



# Welcome to OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH

153 Holberton St, Toowoomba | p: 4634 1453

Email: [ourladyoflourdesparish@twb.catholic.org.au](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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, 10<sup>th</sup> August 2025 Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

### First Reading

**Wisdom 18:6-9**

A reading from the book of Wisdom

*Just as you struck our enemies, you made us glorious by calling us to you.*

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage. This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you. The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 32:1. 12. 18-20. 22. R. v.12**

(R.) Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. They are happy, whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. (R.)

2. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. (R.)

3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. (R.)

### Second Reading

**Hebrews 11:1-2. 8-19**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*We will look for the city designed and built by God.*

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended. It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God. It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore. All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and welcomed them, recognising that they were only strangers and nomads on earth. People who use such terms about themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their real homeland. They can hardly have meant the country they came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, since he has founded the city for them. It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He

offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead, and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

### Gospel Acclamation

**Matthew 24:42. 44**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready: You know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!

### Gospel

**Luke 12:35-40**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*See that you are prepared.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'



Happy those servants whom  
the master finds awake  
when he comes.  
Luke 12:37

Next Week's Readings (16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> Aug 2025) – Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

1st Reading: **Jeremiah 38:4-6. 8-10** 2nd Reading: **Hebrews 12:1-4** Gospel: **Luke 12:49-53**

## 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, Jeni Bonell, Jessica Ramos, 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/>

### Historical context

#### Parousia

The Greek word *parousia* means 'presence' or 'arrival'. In ancient times the word was usually associated with the formal visit of a king or a ruler. The *parousia* of a king was a significant and sometimes formidable event. In the writings of the New Testament, the word is used for the return of Christ, the drawing to a close of salvation history and the full establishment of the kingdom of God. The earliest Christians expected to see the *Parousia* in their own lifetimes. The realisation that this was not to be the case led to a rethinking about living a Christian life.

### Sunday Reflection...

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In the middle of Ordinary Time we discover a theme normally associated with the end of the liturgical year and the season of Advent – vigilance in anticipation of the return of the master. This vigilance demands that we live lives of faith. We do not know when God will open the door of our existence and call us into a deeper realisation of the sacred dimension of life itself. Vigilance is a characteristic of a Christian at all times, for all times. We must be ever vigilant.

While we live in the expectation of the coming of God in the future, we also live now in the presence of God. This means that God is present with us now, as a companion in our lives. It also means that this presence is the context within which our lives unfold. However, until all things are brought to fulfilment, we live in this presence by faith. Faith and hope are intimately joined. As believers we are called to trust in the promises of God, even when what is promised seems impossible.

We are assured that we will be blessed, but we can never be sure of the exact nature of the blessing. In faith, we put our trust in God and then carry out our responsibilities. In faith we wait for the Lord, who is our help and our shield, not really knowing under what guise he will come to us. Faith is both the cost of living as a disciple and the reward.

### gospel focus

#### Answer the Question!

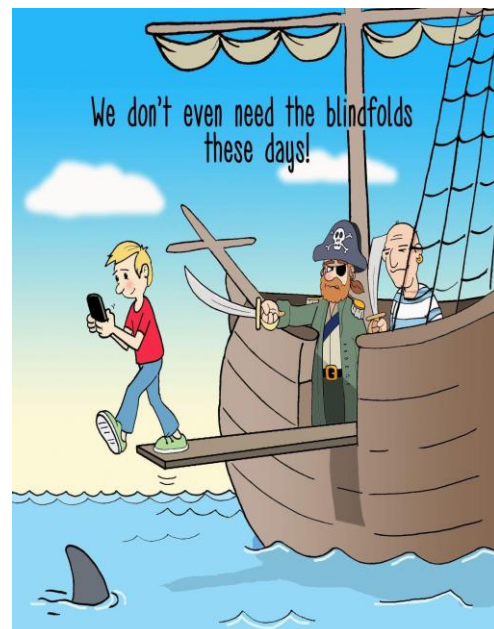
Peter asks Jesus very specifically, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' Frustratingly for Peter (and for the audience), Jesus doesn't give the direct question a direct answer, he answers the question with another story. Throughout the gospels, this is a constant tactic used by Jesus. He almost never gives a question a straightforward answer. By doing this, he invites the questioner to reflect on their own question and their purpose in asking it in the first place. He also cleverly avoids being tied down to a yes/no answer when a matter is not that simple.



