



# 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 Glabal and Jarowair peoples, Traditional Owners of this land and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

## Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025 Fifth Sunday of Easter – Year C

### First Reading

[Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27](#)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*They assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them.*

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships' they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe. They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed. On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

### Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 144:8-13. R. cf. v.1](#)

(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

1 The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)

2 All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God, to make known to men

mighty deeds and the glorious splendour of your reign. (R.)

3. Yours is an everlasting kingdom; your rule lasts from age to age. (R.)

### Second Reading

[Revelation 21:1-5](#)

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

*He will wipe away all the tears from their eyes.*

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.' Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new.'

### Gospel Acclamation

[John 13:34](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

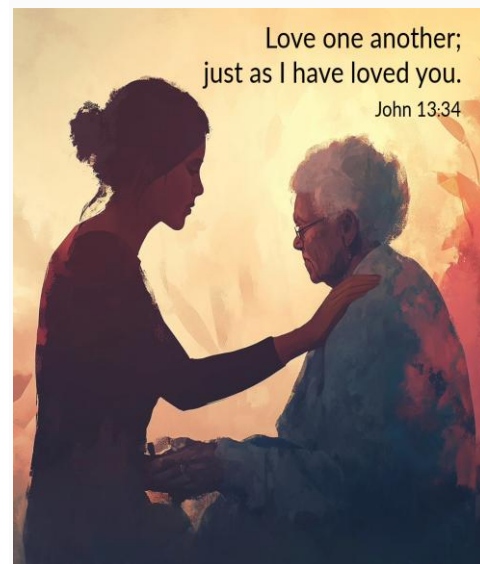
### Gospel

[John 13:31-35](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*I give you a new commandment: love one another.*

When Judas had gone Jesus said: 'Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified. If God has been glorified in him, God will in turn glorify him in himself, and will glorify him very soon. My little children, I shall not be with you much longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples.'



Next Week's Readings (24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> May 2025) – Sixth Sunday of Easter – Year C

1st Reading: [Acts of the Apostles 15:1-2, 22-29](#) 2nd Reading: [Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23](#) Gospel: [John 14:23-29](#)

## 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

#### Love is all around

*Love surrounds us all the time. It is impossible to turn on a radio without hearing "love" used in one way or another. Love is the most common theme of songs, poetry, literature and art. Although we might bemoan the casual use of 'love', the fact remains that we fill our lives with the sounds and images of love. It's easier to imagine the all-pervasive nature of God's love when we recognise just how pervasive the commercial and artistic expressions of love have become. As Christian people, the challenge that faces us is to imbue these expressions with a richer, deeper notion of love.*

### Sunday Reflection...

© Dianne Bergant CSA

Everything is new! There is a new law of love, a new heaven and earth that is established in the church, a new depth of communion there, and a new glory of God that shines forth from its members.

The new commandment that Jesus announces is more than tolerance or mutual respect. It requires self-sacrificing love. Perhaps the greatest obstacle to this love is the diversity discussed last Sunday. It is hard enough to love those who are like us; how can we possibly love those who are different? And how can we love those who do not love us? It is no wonder that the commandment is called new. It calls for something completely different.

The new commandment is the law of the new heaven and the new earth that are established in the new Jerusalem. Standards are entirely different there. The greater ones serve; the meek possess the earth; happy are the poor; woe to those who laugh. This is clearly a city that comes down from heaven, not one made by human hands. It is a city that embraces all who come to it. God dwells in the midst of this city, in the heart of this people. God dwells with them and they dwell with God.

Through this new love, this new heaven and new earth, this new depth of communion, the glory of God is manifested in a new way. The eschatological future is anticipated in the present. The age of fulfilment has dawned.

### Gospel Focus

#### God's Love

*What does it mean to love as Jesus loved? The love Jesus poured out to all was an expression of God's love that has been poured out to all creation since the very beginning and continues to be poured out today. God's love doesn't keep score. When humankind turned its back on God, God's love continued to call them back to faithful relationship. God's love is not conditional – whatever we do, God continues to love us. There is no barrier that we can construct that God's love cannot get around. It is this sort of love that the new commandment demands of us.*



### Have you thought? Love

*I love my dog! I love your hair! I love that new song! I absolutely love chocolate! We throw around the word 'love' so casually today that it has almost lost its meaning. The decision whether or not to say "I love you" in a relationship has become a major dilemma – or alternatively, just the formula that has to be said to get what you want! Jesus did not use the word so casually or so inappropriately. He spoke of love very deliberately and very specifically. Jesus calls us to share in the selfless love that he modelled and to follow his example.*

