

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, 16th June 2024 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

First Reading

[Ezekiel 17:22-24](#)

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

I have made the small tree great.

The Lord says this:

'From the top of the cedar, from the highest branch I will take a shoot and plant it myself on a very high mountain. I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel. It will sprout branches and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Every kind of bird will live beneath it, every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches. And every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am the one who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow, who withers green trees and makes the withered green. I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.'

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 91:2-3, 13-16. R. see v.2](#)

(R). Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night. (R.)

2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar. (R.)

3. Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God, still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the Lord is just. In him, my rock, there is no wrong. (R)

Second Reading

[2 Corinthians 5:6-10](#)

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

Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing the Lord.

We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!



Gospel

[Mark 4:26-34](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The mustard seed, the smallest of all the seeds, grows into the biggest shrub of all.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

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/>

GOSPEL FOCUS

The Kingdom of God

The references to the kingdom of God in the gospels always carry a paradox. It exists in the present, yet is something to be achieved in the future. It is here, but not yet. If we live 'as if' we are living in the kingdom here and now then we hasten its coming. The kingdom of God is not a place but a way in which the world operates. It is a kingdom that is ruled by justice and gives precedence to those who are regarded as nothing in the world. It is a kingdom of promise and hope that inspires and calls all people to more than they currently are.

Sunday Reflection...

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The readings today remind us that poetic imagery is an apt way of describing the mysterious presence of God in our midst. The cedar began as a seedling that takes years to grow into a magnificent tree. The same is true of the mustard tree. It too requires time to develop its trunk and branches. The development of moral integrity in a human being is just as gradual. Rooted in God, it flourishes in God's presence and it produces fruit even into old age. Although God is present in all things, sustaining them and allowing them to follow their natural courses, God really transcends all things. Metaphorical language may be the best means for speaking about God and the things of God. It enables us to live in the tension that both reveals something about God and conceals God's real nature.

The reign of God also begins in very ordinary circumstances, and it matures gradually until it has spread itself far and wide. Although the mystery of the reign of God unfolds within human history, we need eyes of faith to recognise it. Like the cedar and the mustard seed, it grows within the concreteness of human experience. Just as the life force that thrusts the branches of the trees further and further out cannot itself be seen, so the reign of God is mysterious, even incomprehensible. Still, it is there, inviting us, urging us to move forward, transforming our world.

SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

Kingdom Parables

Jesus sought to describe the kingdom of God by comparison and analogy – “The kingdom of God is like ...”; “To what can we compare the kingdom of God?” He never gave a lecture about the kingdom, rather, he painted a picture in terms that were readily recognised by his audience but forced them to think differently about the image he used. It forced them to think about themselves and their world in a different way. Kingdom parables begin innocently enough with a familiar image but very quickly shift to a challenge about the way we normally perceive things. The kingdom is often portrayed as a contradiction.

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Seed on the land

The first parable in the gospel passage describes the unerring work of the kingdom. It is like the seed that almost magically transforms into a fully grown plant that may be harvested – apparently without any external forces. Of course, we know that plants need to be fed, watered, weeded and nurtured to ensure their proper growth. However, the kingdom of God works in our lives in a similar way – if we feed and nurture it, the kingdom will produce a great harvest. Even if we don't pay it attention, the kingdom is present and acting in our world.

Thought of the day.....



Please Pray For...

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: Alice Fleming, Gerardine Borger, Vida Morrison, Annie Willett, Lillian (Mac) O’Neill, Francis “Frosty” O’Neill, Michael McKenzie, Robert Butler, Ronald Hohn, Mary Elson-Green, Pat Axtell, John Irving, Fr John Sinnott

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, 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, Peggy Thies, John Axtell, Noel O’Mara, Mick O’Mara, Patrick Wright

June Birthdays: Cassie Soriano, Ben Saunders, Helen McQuillan, June Burke, Joyce Smith, Sr Nancy Doyle, Kevin Boland, Jose Dias, Margaret Graham, Gen Schoorl, Agnes Hale, Patrick Kelly, Trish Shepherd, Rosie Glassey, Clare Ferguson

Parish News...

