disciples who must bring the good news to the brokenhearted, to those who are enslaved, to those who are weak. We are the ones who will then share in the blessings of this good news.

Historical Context

Capernaum

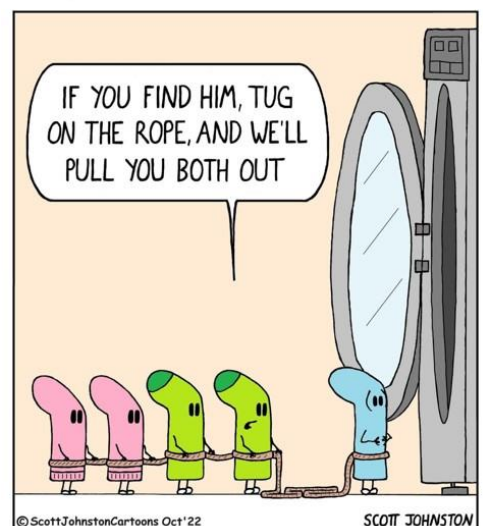
Jesus appears to have made Capernaum his base after leaving Nazareth. He may, in fact, have based himself at Simon Peter's house. There are many references in the gospels to Jesus' actions in Capernaum. Archaeologists have identified the house in Capernaum that they believe to be Simon Peter's house – less than 100 metres from the Capernaum synagogue. Evidence reveals carved inscriptions and symbols that identify both Jesus and Peter. The house appears to have been used as a 'house-church' until a church was built on the site in the 5th Century. Excavations of the site can be seen today.

Living the Gospel

Prayer

In the midst of an extremely hectic 24 hours where Jesus effectively launches his public ministry, Jesus takes time to go aside to a lonely place and pray. The passage tells us that it was 'long before dawn' that he did this. It may have been his usual practice to pray early in the morning or he may have been restless after the events of the previous day and the thought of what lay ahead. Nevertheless, Jesus provides us with a model of using prayer to reflect on events and to prepare ourselves for the day ahead.

Thought of the day.....



Please Pray For...

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: Shirley Schad, Agnes Hayes, Margaret Hurley, Christiann Oberholzer, Stephen Logan, Jim Brown, Paula Ruhle, Maria Murphy, Stephen Kruger, Fr Howard Crowe, Msgr Michael Potter

Those Who Are Sick: Anne Fisher, 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, Ted Schulz, Noel O'Mara, Mick O'Mara, Patrick Wright

February Birthdays: Margaret Greer, Colleen Redinger, Pat McDonnell, Bryan Carlin, Laura Bentley, Michael Kelly, Vic White, Lyn Stephens

Parish News...

Sat 3/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o * Please note there is no reconciliation this weekend. See below for alternatives. o 6.00pm Mass
Sun 4/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 9.30am Mass including Children's Liturgy o 10.30am Social Justice meeting in Church o NO JAM SESSION THIS WEEK o 5.30pm Mass
Mon 5/2	
Tue 6/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 10.00am Mass o 10.30am Prayer Group in the Quiet Room
Wed 7/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 9.00am Anam Cara in the Presbytery o 10.00am Mass o 6.30pm SPRED in the Quiet Room o 7.00pm Baptism Information Session
Thu 8/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 8.00am St Vincent de Paul Meeting in Quiet room o 10.00am Mass o 10.30am Friendship & Craft Group in Quiet Room
Fri 9/2	

*Please note that Reconciliation will not be available this weekend at our parish. Some alternative options are as follows:

- o 8am-9am Saturday at St Patrick's Cathedral
- o 5.15pm Saturday at St Anthony's Parish

Date Claimers:

- 5th February – Registrations close for First Communion and Confirmation for 2024
- 10th & 11th February – Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day and Volunteers BBQ/Morning Tea
- 14th February – Ash Wednesday Mass 10am and 5.30pm
- 18th February – 1st Sunday of Lent

Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day and Volunteer's Mass – Morning Tea & BBQ

Next weekend, the 10th & 11th of February, we would like to thank all of our wonderful volunteers with a sausage sizzle/morning tea. Please join us to celebrate our volunteers at the sausage sizzles after the 6pm and 5.30pm Masses or the morning tea after the 9.30am Mass.

Please bring a plate to share for morning tea.



Message from Fr. Quinlan

Thought I would be back on deck this weekend but during the week found that I have Covid. I went for the 4 years of the pandemic without so much as a sniffle – it seems if you want to catch Covid, go to the hospital or go on a cruise ship.

Not sure what the arrangements will be for this weekend but by the time you read this, we will all know!

Ash Wednesday Mass

Mass will be celebrated at 10am and 5.30pm on Wednesday 14th February for Ash Wednesday.



No Children's Liturgy – 11th February

Please note that there will be no Children's Liturgy on the weekend of the 11th February due to the Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day and Volunteer's Mass and Morning Tea. If you would like to support our Children's Liturgy leaders as a helper/assistant please advise the Parish Office. No experience or active participation is necessary. The Parish Office can assist with obtaining a Blue Card.

