

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, 25th August 2024

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

First Reading

[Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18](#)

A reading from the book of Joshua

We will serve the Lord God, because he is our God.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.' The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 33:2-3, 10-15. R. v.9](#)

(R). Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. (R)

2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth. The Lord turns his eyes to the just and his ears to their appeal.

(R)

3. They call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save. (R)

4. Many are the trials of the just man but from them all the Lord will rescue him. He will keep guard over all his bones, not one of his bones shall be broken (R)

5. Evil brings death to the wicked; those who hate the good are doomed. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. (R)

Second Reading

[Ephesians 5:21-32](#)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

This is the great mystery, it applies to Christ and the Church.

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love

himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

Gospel

[John 6:60-69](#)

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Lord, whom shall we go to? You have the words of everlasting life.

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before? 'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. 'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him. Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

Next Week's Readings (31st Aug/1st Sept 2024) – 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

1st Reading: [Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8](#)

2nd Reading: [James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27](#)

Gospel: [Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23](#)

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 Tuesday of the month at 10.30am in the Presbytery.

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

Jo Johnston, Ray Johnston, Bernadette Witham, Emma Dever, Melissa McLean, Julie Whittaker, Peter Castles, Georgina Humphrys, Brandon Joesph, Clare Watson

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, Jo and Ray Johnston (**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/>

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Christians and Jews

The first followers of Jesus and those who became followers in the years after the death of Jesus were faithful Jews. They saw the teachings of Jesus as a way of being a better Jew. They didn't think that they were beginning a new religion; just a new way of interpreting their faith. However, as the years passed and the followers of Jesus began to clarify their understandings and beliefs, it started to become obvious that their belief in Jesus as the Son of God was distancing them from their Jewish brothers and sisters. Gradually the term, Christian, came into use and their differences from Judaism became more apparent.

Sunday Reflection...

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The decisions called for in today's readings are life decisions. The people at the time of Joshua had to decide which god they would worship. The disciples of Jesus had to decide if he was the one who would fulfill their messianic expectations. We have life decisions to make as well. How will we choose?

The choices we make determine the character of our union with God. God called us out of the slavery of sin and protected us throughout the journey of our lives. Jesus walked with us through the challenges of life and performed wonders for us. Why should we look elsewhere? Because we face new challenges. The new demands placed on us may be so great, or the commitment required of us may be so demanding that we feel that we can no longer walk with him. The church may be changing in ways we do not appreciate, or it may not be changing in the ways we believe it should, and so we may feel that we can walk with him no longer.

If we decide to commit ourselves, we will enter into a union with God that is deeper than anything we have previously known. However, this union will be based on faith. We may understand no more than we did in the past, things may be no more to our liking. But, 'to whom shall we go?' Jesus is God's holy one; he has the words of eternal life.

GOSPEL FOCUS

Peter's faith

Having laid out a fairly difficult teaching to the crowd, Jesus is faced with the fact that many of those who were following him couldn't cope with what he was saying and they walked away from him. Jesus turns on the Twelve and demands of them, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' One can almost hear the frustration and weariness in his voice. Peter's response must have been a great relief to Jesus. Peter declares that Jesus has the message of eternal life and is the Holy One of God. He still hasn't quite got the full picture but it's something Jesus can continue to work with!

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Message and Medium

We live in a world that is saturated by advertising and marketers trying to persuade us to think certain things, want certain things and even act in certain ways. At times the message and the medium of the message blur and it's not always clear where one stops and the other begins. For Christian people the medium – the person – IS the message (or at least should be!). We are called to live what we believe. That can be tough at times, especially in our modern world, but the challenge comes from the example Jesus gave.

Thought of the day.....

Three years ago my doctor
told me I was going deaf.

I haven't heard
from him since.

FUNNY JOKES - WWW.PUN.JME

Please Pray For...