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|-------------|--|
| Sat 15/6 | o 4.45pm Reconciliation o 6.00pm Mass |
| Sun 16/6 | o 9.30am Mass – NO CHILDREN’S LITURGY o 4.30pm JAM Session o 5.30pm Mass |
| Mon 17/6 | o BUPA Visitation |
| Tue 18/6 | o 10am Mass o 10.30am Prayer Group in Quiet Room |
| Wed 19/6 | o 9am Anam Cara in the Presbytery o 10am Mass o 6.30pm SPRED |
| Thu 20/6 | o 10am Mass o 10.30am Friendship & Craft Group in Quiet Room |
| Fri 21/6 | |

Date Claimers:

- 16th June – SVdP Commissioning 9.30am Mass
- 24th June – Nativity of John the Baptist
- 29th June – Saints Peter and Paul
- 16th June – 4.30pm JAM Session in the church.
- 6th/7th July – ATSI Sunday
- 27th July – Peter Kearney Concert 4pm. Dinner to follow

Parish Planned Giving – Last Chance

Please remember to complete a Planned Giving form before the 16th June. This is especially important if you currently use envelopes and wish to continue. Your regular support of our Planned Giving Program helps us plan and budget for everyday expenses, repairs and maintenance of our parish facilities and meet our Diocesan and Parish commitments. Click [here](#) to access the Online Form or **paper copies are available at the back of the church.** Thank you for your support of the parish.

SVDP Commissioning & Morning Tea

This Sunday 16th June at the 9.30am Mass the newest members of St Vincent de Paul will be inducted into the Society and current members will renew their commitment to carrying out their mission as Vincentians. We warmly welcome Aileen, Eileen, Jenny, Madonna and Mary to the Our Lady of Lourdes SVdP Conference. Their work in the Society is one of the ways they give expression to their baptismal call to bring the love of Christ to others and to proclaim the Good News of Jesus to those who are poor and suffering.

Please join them at Mass and ask our Gracious God to keep their hearts on fire with enthusiasm, their spirits determined with perseverance and their bodies strengthened with energy to do God’s will in the spirit of St. Vincent de Paul and Blessed Frederic Ozanam. **Morning tea will be served after Mass.**



Mass Ministries and Parish Groups

Each and every one of us has been graced with different gifts and whatever your gift, there is a place for it within our Parish Community. It could be helping to make the Mass a special celebration or your involvement in one of our many Parish Groups.

In the lead up to our annual Flick & Tick on the 17th & 18th August, each week we will be highlighting the ministries and groups in the Parish. Flick & Tick is your opportunity to indicate your interest in Mass Ministries and Parish Groups and we encourage you to consider ways you can use your gifts to support our Parish. Next week we will highlight the Mass Ministry options available for the Celebration of the Mass Part 1.

| Time | Altar Servers | Welcomers | Commentary | Ministers of the Word | Offertory Procession | Extraordinary Ministers | I pad Operator | Piety Stall |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--|----------------|-------------|
| 22nd June at 6pm | E Ward T Kelly | P & J O’Sullivan | C Ferguson | J Wilson S Kelly | M & M Quinn | H. D Clark W. J Kelly W. R O’Brien | M Cushway | W Hoopert |
| 23rd June at 9.30am | E McLean L Anderson | Dias Family | J Anderson | J Bonell J Coman | Poulton Family | H. Cristianne Dias W. A Cournane W. C Watson | T Ryan | A Suhr |
| 23rd June at 5.30pm | H Ryan E Haylock | J & C Sullivan | T Haylock | Desley Salty J Beutel | A Brown C Brown | H. A Beeston W. C Golightly W. J Sullivan | Daniel Salty | S Whitelegg |

St Anthony of Padua Feast Day 13th June

St Anthony is venerated all over the world as the Patron Saint for lost articles, and is credited with many miracles involving lost people, lost things and even lost spiritual goods. He was only 36-years-old when he died and was canonized less than one year afterward by Pope Gregory IX. Upon exhumation, some 336 years after his death, his body was found to be corrupted, yet his tongue was totally incorrupt, so perfect were the teachings that had been formed upon it. Click [here](#) to learn more about St Anthony.



SIGNS OF HOPE—PEOPLE OF FAITH

A Concert-Reflection with Peter Kearney



Hosted by Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

Saturday 27th July, 4.00-5.00pm

Followed by 6.00pm Mass

Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Newtown

Donations welcome

Soup provided between concert and Mass.

