

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, 2nd February 2025 The Presentation of the Lord – Year C

First Reading

[Malachi 3:1-4](#)

A reading from the prophet Malachi
The Lord whom you seek will come to his temple.

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 23:7-10. R. v.10](#)

(R.) Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

1. O gates, lift up your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)

2. Who is the king of glory?
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,
the Lord, the valiant in war. (R.)

3. O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory!
(R.)

4. Who is he, the king of glory?
He, the Lord of armies,
he is the king of glory. (R.)

Second Reading

[Hebrews 2:14-18](#)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews
He had to be made like us in all things.

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

Gospel

[Luke 2:22-40](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

My eyes have seen your saving power.

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's

and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God, and he said: 'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.' As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.' There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem. When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

Next Week's Readings (8th/9th February 2025) – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

1st Reading: [Isaiah 6:1-8](#) 2nd Reading: [1 Corinthians 15:1-11](#) Gospel: [Luke 5:1-11](#)

Parish Activities

ANAM CARA – Wednesday 9.00am in the Presbytery

BAPTISM information mornings are held on the 1st Sunday 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.

FRIENDSHIP & CRAFT 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. If you have any concerns about the safety of children, young people and adults at risk please contact our Parish Safeguarding Representatives, Sue Whitelegg or Jo and Ray Johnston on **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

Service in the Temple

The ritual of the redemption of the first-born son originates in Exodus 13:2 where God claimed the first-born sons of Israel as God's own. These sons were to be sanctified for service in the Temple. However, this service was taken away from the first-born sons of every tribe and reserved exclusively for the sons of the tribe of Levi and the descendants of Aaron, the high-priest. It is from this tradition that we encounter the 'Levites' in the gospel accounts. The Levites were involved in various ministries in the Temple: assisting the priests; musicians; and slaughtering sacrifices.

Sunday Reflection...

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Traditionally this is the fortieth day of Christmas. Though the Christmas season closed with the Epiphany, the Presentation brings us back to some of the Christmas themes. The feast is on the edge, a kind of hinge between the seasons of Christmas and Lent. The temple is not merely a building where believers gather to worship God. It is sacred because it is the dwelling place of God on earth. Therefore, the coming of God to the temple was always a time of great anticipation and excitement. It promised blessing and rejoicing.

The first reading declares that God will come to the temple in might and power. This coming will be terrifying. The sacred precincts have been desecrated and so God will come to purify it with fire and lye. This picture of purification is modified by the reading from the Letter to the Hebrews where we see that the purging and refinement are accomplished in the self-sacrifice of Christ. It took the eyes of the old man and the faith of an old woman to recognise that the Lord had indeed come into the temple. Ritually, it was the child who was redeemed. In fact, it is the world that will be redeemed by this child. He is the light that shines in the darkness of the world; he will enlighten all people, Jew and Gentile alike. This feast shares the theme of universality so prominent on the feast of the Epiphany. The king of glory opens the portals for the entire universe to enter.



Have you thought?

The role of the Observer

In today's gospel passage, it is the devout Simeon and the prophetess, Anna, who declare the greatness and far-reaching influence of the child that has been brought to the Temple. This is a common feature of the gospel accounts. It is not Jesus himself who proclaims his greatness but those who have observed him and recognised the revelation of God's presence amongst the people. It is a role that continues today. Those of us who believe and recognise the presence and influence of God in the world are challenged to proclaim it in both our actions and our words.

GOSPEL FOCUS

A Sword

Simeon's second pronouncement about Jesus is addressed to the child's mother, Mary. Having predicted the rejection that Jesus will endure, Simeon tells Mary, 'and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' He appears to be referring to the sacrifice that Mary will have to make in the future. On this day, Mary and Joseph have 'redeemed' their son from service to the Lord in the Temple. Despite this, Jesus is still destined for service to God and Mary will have to surrender him back to the Lord. Simeon suggests that Mary herself will be a sacrifice offered to God at this time.

Thought of the week...



THIS POOR CREATURE HIT AN ICEBERG. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT REMAINS TO BE SEEN.
LETTUCE PRAY...

Please Pray For...

Recent Deaths: Kathleen Mahoney

Anniversaries: Paula Ruhle, Maria Murphy, Stephen Kruger, Mary Madden, Mary Nicholson, James Corkin, Francis (Frank) Williamson, Stanley McKenzie, Kenneth Edward (Ted) Shultz, Luke de Winter, David Ross Smith, Ian McQuillan, Margaret Morris, Patricia Booshard, Mary Dwyer, Peter Dowton, Yvonne Adamson, Fr Howard Crowe, Msgr Michael Potter, A/Deacon Robert O'Shea,

Those Who Are Sick: Peter Hickey, Kathie Ober, Brian Reardon, Jan Sullivan, Van Vu, Eileen Reedy, Kevin Arnott, Carmel Green, Jasmine Fletcher, Margaret Conrick, Hazel Soriano, Tim & Olivia Zvirblis, Audrey Bentley, Yvonne Oliveiro, Gregory and Genia Casey, Noel Lipp, Michael (Micky) Lynch, Carmel & Ron O'Brien, Lillian Roberts, Brian Thomson, Peggy Thies, John Axtell, Noel O'Mara, Mick O'Mara, Patrick Wright

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

Parish News...