### Have you thought? Stewardship

Jesus responds to Peter's questioning the gospel in a roundabout way by speaking about a steward acting either faithfully and with wisdom or alternatively irresponsibly and recklessly. A steward is one who stands in the place of the master during the master's absence – taking on the duties, responsibilities and authority of the master. That's exactly what Christian people are called to do: become stewards who act in the place of Jesus as we await his return. As the prayer of St Teresa of Avila says, Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

### Thought of the week...





## Please Pray For...

### Recent Deaths:

**Anniversaries: (8<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> Aug)** Annie Mary Kruger, Eileen Ryan, Neville Reedy, Charles Head, Agnes Campbell, Brian Graham, Nell Storey, Maureen McGrath, Bill Garrett, Molly Connolly, Del Garrett, Alan Teys, William Brown, Leona Bambosek, Kath Thomson, Barry Freier, Pat Rohde, Ellen Waldron, Estelle Edge, Fr Joe O'Mara S.J, Rev Fr John Ryan, Rev Fr Patrick Kelly

**Those Who Are Sick:** Margaret Kynoch, 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

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

## Parish News...

Sat 9/8	o 6.30pm Mass
Sun 10/8	o 9.45am Mass o 10.45am 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sacramental Workshop
Mon 11/8	
Tue 12/8	o 10am Liturgy of the Word o 10.30am Prayer Group in the Quiet Room o Glenvale Villas Visitation
Wed 13/8	o 9am Anam Cara in the Presbytery o 6.30pm SPRED
Thu 14/8	o 10am Mass o 10.30 am Craft Group in the Quiet Room o 2pm SVDP Meeting
Fri 15/8	o 10am Mass Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Holy Day of Obligation

### Date Claimers:

17<sup>th</sup> August – Morning Tea for Fr BJ Perrett

18<sup>th</sup> August – BUPA Visitation

### LOL 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2026

All interested parishioners are invited to form a sub-committee to plan and celebrate the LOL 75th anniversary in 2026. If you'd like to help shape our 75th year of faith and service, please contact the Parish Office on 4634 1453 or email [ourladyoflourdesparish@twb.catholic.org.au](mailto:ourladyoflourdesparish@twb.catholic.org.au)

### Celebrating BJ's Ordination Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Aug

The Parish Pastoral Council extends an invitation to all parishioners to join them for morning tea following the 9.45am Mass next weekend to officially acknowledge and celebrate the Ordination of BJ. Please bring a plate to share if you are able.



### Ignite Conference Brisbane 25-28 September

Every year, Ignite Youth hosts one of Australia's most powerful Catholic youth conferences. Experience four days of real-world formation, encouragement in faith, great people and powerful worship. The Parish Pastoral Council is offering financial assistance to any new attendees. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested in attending.

## Special Anniversaries

Congratulations to Sr Mary Cleary and Sr Nancy Doyle as they celebrate 60 years since they made their first profession and Sr Margaret Windsham and Sr Cecilia Bailey who celebrate 70 years since they joined the MSS on 15<sup>th</sup> August.

### Birthday Wishes

Congratulations and best wishes to Terry McGovern who turned 92 on 9<sup>th</sup> August and to Pat O'Sullivan who celebrates his 91<sup>st</sup> Birthday on 15<sup>th</sup> August. May you both be blessed with an abundance of peace and joy today and always. Happy Birthday Terry and Pat!