### Thought of the week...

#### SOMETIMES WE JUST MISS THE POINT





## Please Pray For...

### Recent Deaths

**Anniversaries (16<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> May):** Olga Prior, Francis Allport, Patricia Butler, Marie Brewer, Paul Dau, Brian Egart, Carmel Ryan, Mariea Collins, Edna May Carey, Jack Barrie, Bessie Perry, Rev Fr Jim Bishop, Rev Msgr Thomas Nolan, Rev Msgr Edward Concannon

**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

**May Birthdays:** John Trueman, Libby Ferguson, Bernie Dever, Abigail Schoorl, Janice Moore, Brian Reardon, Marie Logan, Emily Dwan, Mark Whitelegg, Charlie Schoorl, MaryKate Thomson

## Parish News...

Sat 17/5	o 6.30pm Mass
Sun 18/5	o 9.45am Mass o 11.30am Sacrament of Communion
Mon 19/5	o Bupa Visitation
Tue 20/5	o 10am Livestreaming Robie's Funeral o 10.30am Prayer Group in the Quiet Room
Wed 21/5	o 9am Anam Cara in the Presbytery o 6.30pm SPRED in the Church
Thu 22/5	o 10am Mass o 10.30am Craft & Friendship in the Quiet Room o 2pm SVDP Meeting
Fri 23/5	

### Date Claimers:

24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> May – Planned Giving Update

31<sup>st</sup> May /1<sup>st</sup> June – The Ascension of the Lord

1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> June – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

2<sup>nd</sup> June – Parish Council Changeover 6.30pm

7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> June – Pentecost

14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> June – Most Holy Trinity

### Funeral Mass for Robie livestreamed

The Funeral Mass for **Robie Jayawardhana** will be livestreamed from our parish at 10am on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May. All welcome.

### For your safety

As a result of the feedback received about the changes to the Mass times from mid-February, the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) have installed additional lighting in the carpark. The PPC would be pleased to hear any feedback you have about the lighting or any other ideas you have to help keep our Parish community safe.

### Mass for Pope Leo XIV

As a Diocese we will hold a Mass at **St Patrick's Cathedral on Monday 19 May at 5:30pm** to pray for Pope Leo and for the whole Church as he begins his ministry as the Successor of St Peter. The Mass will be livestreamed.

## Pope Leo XIV's motto and coat of arms

*By Vatican News*

Pope Leo XIV's coat of arms offers a clear reflection of his Augustinian roots and the values he seeks to promote during his pontificate, particularly unity and communion within the Church. The shield is divided diagonally into two sections. The upper half features a blue background with a white lily. The lower half of the shield has a light background and displays an image that recalls the Order of Saint Augustine: a closed book with a heart pierced by an arrow. This is a direct reference to the conversion experience of Saint Augustine himself, who described his personal encounter with God's Word using the phrase: "Vulnerasti cor meum verbo tuo" - "You have pierced my heart with your Word."



### The motto

Pope Leo XIV has also chosen a motto that reflects this Augustinian tradition: *In illo uno unum*, which means "In the One, we are one." The phrase is taken from Saint Augustine's Exposition on Psalm 127, where he explains that "although we Christians are many, in the one Christ we are one." In a 2023 interview with Vatican News' Tiziana Campisi, then-Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost spoke about the significance of this motto: "As can be seen from my episcopal motto, unity and communion are truly part of the charism of the Order of Saint Augustine, and also of my way of acting and thinking," he said. "I believe it is very important to promote communion in the Church, and we know well that communion, participation, and mission are the three key words of the Synod. So, as an Augustinian, for me promoting unity and communion is fundamental." Saint Augustine's reflection on Psalm 127 highlights the theological foundation of this idea. "Christ - head and body - is one single man. And what is the body of Christ? His Church," Augustine writes. He then adds, "Although we Christians are many, in the one Christ we are one. We are many and we are one - because we are united to Him, and if our Head is in heaven, the members will follow."

	Altar Servers	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Ministers	Ipad Operator	Piety Stall
24 <sup>th</sup> May at 6.30pm	T Kelly J Whittaker	D & N Clark	P Kelly	L Walsh L Borger	M & J Wells	H. K Walsh W. G Ferguson W. R Johnston	Kelly Family	G Schoorl
25 <sup>th</sup> May at 9.45am	E Young	T Ryan K Langdale	J Anderson	J Axtell B Trenerry	A Suhr K Langdale	H. B Denny W. G Birch W. P Murphy	T Ryan	R Coonan

## 2025 SPRED Appeal

For nearly 40 years, SPRED (SPecial RELigious Development) has been a beacon of hope and spiritual growth for adults with intellectual disabilities.

As we near the end of the financial year, we invite you to contribute to SPRED's mission. Your support means more than just funding; it means giving hope, friendship, and a sense of belonging to those in our community.

Donate today: [www.twb.catholic.org.au/donate](http://www.twb.catholic.org.au/donate)



**Together in Faith and Friendship**

Support SPRED's mission of inclusion and joy for adults with disabilities.

