



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

## Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

### First Reading

[1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23](#)

A reading from the first book of Samuel

*The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.*

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph. So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them. David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

### Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13, R. v.8](#)

(R). The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. (R.)

2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)

3. The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults. (R.)

### Second Reading

[1 Corinthians 15:45-49](#)

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

*Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.*

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

### Gospel

[Luke 6:27-38](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*Be merciful as your Father is merciful.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. 'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

Next Week's Readings (1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025) – Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

1st Reading: [Sirach 27:4-7](#) 2nd Reading: [1 Corinthians 15:54-58](#) Gospel: [Luke 6:39-45](#)

## 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

#### Compassion

*The compassion of God is a very strong theme that runs through the Gospel of Luke. Throughout the gospel, the compassion and mercy of God is emphasised and a defining feature of the gospel is the number of healings and parables that relate to people who were regarded as the outcasts of society. In this gospel, Jesus is the embodiment of God's compassion. Jesus wants all people to experience first hand the abundant love God holds for them. Today's gospel passage is a reminder that when we experience God's compassion we are also called to show it to others.*

### Sunday Reflection...

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Perhaps one of the most difficult lessons to learn is forgiveness of those whom we consider our enemies, those who have wronged us. As challenging as this may be, the Gospel calls us to a very high standard: we must be merciful as God is merciful. If such perfection can become a reality in our lives, we will be able to forgive. Paul assures us that we can indeed attain such perfection, not by ourselves, but through the power of the risen Lord whose image we bear. Paul plays with the theology of creation. In the beginning, we were made like the first Adam, earthly, limited, weak, concerned about the things of this world, and committed to our own wellbeing. Through baptism we have been fashioned after the image of the second Adam, Christ the risen Lord. Being like Christ, we become godlike, empowered with his saving power, transformed with him into new beings.

It is now in our power, which is really the power of the resurrection, to be merciful as God is merciful. In the risen Lord we experience a mystical transformation. From now on, all of our actions can flow from this new reality. Transformed by the power of the resurrection, we are capable of unprecedented, good works. We can live without retaliation; we can render good for evil. We can be prodigal in our generosity toward others; we can relinquish any rights of proprietorship that we might enjoy. We can live with others without unfairly judging them. We can be like God, boundless in our forgiveness.

### Historical Context

#### In the midst of oppression

*What a powerful message Jesus delivered to people who were subjugated and oppressed by an invading army. It would have been easy, and somehow 'natural', for the people of Palestine to hate the Roman occupiers and to seek revenge upon them. How confronting then for Jesus to say, 'love your enemies'! He tells the people that the way to live God's way in this situation was to be compassionate towards the oppressors; that when they rob you of your cloak to present them with your shirt as well. To do otherwise is to become like the oppressors themselves. Meeting hatred with hatred never ended hatred.*

### Different View

#### Turn the other cheek

*Presenting your other cheek when someone has already struck you is usually seen as a pacifist action. However, a completely different interpretation can be made. If a man were to strike an inferior, it would be as a backhand strike – only equals fought with fists or open hands. Having been struck on one cheek with a backhand, offering the other cheek makes it impossible to again be struck with a backhand. The only option for the striker would be with an open hand – as equals fight. So, turning the other cheek can be interpreted as claiming your status as an equal.*

### Thought of the week...

**TODAY IN CHURCH  
A MAN TRIED TO DROWN ME**



**Please Pray For...**

**Recent Deaths:** Lionel Stower

**Anniversaries (21<sup>st</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> February):** Rebecca Betros, Catherine Dunkin, Marion Rodgers, Leo Glennon, Ellen Rose MacGinley, Jeanette Dennis, Gerard Gabbett, Thomas Joseph MacGinley, Joyce Brennan, Maureen Metcalfe, Rev Fr Brian O'Dwyer, Rev Fr Michael Sheehan

**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

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

**Parish News...**

Sat 22/2	o 6.30pm Mass
Sun 23/2	o 9.45am Mass o 10.45am workshop for Confirmation & First Eucharist
Mon 24/2	
Tue 25/2	o 10am LOW & Prayer Group in the Quiet Room o 10.30am Liturgy Group Meeting in the Presbytery
Wed 26/2	o 9am Anam Cara in the Presbytery o 6.30pm SPRED in the Church
Thu 27/2	o Office Closed Today o 10am Mass o 10.30am Craft in the Quiet Room o 2pm SVDP meeting in the Quiet Room
Fri 28/2	

**Date Claimers:**

- 25<sup>th</sup> February – Liturgy Group meeting 10.30am – Presbytery Meeting Room
- 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> March – launch of Project Compassion
- 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Baptism Preparation
- 3<sup>rd</sup> March – 6.30pm Parish Council Meeting
- 4<sup>th</sup> March – 10am Shrove Tuesday LOW followed by morning tea
- 5<sup>th</sup> March – 9.15am Ash Wednesday Mass **St Anthony's**  
- 5.30pm Ash Wednesday Mass **OLOL**
- 7<sup>th</sup> March – World Day of Prayer  
- 10am Sth Tmba Baptist Church  
- 6.30pm Lifeworks Uniting Church

**Weekly Liturgy of the Word with Communion**

Commencing this Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> February, a Liturgy of the Word with Communion will be offered every Tuesday at 10am.

**Unclaimed and Lost Property**

We have some containers and trays that are unclaimed from Fr Quinlan's morning tea. The items will be on display on the table in the Children's Liturgy Room this weekend so please check if anything belongs to you.