## The Mid-Winter Shelter News

Our Parish has joined again with other Toowoomba churches to support Winter Shelter (WST) project. This sees some of our city's homeless provided shelter in a bed in a warm church every night during the three months of winter. LOL offers help via those who volunteer for shifts at St Theresa's and the provision of homemade food or snacks. Up to the end of last month, 23 Guests have been registered to attend WST whilst 7 Guests have found affordable temporary accommodation. On average, 7 to 10 guests have found church shelter each night. This is what some Guests have said: "It is so nice to be seen, while out on the street people walk past you and they don't see you, you feel like you aren't human, but now we feel seen and heard, thank you". "Why do the volunteers care about us? They sit and chat to us and we feel seen and cared for."

"I would love to do something to say thank you to everyone involved in WST, it has changed my life, by helping me see that people care, and I am worth it I can now go get a job" "Thank you, I sat here today and prayed for help, I had nearly given up, and then I was told that an opening had just come up, so tonight I will be safe, warm. This is truly God's work, and I feel blessed"

If you would like more information about being involved, please contact Jo Johnston on 0418 733 615

Date	Altar Servers	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Ministers	Ipad Operator	Piety Stall
16 <sup>th</sup> Aug at 6.30pm		D & N Clark	J Soriano	J Adriano M Whitelegg	Hooptert Family	H. L Walsh W. R Johnston W. B Witham	M McLean	G Schoorl
17 <sup>th</sup> Aug at 9.45am		Poulton Family	C Hudson	J Coman C Rawlinson	Coonan Family	H. G Birch W. P Murphy W. S Rosentreter	M Conrick	R Coonan

## Weekly Spotlight on our Parish Groups and Mass Ministries

### Liturgy Part 2

#### Consolation Group

Consolation Group members provide support to bereaved families and assist them to plan the funeral Mass or Liturgy for their deceased loved one. The team assists the family to select prayers, hymns, readings and attends the funeral to assist the celebrant and family as required.

#### Decorator for Sacred Space

Creating a sacred space through the use of a cross, bible, candle, flowers, banners, art and symbols assists us in prayer. These ministers are supported by the Liturgy Group and draw inspiration from knowledge of the Church's liturgical year to create this sacred space.

#### Liturgy Group

The work of the Liturgy Group encompasses all ministries in the sacramental life of the Parish to collectively prepare Prayers, Hymns, Responses, Welcome Message and Church decorations to support and enhance the Liturgical celebration.

#### Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion Leaders for Weekdays

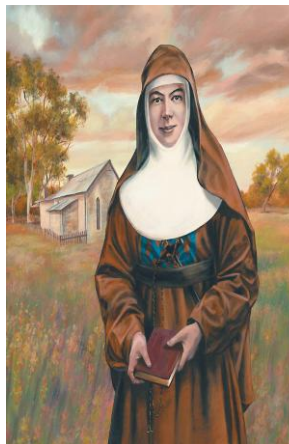
Using the guidelines set out by the Diocesan Liturgical Commission, these leaders provide Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion on weekdays when a priest is not available.

### Feast of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop

Each year on the 8th of August we celebrate the Solemnity of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Australia's beloved first saint. On this day, we celebrate the important role she played in making education accessible for children in our country. Mary MacKillop devoted her life to ensuring a holistic Catholic education for children from rural, poor families. St Mary MacKillop's impact on Australian education was remarkable. She was a trailblazer and a leader who passionately advocated for the education of underprivileged children and children in remote areas where others either would or could not go. For such children and their families, Mary opened a door of hope into the future. Words of Inspiration from Mary: "We have all very much for which to thank and love God."

#### Prayer

God of all blessings, you revealed in Mary MacKillop a sensitivity to the rights and dignity of every person, regardless of race or creed. May we learn from her to overcome fear and prejudice. Help us to value the goodness of each person and all the blessings of unity in diversity. We ask this through the depth and unity of you, our bountiful God who holds all things in being. Amen.



