



Welcome to **OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH**

153 Holberton St, Toowoomba | p: 4634 1453

Email: ourladyoflourdesparish@twb.catholic.org.au | <https://www.ololparish.org.au> 

Priest Director: Fr Jamie Collins | Retired Priest - Fr John Quinlan

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm

Pastoral Coordinator: Jenny Ferguson - olol.pastoralcoordinator@twb.catholic.org.au

Mass times: Saturday: 6:30pm Vigil | Sunday: 9.45am

Weekday Mass - 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 Gialal and Jarowair peoples, Traditional Owners of this land and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Sunday, 2nd March 2025 Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

First Reading

[Sirach 27:4-7](#)

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Do not praise someone before they have spoken.

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation. The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 91:12-3, 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

[1 Corinthians 15:54-58](#)

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

Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

Gospel Acclamation

[Philippians 2:15-16](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!



Gospel

[Luke 6:39-45](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

A person speaks from what is in his heart.

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

Next Week's Readings (8th/9th March 2025) – First Sunday of Lent – Year C
1st Reading: [Deuteronomy 26:4-10](#) 2nd Reading: [Romans 10:8-13](#) Gospel: [Luke 4:1-13](#)

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 - 9.45am 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 9:45am 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 at 10am every Tuesday in the Quiet Room.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL – meet the 1st Monday of each month at 6.30pm in the Presbytery Meeting Room.

SOCIAL JUSTICE - meet 1st Sunday of the month at 10:45am 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 Joseph, 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

Three texts; one lesson

Today's gospel is made up of three separate teachings of Jesus that have been put together by the gospel writer to convey a particular message. When taken together, the three teachings all shed light on the way believers influence one another in community. It is a call to witness to one another through actions as well as words. Before we seek to teach another we must ensure we have adequately learned the lesson ourselves. We must be self-appraising before we critique another. Finally, our actions towards one another are a reflection of our intentions; good actions come from goodness of the heart.

Sunday Reflection...

© Nick Brodie

'Wars begin from the tongue', says Pope Francis. Reflecting on today's Gospel passage, he draws our attention to the importance of choosing our words carefully, lest they become 'bad fruit'. He also reminds us that words can be destructive. If we are 'grumbling, gossiping, speaking ill of others', he says, then we are engaging in activity that 'destroys the family, destroys school, destroys the workplace, destroys the neighbourhood.' Commenting on how words can amplify attitudes, the Pope wants us to remember that 'through our tongue we can also feed prejudices, raise barriers.'

This is especially true online. Stressing that these days 'words travel fast', the Pope remarks that 'too many of them convey anger and aggression, feed false news and take advantage of collective fears to propagate distorted ideas.' Christians should 'be reflective, not reactive' when engaging with other people online. We should always 'be mindful of posting and sharing content that can cause misunderstanding, exacerbate division, incite conflict, and deepen prejudices.' We should look for those digital splinters that might be distorting our own perspectives before we jump online to accost others.

Ultimately, the Pope wants us to remember that our words always affect another person.

GOSPEL FOCUS

Good from Good

'The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good.' What makes a person good? Is it that they have had good things happen in their life? There are plenty of people who have had good things in their life but they remain cynical and spiteful people. Similarly there are plenty who have had the hardest of circumstances yet goodness constantly flows from them. It's not the external influences but what we do with them that determines whether we are nurturing 'good treasure' or harbouring 'evil treasure'. This is not just sugary sweetness but a deliberate decision to be a person of hope.

LIVING THE GOSPEL

You hypocrite

It is often argued that it is hypocrisy to attend Mass on Sundays and be 'holy' in that circumstance but to then be less than perfect during the rest of the week. This is often rolled out as a convenient excuse for not attending Mass at all: everyone who goes to Mass is a hypocrite. Of course, attending Mass does not imply perfection. It is in fact a recognition of imperfection and the need to come together as a community and to seek God's help to have another go at trying to get it a bit more right in the coming week.

Thought of the week...



www.catholiccartoonblog.blogspot.com

Please Pray For...

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries (28th Feb – 6th March): Josef Rebl, Pat Burke, Lorna Andrews, Norma Jessen, Patricia Johnston, Nancy Haig, Ivy Dahler, Gwen Betros, Rev Fr Dominic Burke, Rev Fr Hector Thomas Sheeran

Those Who Are Sick: Peter Hickey, Kathie Ober, Brian Reardon, 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

March Birthdays: Thelma Johnstone, Pat McGovern, Regina Thompson, Ron O'Brien, Judy Wilson, Peter Reynolds, Sarah Dias, Harrison Dwan, Kevin Mahoney

Parish News...

Sat 1/3	o 6.30pm Mass
Sun 2/3	o 9.45am Mass
Mon 3/3	o 6.30pm Parish Council Meeting in the Presbytery Meeting Room
Tue 4/3	o 10am LOW for Shrove Tuesday followed by Morning Tea o 10.30am Prayer Group in the Quiet Room
Wed 5/3	o 9am Anam Cara in the Presbytery o 9.15am Ash Wednesday Mass at St Anthony's o 5.30pm Ash Wednesday Mass at OLOL o 6.30pm SPRED in the Church
Thu 6/3	o 10am Mass o 10.30am Craft in the Quiet Room
Fri 7/3	o World Day of Prayer Services o 10am South Tmba Baptist Church o 6.30pm Lifeworks Uniting Church

Date Claimers:

- 9th March – Workshop 2 for Sacramental Candidates
- 11th March – Glenvale Villas Visitation
- 17th March – BUPA Visitation
- Feast of St Patrick
- 19th March – Feast of St Joseph

Australian Catholic Youth Festival

The Australian Catholic Youth Festival is this year! ACYF is a national event established by the Australian Bishops to provide young people with the opportunity to come together to connect, deepen their relationship with Jesus, be empowered to live their faith and experience the breadth of the Church. The people behind the scenes are looking at options for attending the festival. If you are interested in receiving updates and travelling as part of a diocesan group, please click [here](#). Save the date: 30th November – 2nd December 2025.