RSVP to olol.pariah@bigpond.com for catering purposes

Peter Kearney is an Australian Catholic songwriter/singer and guitarist. His hymns and songs, published in fifteen albums, include 'Fill My House', 'The Beatitudes' and 'Where is Your Song my Lord?'. His concert weaves songs, stories and reflections about people whose faithful lives have brought compassion and hope into our world. Mainly for adults though older students could also enjoy.

Peter's CDs and music will be available.



New Pilgrim Path - Online Spiritual Resources

Are you looking for rich, varied and stimulating online spiritual resources. New Pilgrim Path is a not for profit website founded seven years ago in Ireland, inspired by Pope Francis's enthusiasm for the Internet as a force for good. It has grown from small beginnings to attract visitors from across the world. Find out more [here](#).

Mass in the Maronite Way

Fr Fadi Salami will be celebrating Mass in the Maronite Rite at St Anthony's Church, 3 Memory Street at 11.00am on Sunday 16th June. All parishioners are invited to attend.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for June

For those fleeing their own countries

Let us pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys fraught with danger and violence, may find welcome and new living opportunities in their host countries.

ENEWS UPDATE

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

REFUGEE WEEK 2024

Date: 16-22/6/24

For more information and resources for Refugee Week visit www.refugeeweek.org.au

MOVIE SCREENING: THE OLD OAK

Date: 15/6/24 Saturday

Time: 2:00pm

Where: Churches of Christ Auditorium, Dragon Street Warwick

The Southern Downs Refugee and Migrant Network is hosting a special screening of Ken Loach's film 'The Old Oak' to start Refugee Week. The film depicts the struggles of Syrian refugees in a declining coal mining town in northeast England and doesn't shy away from portraying the harsh realities faced by both refugees and the local community. Rated MA15+ Attendees are invited to stay for an afternoon tea. Entrance to the event is by donation, with all proceeds going to support refugee and asylum seeker groups. For further information, please contact Sue Frances at 0474 342 995.

MOVIE SCREENING: LIMBO

Date: 20/6/24 Thursday

Time: 7:00pm

Where: St James Anglican Parish Hall, Cnr Mort and Russell St Tmba

Presented by St James Anglican Parish and Amnesty International Toowoomba Group, 'Limbo' is a wry and poignant observation of the refugee experience. Set on a fictional Scottish island, a group of new arrivals awaits the results of their asylum claim. Screening followed by discussion and light refreshments. [See flyer for details.](#)

ACBC MEDIABLOG PODCAST

The MediaBlog Podcast is a project of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. The podcast examines and explores important issues within the Catholic Church. [Click here to listen to the latest episode on Spotify.](#)

JUMPERS AND JAZZ IN JULY FESTIVAL WARWICK

Date: 18-28/7/24

If you visit Warwick for the Jumpers and Jazz in July Festival, make sure you make St Mary's Church a stop on your tour. The church will be yarnbombed! There will also be Jazz Masses (Saturday 20th July 5:00pm & Sunday 28th July 8:30am), Morning Teas in Assisi Place (Saturday 20th July - Saturday 27th July 9:30am - 12:00pm and Church Tours everyday 9:30am -4:30pm.

WEBINAR: PLANTING THE FUTURE - INNOVATION IN CHURCH LIFE

Date: 27/6/24 Thursday

Time: 11:00am

Where: Online, [register here.](#)

NCLS Research is pleased to invite you to a [free webinar](#) to hear the latest findings on innovation in church life. Join us for an engaging webinar where we delve into the latest research on local churches' readiness to innovate, and provide a 2024 snapshot of church planting activities based on the New Churches research project. This session will also feature insightful stories from guest practitioners who will share their first hand experiences and valuable learnings.

Tota Pulchra Es Maria: You are all beautiful!

Presented by the Community of the Sons and Daughters of God saintaugustinecfd@gmail.com

Monday 1st July – 11am and 7pm 12noon Mass followed

by a cup of tea. Sacred Heart Parish, 302 North Street, Wilsonton, Toowoomba

"The way of beauty is a privileged way to God and one that would be especially effective in contemporary culture. The talk will discuss Aquinas' aesthetics, or theory of beauty, and show how it culminates in the figure of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the woman who is all beautiful."