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: Addie Russell, Keith Miller, Francis Brady, Tony Raymond, Cyril Burns, Col Axtell, Tom Rice, Patrick Hayes, Cath Reardon, Sr Francis Flint, Dulcie Whittaker, Greg Stumer, Joan Shearer, Andrew Frattin, Len Morris, Vince Gainey, Rev Fr Charles McDonald, Rev Msgr Patrick Doyle, Rev Fr Bryan Nolan, Rev Msgr Stanley Skehan.

Those Who Are Sick: Van Vu, 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, Frank Kenneally, Carmel & Ron O'Brien, Lillian Roberts, Brian Thomson, Peggy Thies, John Axtell, Noel O'Mara, Mick O'Mara, Patrick Wright

August Birthdays: Maria Morcom, Ashley Coonan, Sr Mary Cleary, Joan MacGinley, Terry McGovern, Ros Coonan, Pat O'Sullivan, Abbie Jones, Simon Ferguson, Sarah Kelly, Carlos De Silva

Parish News...

Sat 24/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 9.30am Ecumenism Group Meeting o 4.45pm Reconciliation o 6.00pm Mass
Sun 25/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 9.30am Mass including Children's Liturgy and Parish Council Commissioning o 10.30am Sacrament of Reconciliation Workshop 3 o 5.30pm Mass
Mon 26/8	
Tue 27/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 10am Mass o 10.30am Prayer Group in Quiet Room o 10.30am Liturgy Group Meeting in Presbytery
Wed 28/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 9am Anam Cara in the Presbytery o 10am Mass
Thu 29/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 10am Father's Day Mass School Hall o 10.30am Friendship & Craft Group in Quiet Room
Fri 30/8	

Date Claimers

29th August – 10am Father's Day Mass in School Hall
 31st August/1st September – Father's Day and Retired Priests Appeal Weekend
 1st September – Mary of the Southern Cross Feast
 3rd September – First Reconciliation 7pm
 7th/8th September – Safeguarding Sunday

Little Books for Advent and Lent

If you would like to order a Little Book for Advent 2024 or Lent 2025, please advise the office before next Friday, 30th August as orders need to be placed for both seasons at once. Cost of books is approximately \$4 each.

Invitation to All Parishioners

Fr Kerry Costigan wishes to invite all Our Lady of Lourdes Parishioners to a special non-concelebrated Mass of Thanksgiving at 9.30am on Sunday 6th October in the Oakey Cultural Centre to celebrate his 60 years of ministry as priest and deacon. Light refreshments will be served after Mass so for catering purposes, please indicate your intentions by ringing Fr Costigan on 4634 1102 or the parish office before Friday 20th September. More details are available via the flyer on the parish noticeboard. Depending on numbers, there is a possibility of a bus being provided, without charge, to cater for people with mobility problems. If you would be interested in this service, please contact the parish office at your earliest convenience.

Order Now for Next Year's Publications

If you would like to order any of the following publications for next year, please indicate your interest on the sheets at the back of the church.

- God's Word 2025 Daily Reflection Books
- Daily Mass Book 2025
- Ordo 2025

Flick and Tick

Please remember to complete the [Flick and Tick Form](#) at your earliest convenience. Paper copies are also available at the back of the church. Click here for the [Guide to Parish Ministry](#). St Mary of the Cross MacKillop says "God loves generous souls. Let us try to be the generous ones".

Fr Quinlan's Holidays

Fr Quinlan will be taking a well-earned break from Monday 2nd Sep through to Friday 27th Sep. We welcome Fr Costigan to our parish to celebrate Mass with us on Wednesdays and over the weekends. A Liturgy of the Word will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Time	Altar Servers	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Ministers	I pad Operator	Piety Stall
31st Aug at 6pm	E Ward L Ward G Hoopert	Hoopert Family	J Soriano	C Ferguson R O'Brien	M & J Wells	H. B Witham W. N Doyle W. S Kelly	Kelly Family	D Clark
1st Sept at 9.30am	S Dias J Dias	T Ryan A Suhr	J Coman	A Cournane M Conrick	Poulton Family	H. C Anderson W. A Cournane W. C Watson	A Winder	R Coonan
1st Sept at 5.30pm		Hickey Family	M Whitelegg	R Johnston J Johnston	A Brown C Brown	H. G Doherty W. J Sullivan W. J Axtell	D Salty	V Barker

Social Justice Sunday

This weekend we celebrate Social Justice Sunday. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference have released their social justice statement for 2024/2025 entitled "Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World" which addresses the urgent need for peace from a Gospel perspective. Please click [here](#) to read the complete Statement or click [here](#) for a One Page Summary. A copy is available on the noticeboard at the back of the church.

