

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, 19th January 2025 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

First Reading

[Isaiah 62: 1 - 5](#)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
*As the bridegroom rejoices in his bride,
so will your God rejoice in you.*

About Zion I will not be silent,
about Jerusalem I will not grow until
her integrity shines out like the
dawn and her salvation flames like
a torch.

The nations then will see your
integrity, all the kings your glory,
and you will be called by a new name,
one which the mouth of the Lord will
confer.

You are to be a crown of splendour
in the hand of the Lord, a princely
diadem in the hand of your God; no
longer are you to be named
'Forsaken', nor your land
'Abandoned', but you shall be called
'My Delight' and your land 'The
Wedded'; for the Lord takes delight
in you and your land will have its
wedding.

Like a young man marrying a virgin,
so will the one who built you wed
you, and as the bridegroom rejoices
in his bride, so will your God rejoice
in you.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 95: 1-3, 7-10, R. v.3](#)

(R). Proclaim his marvellous deeds
to all the nations.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
O sing to the Lord, bless his
name. (R.)

2. Proclaim his help day by day,
tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the
peoples. (R.)

3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
give the Lord glory and power,
give the Lord the glory of his name. (R.)

4. Worship the Lord in his temple.
O earth, tremble before him.
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'
He will judge the peoples in fairness. (R.)

Second Reading

[1 Corinthians 12:4-11](#)

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

*One and the same spirit distributes different
gifts as he chooses.*

There is a variety of gifts but always the
same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to
be done, but always to the same Lord;
working in all sorts of different ways in
different people, it is the same God who is
working in all of them. The particular way in
which the Spirit is given to each person is
for a good purpose. One may have the gift
of preaching with wisdom given him by the
Spirit; another may have the gift of
preaching instruction given him by the
same Spirit; and another the gift of faith
given by the same Spirit; another again the
gift of healing, through this one Spirit; one,
the power of miracles; another, prophecy;
another the gift of recognising spirits;
another the gift of tongues and another the
ability to interpret them. All these are the
work of one and the same Spirit, who
distributes different gifts to different
people just as he chooses.

Gospel

[John 2:1-11](#)

A Reading from the holy Gospel
according to John.

*The first of the signs given by Jesus was at Cana in
Galilee.*

There was a wedding at
Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus
was there, and Jesus and his disciples
had also been invited. When they ran
out of wine, since the wine provided for
the wedding was all finished, the
mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have
no wine.' Jesus said, 'Woman, why turn
to me? My hour has not come yet.' His
mother said to the servants, 'Do
whatever he tells you.' There were six
stone water jars standing there, meant
for the ablutions that are customary
among the Jews; each could hold
twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to
the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,'
and they filled them to the brim. 'Draw
some out now' he told them, 'and take
it to the steward.' They did this; the
steward tasted the water, and it had
turned into wine. Having no idea where
it came from – only the servants who
had drawn the water knew – the
steward called the bridegroom and
said, 'People generally serve the best
wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till
the guests have had plenty to drink, but
you have kept the best wine till now.'
This was the first of the signs given by
Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee.
He let his glory be seen, and his
disciples believed in him.

Next Week's Readings (25th/26th January 2025) – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C
1st Reading: [Nehemiah 8:2-6, 8-10](#) 2nd Reading: [1 Corinthians 12:12-30](#) Gospel: [Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21](#)

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/>

from the perspective

The servants

What must the servants have been thinking? First of all, there was insufficient wine for the feast. They probably knew who was going to wear the blame for that ordering mistake! Then they're told to fill the enormous water jars with water, draw some into a serving vessel and go and present it to the steward of the household – effectively their overseer; their boss! They must have been very nervous about how the steward would respond to what they were taking to him. Yet they, along with Mary and Jesus, were the only witnesses to Jesus' first miracle! Even the steward was unaware of the miracle.

Sunday Reflection...

© Nick Brodie

Discretion, Pope Francis says, is a theme which runs through this Sunday's Gospel. It is a recurring motif in the story of the wedding at Cana.

'Everything took place with discretion,' the Pope stresses, beginning with Mary's low-key turn to Jesus for help. 'It is Our Lady who became aware of the problem,' the Pope points out, 'and discreetly brought it to Jesus' attention.' Then Jesus himself, as the Pope puts it, 'intervened without fanfare, almost without being noticed.'