Sat 1/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o No Individual Reconciliation o 6pm Mass
Sun 2/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 9.30am Mass o 10.30am Baptism Preparation o 5.30pm Mass
Mon 3/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 6.30pm Parish Council Meeting in the Presbytery Meeting Room
Tue 4/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Mass/Liturgy of the Word 10am o 10.30am Prayer Group in the Quiet Room
Wed 5/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 9am Anam Cara in the Presbytery o Mass/Liturgy of the Word 10am o 6.30pm SPRED in the Church
Thu 6/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Mass/Liturgy of the Word 10am o Craft Group 10.30am in the Quiet Room
Fri 7/2	

Date Claimers

- o 8th Feb – **NO 6PM Mass**
- o 9th Feb – Farewell and Welcome combined Parish Morning Tea following the 9.30am Mass. **No 5.30pm Mass**
- o 11th Feb – OLOL Feast Day Mass in School Hall 10am
- o 23rd Feb – Workshop 1 Sacraments of Confirmation and Communion

Changes to weekday Mass/Liturgy of the Word (LOW)

From Monday 10th February, Mass/LOW will be offered every Thursday at 10am. The Parish Pastoral Council is seeking your opinion as to what other arrangements you would like considered. Please contact the Parish Office on 4634 1453 if you have any suggestions or comments.

Changes to Mass Times

Just a reminder that from 15th/16th February, the new Mass times will apply. Saturday evening Vigil Mass is 6.30pm, Sunday Morning Mass is 9.45am and Weekday Mass will be held on a Thursday only at 10am. There will be no Mass held on a Sunday evening.

Time	Altar Servers	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Ministers	l pad Operator	Piety Stall
8th Feb at 6pm			NO MASS	THIS	WEEKEND			
9th Feb at 9.30am	E Young	Poulton Family	P Murphy	C Rawlinson K Kruger	Watson Family	H. J Coman W. C Watson W. A Cournane	M Conrick	R Coonan
9th Feb at 5.30pm			NO MASS	THIS	WEEKEND			

Word of God Sunday

The Catholic Church in Australia celebrates Word of God Sunday on the first Sunday in February. The Sacred Scriptures are not just a series of stories or historical narratives and biographies. They have a specific authority. They are inspired directly from God. They are not like other books that gather dust on a bookshelf but are living documents that inform every aspect our lives. We pray that our Church will continue to respond to the Word of God, as we continue to be missionary disciples of Christ. May we continue to listen to the Scriptures when they are proclaimed, and may God's word fall on good soil that will lead to a fruitful harvest.



The Catholic agency for international aid and development

Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal

We urgently need your support. The ceasefire means more aid can assist people in Gaza, but the need is immense and the recovery long. Gaza's people cannot recover alone. They need the support of the global community to survive and rebuild.

Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal. Online www.caritas.org.au/gaza or phone 1800 024 413



GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

A ceasefire means more aid can assist people affected in Gaza. Your support is urgently needed.



DONATE NOW www.caritas.org.au/gaza
1800 024 413



Volunteer Position available

We are seeking eager and reliable families or individuals to assist with keeping the parish lawn (during the school holidays), hedges and carpark area (all year round) clean and tidy. The parish will supply the lawn mower, fuel, line trimmer and blower vac. Workplace Health and Safety training and induction will be provided. Please contact the Parish Office.



World Day of Prayer 2025

Cook Islands
'I made you wonderful'



Friday March 7th

10am South Toowoomba Baptist Church
279 Geddes St, Centenary Heights

6.30pm Lifeworks Uniting Church
615 Boundary St, Glenvale

Contact for South Toowoomba Baptist Church: Faye Wilson - 0439384430
leighwilson07@gmail.com
Contact for Lifeworks: Mary Tibben - anttiben@bigpond.com

Changes to Individual Reconciliation

From 15th/16th February, Individual Reconciliation will not be offered here at OLOL. Reconciliation is held

- Saturdays from 8am - 9am at St Patrick's Cathedral,
- Saturdays at 4.15pm (& by appointment) at St Anthony's Parish,
- Fridays 12.30pm at Sacred Heart,
- Saturday 7am at Holy Name and by appointment at St Theresa's Parish.

Job Vacancy – St Saviours College

College Chaplain -

St Saviour's College, Toowoomba | 7-12

- Term time (40 weeks per year) | 25 hours per week
- Fixed term | Immediate start (negotiable) to 18 January 2026
- School Officer Level 5 | \$38.29 - \$40.15 per hour plus super

WELCOME

We welcome visitors to our Parish. If you are new to the area or have recently started attending Church services at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, would you please fill out the following details below so that we can place you on our Parish Register. These details are only handed out if your permission is given.

TITLE.....NAME.....

ADDRESS.....POSTCODE.....

PHONE NUMBER..... MOBILE.....

EMAIL ADDRESS.....

Please hand in at Church or email to: lol.parish@bigpond.com