

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, 5th May 2024 Sixth Sunday of Easter - Year B

First Reading

[Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48.](#)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the gentiles also.

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said, 'I am only a man after all!' Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said, 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.' While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 97:1-4. R. see v.2](#)

(R). The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

1. Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. (R.)

2. The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. (R.)

3. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. (R)

Second Reading

[1 John 4:7-10](#)

A reading from the first letter of St John

God is love..

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

Gospel Acclamation

[John 14:23](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!
All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

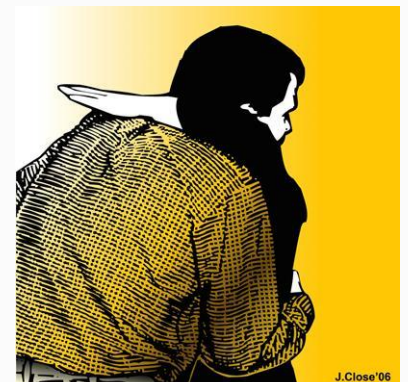
Gospel

[John 15:9-17](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you, I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another.'



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 afternoons in the quiet room at the church at 2pm.

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

The Last Supper Discourse

In the three synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke), the events of the Last Supper are dealt with in a very similar way. They all include Jesus taking bread and wine and speaking what are referred to as the words of institution – the words that are spoken over the bread and wine in every Eucharistic celebration today. In the Gospel of John, however, the Last Supper is dealt with very differently. It includes an extended 'discourse' that is incredibly rich in imagery and theological implications. Perhaps because this gospel was written well after the others it was deemed unnecessary to retell the story but it was timely to do some reflecting on the meaning of the events?

Sunday Reflection...

© Dianne Bergant CSA

The boundlessness of God's love is seen in the fact that God loved us even before we were deserving of God's love. In fact, it was God's love that made us able both to receive and to give love in return. Love is of God; love is God. Divine love is constant and trustworthy. How easily we can think this thought or speak these words, yet how difficult, even impossible, it is to comprehend what it means. We can only really recognise love in its many concrete manifestations. Love is patient, kind and forbearing; it believes, it hopes, it endures. The love of God breaks down the barriers between Gentile and Jew, between slave and free, between the poor and the prosperous, between women and men, between the healthy and the ailing, between young and old. Embraced by such love we are gradually transformed. We begin to recognise God's love in places we never suspected it would be found. We discover that what we once judged unclean may merely be an unfamiliar openness to God's truth. We discover that our own insistence on legitimate religious practice may really be spiritual elitism. Our eyes are opened to ways we have tried to confine God's love to the conventional boundaries we ourselves have set. As we are drawn into God's love, we eagerly embrace the commandments that help us to live righteous lives. To the extent that we love as universally as God does, we will know that we live in God and that God lives in us.



Have you thought? Love

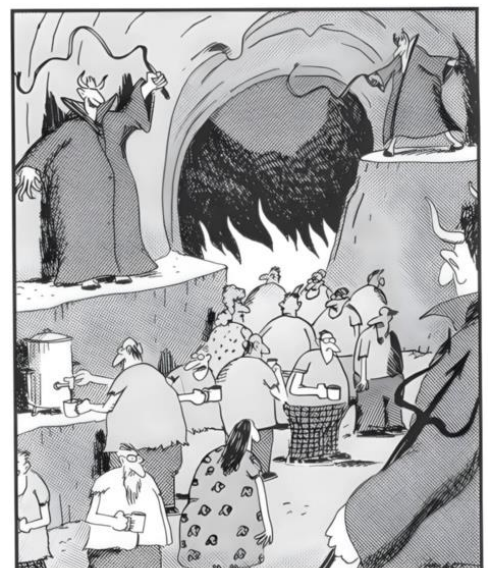
There is a wonderful line from the musical, *Les Miserables*, when the hero, Valjean, is told, "To love another person is to see the face of God." As Christian people, we believe that every person is created in the image and likeness of God. To look upon another person with love and compassion is to see the face of God revealed. When we are called to love, we are called to recognise that every single person is worthy of love and every single person is made in the image of God – even ourselves!

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Love One Another

Have you ever thought what it really means when Jesus commands us to love one another? At first, it seems like a simple commandment: I can love my family; my friends; I can even feel love for some people I've never met. But there was a condition that Jesus placed on the command: love one another as I have loved you. How did Jesus love? Without restriction and without seeking something in return. He loved those that no one loved and he even loved those who hated him and sought his downfall. Can I love those who hate me? Those that others ridicule and despise? Can I love without counting the cost?