In highlighting these discreet actions, the Pope wants us to appreciate that the miracle took place 'behind the scenes' in a most unexpected corner of the wedding feast. Jesus was not making some flamboyant gesture designed to attract attention and adulation.

'This,' the Pope explains, 'is how God acts: with closeness and with discretion... This is how Jesus is – he helps us, serves us in hiddenness.'

Which means that we too should be open to serving the world with discretion and hiddenness. Like Jesus, we would do well to start evangelising the world with what the Pope characterised as 'a domestic gesture' that meets a real need. We might not turn water into wine, but we can surely do something to make our world a little bit brighter.

Different View

Use of alcohol

Sadly, this text is sometimes used by people to show that Jesus legitimizes drinking alcohol. If there was anything wrong with drinking, they say, Jesus wouldn't have made wine out of water! This argument is used to not only justify consumption of alcohol (sometimes to excess) but also to berate and ridicule those who, for religious and other reasons, abstain from alcohol. It is, of course, a feeble attempt to misappropriate scripture and use it completely out of context and for their own purposes. One could not even justify this argument on the grounds of a literal interpretation of scripture!

gospel focus

The best wine

The steward comments that the best wine had been kept until the end of the wedding celebration – a clever use of an image for Jesus. Remembering the use of wedding imagery to describe the relationship between the people of Israel and God, the wedding feast is celebration of that relationship, and at the very heart of the celebration and the relationship is Jesus. He is the best wine that is kept until the end – the 'finishing touch' to a magnificent celebration, just as he is the 'finishing touch' to the relationship between God and God's people to that point.

Thought of the week...

**I have a friend
who writes music
about sewing
machines. He's a
singer songwriter.**

Or sew it seams.

Please Pray For...

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: Melua Murray, Michael O'Sullivan, Jack Hogan, Thomas Garner, Joy McLoughlin, Charles & Alma Mountford, Jim Kerlin, Brenda Curr, Edith Sweeney, Rev Fr William Behm.

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

January Birthdays: Faye Kroh, Desley O'Connell, Margaret White, Russell Campbell, Pee Wee Clark, Chloe Soriano, Brandon Joseph, Molly Ferguson, Karlie Ward, Lily Ward, Jo Johnston.

Parish News...

Sat 18/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o No Individual Reconciliation o 6pm Mass
Sun 19/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 9.30am Mass – no Children's Liturgy o 5.30pm Mass
Mon 20/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o BUPA Visitation
Tue 21/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Mass/Liturgy of the Word 10am o 10.30am Prayer Group in the Quiet Room
Wed 22/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 9am Anam Cara in the Presbytery o Mass/Liturgy of the Word 10am
Thu 23/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Mass/Liturgy of the Word 10am o Craft Group 10.30am in the Quiet Room o St Vincent de Paul 2pm in the Quiet Room
Fri 24/1	

Date Claimers

- o 26th Jan Australia Day – Morning Tea following the 9.30am Mass
- o 8th/9th Feb – Feast Day Volunteer BBQ's and Morning Tea
- o 23rd Feb – Workshop 1 Sacraments of Confirmation and Communion

Wedding Wishes

Congratulations and best wishes to Kathryn Gorman and Gregory Dorries (son of Noel and Dorothy) who are to be married at Our Lady of Lourdes on Friday 17th January. May you be blessed with a lifetime of happiness.

Australia Day Mass with Morning Tea

Please join us for morning tea following the 9.30am Mass on Australia Day, Sunday 26th January.



Becoming involved

The changes to our Parish, effective from the 15th/16th February, provide each of us with an opportunity to ask how we can become involved and best contribute to our vibrant parish community. A great deal of shared wisdom and energy has gone into the preparation for these changes. You are asked to respond with an equal amount of enthusiasm and look for ways you can find joy in serving our parish community. If you would like to find out more about any ministry or group and how you can become involved, please speak to any one of the Parish Councillors or contact the Parish Office on 4634 1453 or lol.parish@bigpond.com.