**Catholic Diocese of TOOWOOMBA**

Scan to Donate  
**EOFY Appeal**

[www.twb.catholic.org.au/donate](http://www.twb.catholic.org.au/donate)

## Support the Vinnies Winter Appeal

Your generous support can help vulnerable people in our communities at risk of or experiencing homelessness with the urgent help they need to break free from the cycle of poverty and homelessness.

[Click here to donate](#)

**THIS WINTER,  
HELP PEOPLE BREAK FREE FROM THE  
CYCLE OF POVERTY AND  
HOMELESSNESS.**

## Ignite Conference 2025 25-28<sup>th</sup> Sept

### *The heart and vision behind Conference*

We believe in the potential of large-scale gatherings of Catholics to worship, receive powerful preaching and participate in the sacraments. Our vision is to see a Church transformed by an influx of young people who are truly on fire for Jesus because of their undeniable encounter with Him. Ignite Conference is that place of encounter. Our dream is to spearhead a new evangelisation of our nation and pave a way for the Church of the future. The effect of Ignite Conference on delegates' lives is powerful and far-reaching. There is a reason people come from across the country to experience four incredible days of Church life.

For more information [click here](#) or to enquire about Parish Pastoral Council financial assistance please contact the Parish Office on 4634 1453.

## Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver are holding a Cent Sale in St Patrick's Cathedral Centre, 123 Neil St on Saturday May 31. The doors open at 1.00pm for a 1.30pm start. A delicious afternoon tea will be served. The cost is \$10 which includes 2 free sheets of tickets. Children aged 12 and under are free.

There are many excellent prizes and the multidraw includes a meat tray, fruit and vegetable trays, a flower arrangement and much more. All proceeds go to the Missions. Sisters can be contacted on 07 46321818.

# E NEWS UPDATE

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

## PRESBYTERAL ORDINATION OF BJ PERRETT

Date: 3/7/25 Thursday

Time: 6:30pm

Where: St Patrick's Cathedral, Tmba

Bishop Ken Howell warmly invites the faithful of the Toowoomba Diocese to the Presbyteral Ordination of BJ Perrett. There will be light refreshments after Mass in the Cathedral Centre.

RSVP 15/6/25 [stpatrickscathedral@twb.catholic.org.au](mailto:stpatrickscathedral@twb.catholic.org.au)

## MASS OF THANKSGIVING

Date: 4/7/25 Friday

Time: 11:00am

Where: St Joseph's Church, Stanthorpe

All are warmly welcome to celebrate with BJ in Stanthorpe. Lunch will be shared in the Bathersby Centre after Mass.

RSVP 22/6/25 [stanthorpeparish@twb.catholic.org.au](mailto:stanthorpeparish@twb.catholic.org.au)

[See the invitation for details for both occasions.](#)

## ECUMENICAL SEMINAR: SPIRITUAL ECUMENISM

Date: 11-13/7/25 Friday to Sunday

Where: Brescia House, St Ursula's College Tmba

Cost: \$190pp, \$90pp no accommodation, \$50pp single day

Organised by Downs and Toowoomba Churches Together, the presenter for this seminar is Australian Catholic University lecturer, Dr Antonia Pizzey. As this year is the 1,700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed. In one of the sessions we will discuss the Nicene Creed.

[See poster for details.](#)

[Registration form and payment information.](#)

## WEBINAR: KEEPING CHILDREN SAFER ONLINE

Date: 30/5/25 Friday

Time: 1:30pm

Where: [Online via MS Teams](#)

Presented by Kellie Britnell, Office of the eSafety Commissioner and hosted by Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd. This webinar will present information and tools to support the safety of children online, including:

The eSafety Commissioner's role in keeping all Australians safer online

New and evolving risks in the online world in 2025

Effective strategies to manage and reduce current online challenges and risks.

[Register here.](#)

## WHAT'S OUR NEW POPE UP TO?

Pope Leo XIV has been very busy since his election a week ago, and he'll continue to be in the coming days! Please pray for our new pontiff. (Timetable in Rome time)

**May 16, Friday** – Meeting with the Diplomatic Corps (Heads of Mission)

**May 18, Sunday** - 10:00 AM, St. Peter's Square: Mass for the Beginning of the Pontificate

**May 20, Tuesday** - Taking possession of the Papal Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls

**May 21, Wednesday** - First General Audience

**May 24, Saturday** - Meeting with the Roman Curia and Vatican City State employees

**May 25, Sunday** - Regina Caeli

- Taking possession of the Papal Basilica of St. John Lateran

- Taking possession of the Papal Basilica of St. Mary Major

**SYCHAR HOUSE OF PRAYER & SPIRITUALITY:** [Please view the website](#) for current happenings.