Thought of the day.....



"Oh, man! The coffee's cold!
They thought of everything!"

Please Pray For...

Recent Deaths: Gus Plater, Anna Bazilio Ramalho

Anniversaries: Irene(Win) McDonnell, William Sims, Kevin McNamara, Eileen Josephine Davis, Frank Bernard Pemble-Smith, Fr William Murphy, Fr Brian Moran, Fr Vincent Maher, Msgr Patrick McMorrow

Those Who Are Sick: Bev Brown, 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, 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

April Birthdays: Libby Ferguson, John Trueman, Bernie Dever, Abigail School, Janice Moore, Brian Reardon, Marie Logan, Emily Dwan, Mark Whitelegg, Charlie School, Mary-Kate Thomson

Parish News...

Sat 4/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 4.45pm Reconciliation o 6.00pm Mass
Sun 5/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 9.30am Mass o 4.30pm JAM Session o 5.30pm Mass
Mon 6/5	o Labour Day (Office Closed)
Tue 7/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 10am Mass o 10.30am Prayer Group in Quiet Room
Wed 8/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 9.00am Anam Cara in the Presbytery o 10am Mass o 6.30pm SPRED
Thu 9/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 10am Mass o 10.30am Friendship & Craft Group in Quiet Room o 2pm St Vincent de Paul Meeting in the Quiet Room
Fri 10/5	o 10am School Mother's Day Mass in Hall. All welcome.

Date Claimers:

- 12th May – The Ascension of the Lord
- 12th May – Mother's Day
- 14th May – Glendale Villas Visitation
- 19th May – Pentecost Sunday
- 19th May – No JAM Session

Last Chance to Complete the "Celebrating Our Lady of Lourdes" Survey

Please don't forget to complete the survey forms which you will find on the end of the pews, by this weekend. We are seeking your assistance with identifying what it is that is important to everyone here at our church as we move forward through the years to come.

Washing Church Linen

Now that we have re-introduced the Precious Blood at Communion, we would really appreciate help to wash and iron the purifiers. We are looking for a group of people from each Mass time to share the load.



Please let the office staff know if you can help.

Parish Pastoral Council Elections Update

This year we had four parishioners accept their nomination to Parish Pastoral Council so there is no need for an election. We thank Peter Castles, Georgina Humphrys, Brandon Joseph and Clare Watson most sincerely for generously accepting their nominations and for their preparedness to serve the parish community. We acknowledge and thank Anna, Candice and Cristianne for their contribution over the last years.



Confirmation/First Communion Gifts

Looking for a gift for children making their sacraments? The piety stall has various items. Open before and after Masses or contact the office weekdays 9.00am-1.00pm.

* Cards * Frames * Rosary Beads * Chains * Bracelets
* Statues * Prayer Cards * Saints medallions etc

Letter from Bishop Ken Howell to the People of Toowoomba

Please click [here](#) to read a letter to the People of the Diocese of Toowoomba from Bishop Ken. A copy of this letter has also been put on the noticeboard.

Time	Altar Servers	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Ministers	I pad Operator	Piety Stall
11th May at 6pm	E Ward T Kelly	M Cushway G School	J Wilson	B Smith S Kelly	M & M Quinn	H. D Clark W. L Walsh W. N Doyle	Kelly Family	W Hoopert
12th May at 9.30am	E McLean L Anderson	P Town C Poulton	T Ryan	M McLean P Murphy	Watson Family	H. J Coman W. C Watson W. A Cournane	J Cash	M Webb
12th May at 5.30pm	E Obst H Beutel	Hickey Family	M Whitelegg	C Golightly A Jessen	Hickey Family	H. G Doherty W. J Axtell W. B Stark	K Langdale	S Whitelegg

Week Of Prayer for Christian Unity 12-19th May 2024

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in Australia will be observed in the week between Ascension and Pentecost. The theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2024 was chosen by a working group from Burkina Faso.

"You shall love the Lord your God ...and your neighbour as yourself..." (Luke 10:27)

The specific context of Burkina Faso (*Christian unity in the service of wider peace and reconciliation*) reflects the need to place love at the centre of the quest for peace and reconciliation. This search has often been undermined by the loss of values and of a shared sense of humanity and by a diminished concern for the common good, probity, integrity and patriotism. The search for reconciliation has also been weakened by spiritual impoverishment and by the pursuit of easy gains. Faced with these realities, the imperative to witness to the love of God is all the more pressing.

All are warmly welcome to the following local prayer services.