# ENews UPDATE

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

### VATICAN II - KEEPING THE WINDOWS OPEN

**Date:** Tuesdays in August **Time:** 7:00pm-8:00pm

**Where:** Via Zoom **Cost:** Free (Online only)

Yarra Theological Union, Catholic Theological College and Garratt Publishing present a Four-Part Webinar Series exploring Vatican II 60 years on. Over four sessions, participants will gain a greater appreciation of the work of the *Second Vatican Council* and the windows it opened for the life and mission of the Church. [Click here to find out more and register.](#)

### PILGRIM WALK IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST MARY MACKILLOP

**Date:** 30/8/25 Saturday **Time:** 9:30am

**Where:** St Joseph's Church, Helidon

[RSVP via TryBooking](#) or call the Cathedral Office PH 07 46371500

As part of the 2025 Jubilee Year, the diocese will celebrate the Solemnity of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop with a special Mass and pilgrimage in her honour. Bishop Ken Howell will preside at Mass, which will be followed by a pilgrimage in Saint Mary MacKillop's honour, remembering her tireless work in rural areas. The Pilgrimage will be a 1.5km walk through Helidon returning to St Joseph's Church. A BYO lunch will follow, tea and coffee provided.

[Social Media Tile/Newsletter Ad](#) [Flyer/Poster](#)

### DIOCESAN FEAST DAY MASS

**Date:** 1/9/25 Monday **Time:** 10:00am

**Where:** St Patrick's Cathedral, Toowoomba

Bishop Ken Howell will be celebrating Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral to mark the occasion of our diocese's feast day. All are warmly welcome to attend.

[Social Media Tile/Newsletter Ad](#)

### SPECIAL OUTDOOR SERVICE: SEASON OF CREATION

**Date:** 1/9/25 Monday **Time:** 12:00pm

**Where:** Lychee Tree Lawn, Mount Coot-tha Botanic Gardens

Queensland Churches Together will be marking the start of the Season of Creation with a special outdoor service at Mount Coot-tha Botanic Gardens. All are welcome. [See flyer for details.](#)

### CATHEDRAL FLORAL DISPLAY - CARNIVAL OF FLOWERS

**Date:** 19-23/9/25 **Time:** 9:00am-5:00pm

**Where:** St Patrick's Cathedral, Toowoomba

**Entry:** Gold coin donation

Be sure to visit St Patrick's Cathedral this Carnival of Flowers and be transported by a spectacular floral showcase brought to life by parish, school, and community groups. Every corner of this magnificent building will be transformed with creative floral arrangements that weave colour, fragrance, and artistry throughout the sacred space. This year's theme, "What brings us hope?", invites visitors to reflect as they wander among the inspired displays. Don't miss this uplifting experience where floral artistry and spiritual inspiration meet.

[Social Media Tile/Newsletter Ad](#) [Flyer/Poster](#)

### CTC/YTU SYMPOSIUM - 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLOSE OF VATICAN II

**Date:** 24/9/25 Wednesday **Time:** 9:30am - 4:15pm

**Where:** Catholic Theological College, Victoria Pde, East Melbourne

**Cost:** \$70pp RSVP 17/9/25

This symposium gathers experts from around Australia to reflect on the key themes of Vatican II that continue to shape the Church today. Our day together will end with Prof. Massimo Faggioli (via Zoom) in conversation with Rev. Prof. Orm Rush.

[See flyer for details.](#)

### ROSIES TOOWOOMBA: CAN YOU SPARE 4 HOURS ON A THURSDAY?

Join Rosies as an outreach volunteer supporting local youth and families through our regular Thursday morning outreaches—whether it's at children's court (8am–12noon) or youth programs (9am–1pm). To get involved weekly or fortnightly, call 0499 111 730 or email [toowoomba@rosies.org.au](mailto:toowoomba@rosies.org.au)