Prayer

Adapted from Pope Francis' Fratelli Tutti

O God, Trinity of love,
from the profound communion of your divine life,
pour out upon us a torrent of sisterly and brotherly love.
Grant us the love reflected in the actions of Jesus,
in his family of Nazareth,
and in the early Christian community.
Grant that we Christians may live the Gospel,
discovering Christ in each human being,
recognising him crucified
in the sufferings of the abandoned
and forgotten of our world,
and risen in each sister or brother
who makes a new start.
Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty,
reflected in all the peoples of the earth,
so that we may discover anew
that all are important and all are necessary,
different faces of the one humanity
that God so loves.
AMEN.



Catholic Mission Information Session

Save The Date Mission Ambassador Training 2024

Do you want to know more about Catholic Mission and the impact and presence you can make in your home parish.

Come join us as we invite you to support this life-giving work in Mongolia.

Date: Saturday - 31st Aug 2024
Time: 9.45 AM to 12.00 PM
(morning tea provided)

Conference Room
St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Centre
123 Neil St, Toowoomba City

RSVP: Wed 21st August 2024
Email: brisbane.admin@catholicmission.org.au

ENEWS UPDATE

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

DIOCESAN FEAST DAY: MARY OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS

Date: 1/9/24 Sunday

Time: 9:00am

Where: St Patrick's Cathedral Tmba

Bishop Ken Howell will be celebrating Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral to mark the diocese's Patronal Feast Day. All are welcome to attend or watch via [livestream](#). All are welcome to morning tea after Mass.

Reminder: The diocese has sponsored the episode of [Mass for You at Home](#) that will air on 1 September. You can view it online or tune in to Channel 10 at 6:00am. Thank you to the team at Diocese of Wollongong who do a great job filming these beautiful celebrations.

BATTLE OF MEEWAH COMMEMORATION

Date: 12/9/24 Thursday

Time: 12:00pm - 2:00pm

Where: Tobruk Memorial Drive, Toowoomba

The Battle of Meewah was part of the frontier wars, the battle for land that took place across our vast continent. It was significant because it demonstrated great courage and valour as well as diplomacy. This annual event commemorates this historically significant story of shared history. It is a story led by a love of land and people whilst also honouring one of the many forgotten or untold stories of valiant First Nations resistances.

[Visit the website to find out more.](#)

[Newsletter insert/flyer 1](#) and [newsletter insert/flyer 2](#)

ALPHA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE: EVERY GENERATION

Date: 8 & 9/11/24 Friday & Saturday

Where: Cathedral Hall, ACU Melbourne Campus

Cost: \$150 pp

'Every Generation' is a two-day national Catholic Conference hosted by Alpha Australia that seeks to equip and empower Church leaders to explore Alpha as a catalyst for intergenerational renewal. This conference is for Alpha leaders, Alpha teams, Parish and Diocesan leaders, educators and youth leaders. [Visit the conference website to find out more and register.](#)

Retired Priests' Appeal next weekend

The Priests Retirement Foundation (PRF) was established in 1998 as a way of supporting ageing and sick priests as they move from active service in parishes. Priests see people at their weakest, in infancy, sickness, depression, and death. Our priests, too, suffer from these natural human weaknesses.

Supporting the PRF financially is an opportunity to remember all those now retired, perhaps sick, who have sacrificed so much and who now need our support.

You can [donate now online via secure payment](#) or by using the envelopes provided at the back of the church. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.



THE
PRIESTS
RETIREMENT
FOUNDATION

Caring for those who care
ESTD 1998