St Theresa's Parish
55 Curzon St, East Toowoomba
Monday, 13th May at 9am

St Anthony's Parish
3 Memory St Harristown
Tuesday, 14th May at 7pm



"Good Samaritan in Tibet" Artist: Frank Wesley (1923-2002)©

Winter Shelter needs your support!

Winter and Winter Shelter is just around the corner! Our parish will be involved with other Toowoomba churches again this year in providing accommodation for the homeless during our winter months. The next training session will be held on Saturday 18th May from 1pm – 4pm at the Rangeville Community Church.

For more information about opportunities for volunteering and training, please click [here](#) or contact Jo Johnston (0418733615) or Ray Johnston (0418730908).

Winter Shelter Toowoomba provides more than just a place to stay. It is about providing hope, dignity and community for those experiencing homelessness.

"Together we can provide warmth, shelter and food for those who need help".



Pope's Monthly Intention for May

For the Formation of Men and Women Religious, and Seminarians.

Let us pray that men and women religious, and seminarians, grow in their own vocational journey through human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, that leads them to be credible witnesses of the Gospel.

Please click [here](#) to watch the Pope's Video for May where he reminds us that beginning in the seminary or novitiate, their preparation must develop integrally in direct contact with the lives of other people. He insists that "every vocation is a 'diamond in the rough' that needs to be polished, worked, shaped on every side."

E NEWS UPDATE

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

FUNERAL: BISHOP PETER INGHAM

A SOLEMN PONTIFICAL MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL for Bishop Peter will be offered on Friday 10 May 2024, commencing at 10:30am. The funeral will be livestreamed at <https://dow.sh/livestream>

TOOWOOMBA MAYORAL PRAYER BREAKFAST

Date: 14/5/24 Tuesday **Time:** 6:00am

Where: Rumours International, Ruthven St Tmba

Cost: \$27 Adults, \$17 school-aged children [book tickets thru](#)

[TryBooking](#) This year's Toowoomba Mayoral Prayer Breakfast guest speaker is global sports chaplain Cameron Butler from Melbourne. [Find out more about the event here.](#)

REUNION: ST SAVIOUR'S COLLEGE PAST PUPILS NIGHT AT THE RACES

Date: 31/8/24 Saturday **Time:** 5:00pm

Where: Toowoomba Turf Club

Preceded by a tour of the college at 3:00pm

Cost: \$49pp [Book tickets at TryBooking](#)

Gather your friends for an unforgettable night of excitement, elegance, and camaraderie! The celebration will focus on the reunion years of 1974, 1984, 1994, 2004, and 2014. However, the entire St Saviour's College community is welcome to attend.

ORANGE SKY LAUNDRY

Orange Sky Australia, a non-profit most commonly known for its support of those in our communities experiencing hardship by providing access to clean laundry and showers, is looking for volunteers. They are creating a new shift concept called Pick Up Drop Off, which involves supporting families currently staying in crisis accommodation without access to adequate laundry facilities. Shifts are split into two groups: one team takes the washing to a nearby laundromat, and the second team remains at the accommodation to connect with the residents. If you are available across the wider Toowoomba area any day Monday to Wednesday, 4:30pm - 7pm. To find out more please email megan.collins@orangesky.org.au.

NATSICC PALLIATIVE CARE PACKAGES

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) prepare Palliative Care packages for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in end-of-life care. Packages are sent out to Palliative Care providers across Australia - visit www.natsicc.org.au/palliative-care-packages.html for more information and to find out how you could help.

CARITAS: WIN FIRST NATIONS ARTWORK

Caritas Australia is celebrating its 60th anniversary with the launch of a limited-edition commemoration book *60 Faces: Portraits of Compassion in Action*. The book features stunning portraits of participants in programs across Australia and overseas and is now available for [pre-order](#). The book is supported by a virtual exhibition, where supporters can vote for their favourite portrait and enter the draw to win an artwork from Caritas Australia's First Nations program partner Djilpin Arts. The photo competition* can be entered online [here](#). 20 of the commemoration books, *60 Faces: Portraits of Compassion in Action*, are also available as runner-up prizes.

St Saviour's College – Upcoming Events

YEAR 7 2025 SCHOLARSHIPS

Expressions of Interest close Friday, 3 May 2024

PRINCIPAL'S TOUR

Wednesday, 8 May 2024

MERCY GIRL FOR A MORNING

Friday, 24 May 2024 – 8.30am to 11.00am

Register for any of these events online:

www.ssctwb.catholic.edu.au