Shrove Tuesday – 4th March

Join us for Shrove Tuesday next week, 4th March, at 10am in the church for a Liturgy of the Word followed by some pancakes/pikelets and a cuppa for Morning Tea.

Ash Wednesday – 5th March

This year, Our Lady of Lourdes will hold Mass at 5.30pm for Ash Wednesday. Mass will also be held at St Anthony's church at 9.15am and a Prayer Service at Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School will be held in the school hall at 2pm.

Lenten Group Meeting

The first meeting of the Lenten Group will be held on Friday 7th March at 9.30am in the Quiet Room. All are welcome to attend.

Project Compassion 2025



Project Compassion Sunday

1st and 2nd of March 2025

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

Your generous support this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.

Please donate today.



You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes and envelopes. **Or online at:** caritas.org.au/project-compassion **Or by calling:** 1800 024 413. Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent*.

	Altar Servers	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Ministers	I pad Operator	Piety Stall
8th Mar at 6.30pm	G Hoopert A Mendoza	P & J O'Sullivan	J Wilson	J Johnston S Kelly	M Cushway J Johnston	H. R Johnston W. B Witham W. J Kelly	Regan Family	K Ward
9th Mar at 9.45am	S Dias J Dias	T Ryan K Langdale	T O'Mara	J Anderson P Murphy	A Suhr K Langdale	H. C Anderson W. J Axtell W. B Denny	M Conrick	A Suhr

Prayer for Pope Francis

Heavenly Father,
We thank you for the loving service of Pope Francis and the hope he has inspired in so many in your great mercy.

Have mercy on him in his illness now, we pray, and guide the medical staff in his care.

Grant him peace and healing.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Franciscan Missionaries of the Eternal Word

ENEWS UPDATE

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

NCCA WEBINAR WITH WCC EXECUTIVE REV DR MIKIE ROBERTS

Date: 21/3/25 Friday

Time: 10:00am-12:00pm AEDT

Where: Online (Catholic Institute of Sydney NSW)

Cost: Free, [register via TryBooking](#) to receive a link

The National Council of Churches in Australia (NCCA) invites you to join this event in person or online. The webinar will feature a keynote presentation from Rev Dr Mikie Roberts, World Council of Churches (WCC) Faith and Order executive. This will be followed by a panel discussion on current developments in contextual ecumenical theology and spirituality. [Find out more here.](#)

NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR ECUMENICAL AND INTERFAITH WORKS

Date: 30 & 31/5/25 Friday & Saturday

Where: Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney

The Bishops Commission for Christian Unity and Inter-religious Dialogue invites all Catholics who are engaged in ecumenical and interfaith activities to attend the National Conference for Ecumenical and Interfaith Works - 'Walking Together' 2025. In 2025 we celebrate the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea, which proclaimed the Nicene Creed we recite on Sundays. This confession of faith has served as a point of Christian unity for 1700 years. We are also celebrating the 60th anniversary of Vatican II's watershed document, *Nostra Aetate*, which transformed the Church's relations with other religions. Contact Louise Zavone, Senior Executive Secretary, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, for details: louise.zavone@catholic.org.au

CATHOLICARE: HR & WHS MANAGER

CatholicCare is looking for a full-time HR & WHS Manager to join the team. This is a new executive position with responsibility for end-to-end management, resourcing, compliance and administration of HR and WHS related systems and functions across a diverse social services operating environment at CatholicCare Social Services and within the overall governance umbrella of the Toowoomba Diocese.

[To find out more and apply, visit SEEK.](#)

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION HANDBOOK THIRD EDITION

The THIRD EDITION of the Church Administration Handbook outlines how the complex institution that is the Catholic Church in the modern world is structured and functions. It introduces readers to important aspects of church law and to civil legislation of relevance for church-based organisations.

Many changes have occurred in civil legislation and church practice since the second edition of the Church Administration Handbook was published in 2018. This edition has now been completely revised, with changes made where necessary and new material included.

[Purchase online now through St Pauls.](#)

PROJECT COMPASSION LENTEN PRAYER

God of our journey
we are all pilgrims of hope
brought together by your love
and your wish that we may all be one.

We pray that in this Year of Jubilee
when we are called to greater justice
and care for our common home
that we may **Unite Against Poverty.**

May we work in unity for the freedom
of the oppressed and the renewal of creation.
may our compassionate minds
and generous hearts help bring about a
world where all can live in peace.

May our Lenten pilgrimage of
fasting, almsgiving and prayer
bring us closer to your loving heart.

We ask this in the name of Jesus.

Amen



St Ursula's College
TOOWOOMBA

"Where every face
has a place."

2025 OPEN DAY

Friday
14 March 2025
2 - 5pm

Register here



Y7-12 | ALL GIRLS EDUCATION | CATHOLIC DAY & BOARDING