	Altar Servers	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Ministers	l pad Operator	Piety Stall
10th Feb at 6pm	E Ward T Kelly	D & N Clark	J Wilson	N Doyle S Kelly	M & M Quinn	E Castles	J Ferguson	W Hoopert
11th Feb at 9.30am	S Dias J Dias	P Town C Poulton	M Ondrus	M Conrick C Rawlinson	O'Mara Family	Cristianne Dias	L Dwan	C & S Dias
11th Feb at 5.30pm	M Denny E Obst	A & R Thompson	J Johnston	R Johnston V O'Connell	K Langdale C Brown	C Golightly	Desley Salty	V Barker

Word of God Sunday

The Catholic Church in Australia celebrates Word of God Sunday on the first Sunday in February each year – February 4 in 2024. The Pope established the day as a profoundly pastoral initiative to show the importance the word of God has in the daily life of the Church and our communities, a Word that is not confined to a book, but one that remains ever alive and becomes a concrete and tangible sign. Many countries celebrate the occasion on the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. Please [Click here](#) to read Pope Francis' Homily for Word of God Sunday.



Marion Valley Bus Trip

The next Marion Valley Bus Trip will occur on Sunday 11th February for the Feast of Our Lady Of Lourdes. The bus will depart from Neil St, outside of St Patrick's Cathedral at 7:30am. The cost of the trip is \$40. For bookings contact Theresa on 0434 528 904.

World Day of Prayer – 1st March

You are invited to attend the World Day of Prayer service on Friday, 1st March 2024. This year, the service will be held at St John's Lutheran Church, Wilsonton at 10am. Pastor Marcus Schultz will be the guest speaker on the day. Following the service, a shared morning tea will be held. All are welcome to attend.

Pope's Monthly Intention for February 2024

For the terminally ill

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment. Please click [here](#) to watch a video of Pope Francis discussing February's intention.

JAM SESSIONS
Musicians and Vocalists welcome
1st & 3rd Sundays
4.30pm in the Church
GAIN CONFIDENCE
LEARN HARMONIES
REGISTER YOUR INTEREST BY
PHONING THE PARISH OFFICE ON 4634 1453
OR EMAILING OLOL.PARISH@BIGPOND.COM

Next Session
18th Feb



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

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY HIGH TEA

Date: 8/3/2024 Friday

Time: 11:45am-3:30pm

Where: Highfields Cultural Centre, Highfields

Cost: \$85 [Trybooking to reserve your seat/table](#)

St Mary MacKillop Parish Highfields looks forward to hosting a Highfields Community International Women's Day High Tea event. Enjoy high tea while listening to inspiring local women as we celebrate together. Proceeds will be donated to a local women's centred charity and help support our local parish community.

LIVING LITURGY: BEING SENT OUT ON MISSION TO THE WORLD

Date: 13/3/24 Wednesday

Time: 7:00-8:45pm

Where: Hanly Room beside St Stephen's Cathedral, Brisbane

Cost: \$10 individual or \$8 for group of 5+ [Book tickets here.](#)

Lecture and discussion with Fr Richard Leonard, hosted by Liturgy Brisbane. Nourished by word and sacrament at our weekly Eucharist, the gathered community is sent out to live and proclaim our faith, hope and love in Christ. What does the world look like to which we are sent? What liturgy might enable us to reclaim a missionary energy that is hospitable, bold, inclusive and Catholic?

RETREAT: REFRESH YOUR FAITH

Date: 16 & 17/3/24 Saturday & Sunday

Where: Crows Nest TBA

All are invited to join a retreat organized by St Vincent de Paul which promises to be challenging, stimulating and contemporary. For more information call 0418 352 969 or email ada.boland@svdppqld.org.au

PODCAST: PRAYER IS LIFE

In a year that has been dedicated to prayer by Pope Francis, Majellan Media has launched a new podcast series titled *Prayer is Life* featuring Redemptorist priest Father David Hore CSsR. Topics will include new ways of praying; simplifying prayer; how God presents to us in our daily lives; the challenges of praying; God's need for our love; how do we know if we are praying properly and tips on how families can be more fully engaged in prayer.

The first 15-minute podcast titled, Introduction to Prayer, is now available at <https://majellan.media/prayer-is-life-podcast/> or on [Spotify](#) as well as Apple and other podcast outlets.

Engagements with Abrahamic Religions



Abrahamic Faiths Gathering

Date: Wednesday, 7th February 2024

Time: 5.45pm, followed by light dinner

Venue: Garden City Mosque,
217 West Street, Toowoomba Qld 4350

The evening will begin with a short presentation by each faith group on:
"Stewardship of Creation – as a person of faith what can I do for creation?"

- Mohammad Aminul Islam, Imam of Garden City Mosque.
- Ariel Heber, President and Community Liaison, Queensland Jewish Community Services Inc.
- Rev Dr Clive Ayre, Retired Uniting Church minister and author.

For further information please contact,

Eric Donges – Phone: 4637 2009 email: opaeric@gmail.com
or John Agnew – Phone: 4666 3225 email: agnewjj@yahoo.com.au

Organised by the Downs & Toowoomba Churches Together