Lenten Program

Please indicate your interest in the 2025 Lenten Program by adding your name to the list at the back of the church. For those who are interested, a group Lenten program will commence at 9.30am on Friday 7th March in the Presbytery. If you prefer to use the resource as an individual and would like your own copy of the CD (\$8) or a digital download (\$6) for use at home with the program book, please indicate on the form.

St Vincent de Paul says Thank You

The OLOL St Vincent de Paul Conference extends their most sincere thanks to the Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and School communities for their extraordinary generosity this year with the Christmas Appeal. Our conference has been able to support a large number of families in our area with their back-to-school needs. Your generosity and kindness is greatly appreciated.

Time	Altar Servers	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Ministers	l pad Operator	Piety Stall
25 th Jan at 6pm	G Hoopert A Mendoza	P & J O'Sullivan	J Wilson	J Soriano L Walsh	Hoopert Family	H. E Castles W. K Ober W. M Cushway	G & K Regan	K Ward
26 th Jan at 9.30am	J Poulton	Ryan Family	J Anderson	M Ondrus C Watson	Coonan Family	H. M McLean W. A Courneane W. P Murphy	J Cash	M Webb
26 th Jan at 5.30pm		A & R Thompson	Desley Salty	A Jessen M Whitelegg	Hickey Family	H. R Thompson W. J Johnston W. B Stark	K Langdale	J Sullivan

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.



Special Birthday Wishes

Wishing Bernadette Graham every blessing for her 95th birthday. We hope the year ahead brings you endless joy, much love, happiness and good health.



OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH

NEW MASS TIMES

From 15th/16th Feb 2025

SATURDAY VIGIL 6.30PM

SUNDAY MASS 9.45AM

Changes to Individual Reconciliation

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

Adopt a Liturgy 2025

The Liturgy Group is keen to hear from anyone that might like to consider adopting just one parish celebration. For some of us, owning one small job rather than committing to something on a regular basis would better suit our job demands, family commitments and personal interests.

The Liturgy group has developed wonderful resources for each of their celebrations making the coordination much less time consuming and complicated and the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference provides resources too. It's probably much easier than you think! The Liturgy Group and the parish staff will provide all the support you need. Suitable celebrations to adopt are:

Australia Day	OLOL Feast Day
Anzac Day	ATSI Sunday
World Day for Grandparents	Social Justice Sunday
Migrant and Refugee Sunday	

Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

ENEWS UPDATE

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

ABRAHAMIC FAITHS GATHERING

Date: 5/2/25 Wednesday

Time: 5:45pm

Where: Garden City Mosque, West Street Tmba

Join in conversation and a light meal. The evening will begin with a short presentation by each faith group on, "How to foster peace and understanding between the religions." Organised by the Downs & Toowoomba Churches Together.

[See flyer for details.](#)

SAVE THE DATE: ST PATRICK'S DAY AT ST PAT'S

Date: 15/03/25 Saturday

Time: Evening

Where: Cathedral Centre, Neil St Tmba

St Patrick's Cathedral will hold a St Patrick's Day Function. Save the date, details to come.

EVANGELISE PLUS

Two new series are now available on Evangelise Plus - presentations from the recent Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office national conference and the Archdiocese of Brisbane's five-part introductory series on the Sacraments. [Watch for free now.](#)

CARITAS VANUATU EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

Vanuatu has experienced two earthquakes within 24 hours impacting over 116,000 people and causing significant damage to buildings and infrastructure. The main hospital in Port Vila has sustained extensive damage and is overwhelmed by the mass casualties.

This appeal will provide support to our on the ground partners who are ready to respond to the humanitarian requirements by providing emergency shelter, food and other essentials, psychosocial support, and recovery efforts. **Please donate today:** <http://www.caritas.org.au/vanuatu>

Confirmation and First Eucharist 2025

Enrolments are now open for the Confirmation and First Eucharist program for 2025. Children in Year 4 or above and have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation are eligible to enrol.

- Please click [here](#) for the Initial Parent Letter including program dates and full information.
- Please click [here](#) for the Registration Form. **Registrations close on the 3rd February 2025.** No enrolments will be accepted after this date.



Parish Secretary Appointment

We congratulate and welcome Mrs Teresa Joseph on her appointment to the position of Parish Secretary (5hrs pw + additional hours in the school holidays). Teresa and her family are active members of the Parish and we look forward to having Teresa commence in the role in February.