**Lenten Program – Not too late to Join**

If you would like to be a part of the Parish Lenten Program or just wish to find out more information about it, please phone the office on 4634 1453 at your earliest convenience. It is not too late to join before Lent starts!

**Baptisms**

This weekend, we welcome Emma Kratzmann into our Parish Community through the Sacrament of Baptism during the 6.30pm Vigil Mass. On this day of Baptism, may God look upon you with joy and bless you abundantly.

**Confirmation and First Eucharist Candidates**

This weekend, the children of our parish will start the next part of their Sacramental Journey and over the next few months will prepare for their Confirmation and First Eucharist which will be celebrated later this year. You will find their photos on display in the church and we ask that you pray for the candidates and their families as they prepare for this exciting time.

**Easter Ceremonies – Help Needed**

Soon we will be calling for volunteers for the Easter Ceremonies, which will include Good Friday Stations of the Cross & Passion of the Lord, Easter Saturday Vigil Mass and Easter Sunday Mass. Please start thinking about how you may be able to volunteer for a ministry this Easter Season.

	Altar Servers	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Ministers	I pad Operator	Piety Stall
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Mar at 6.30pm</b>	T Kelly J Whittaker	D & N Clark	J Soriano	J Adriano M Whitelegg	Hoopert Family	H. K Ward W. G Ferguson W. D Clark	J Ferguson	M Cushway
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Mar at 9.45am</b>	J Poulton	Poulton Family	C Hudson	J Coman C Rawlinson	Coonan Family	H. J Bonell W. G Birch W. R Fallon	K Langdale	R Coonan



**PROJECT  
COMPASSION**

## Unite Against Poverty this Lent with Caritas Australia's Project Compassion

Lent is a special time of year, a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. As individuals we can help others, but when we come together through Project Compassion, our good becomes great. Our combined kindness grows. And when we unite with each other – **we can create BIG, lasting change.**

There are so many ways you can get involved and put your compassion into action this Project Compassion!

So, how will YOU Unite Against Poverty this Lent?

### THE LONG WALK FOR WATER

Take on **The Long Walk for Water**: Walk 30 minutes every day during Lent and walk in solidarity with the millions who walk daily for clean water.



SCAN THE QR CODE AND SIGN UP TODAY!

### GIVE IT UP FOR LENT

**Give it up for Lent** challenges you to sacrifice something meaningful for the 40 days of Lent and raise funds to support vulnerable communities around the world.



SCAN THE QR CODE AND SIGN UP TODAY!

### HOST A LENT EVENT

**Host a Lent Event** to raise funds and awareness stand in solidarity and raise funds that will empower the lives of people living in poverty.



SCAN THE QR CODE AND SIGN UP TODAY!

[fundraise.projectcompassion.org.au](http://fundraise.projectcompassion.org.au) (02) 7254 5120 #projectcompassion



**FRI 28 FEB**

12pm - 4pm | Last Tour 3pm

# OPEN DAY

Register Now  
[www.ssctwb.catholic.edu.au](http://www.ssctwb.catholic.edu.au)



# E NEWS UPDATE

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

## WEENGALLON 70TH ANNIVERSARY MASS

Date: 2/3/25 Sunday

Time: 10:00am

Where: Our Lady Queen Church, Weengallon

All are warmly welcome to Mass, followed by light lunch and refreshments in the hall. RSVP by 23/2/25 on 0434 408 642.

[See notice for details.](#)

## PARISH MUSIC MINISTRY WORKSHOP: MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE

Date: 22/3/25 Saturday

Time: 9:00am to 12:00pm

Where: St Mary's Church, Woodend (Ipswich)

Cost: \$15pp Click [here](#) to register and pay

"Make a Joyful Noise" will be presented by composer and Liturgy Brisbane Education Consultant, Michael Mangan. Feedback from last year's attendees highlighted their appreciation of the opportunity to sing together, to learn more about the purpose and place of music in liturgy, and to explore the principles which help music ministers choose and lead appropriate music that enhances vibrant, meaningful and inclusive parish liturgical celebrations. A discounted rate is available for parish bookings of 10 or more – send your whole parish music ministry team!

[See flyer for details.](#)

## KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS TOOWOOMBA BRANCH CENTENARY

Date: 6/4/25 Sunday

Time: 9:00am

Where: St Patrick's Cathedral, Toowoomba

The Toowoomba branch of the Knights of the Southern Cross will be celebrating its centenary this year. Bishop Ken Howell will be celebrating Mass to mark the occasion. All members, past and present, family, friends and the community are warmly welcome to attend. Join us for morning tea in the church grounds following Mass.

## I WILL LIFT MY EYES - AN EVENING CONCERT WITH TONY ALONSO

Date: 16/5/25 Friday

Time: 6:30pm-8:00pm

Where: St Laurence's College, South Brisbane

Cost: \$20pp [Tony Alonso Tickets](#) or email [liturgy@liturgybrisbane.net.au](mailto:liturgy@liturgybrisbane.net.au)

All are invited to an uplifting concert by internationally renowned USA Catholic composer & recording artist Tony Alonso. Tony will be joined by St Laurence's College students and a Combined Parishes Choir.

## SAVE THE DATE: ST MARY'S PARISH WARWICK CENTENARY

Date: 15/3/26 Sunday

Mark your calendar and diary! Warwick is planning something special to mark 100 years since the establishment of their parish. Stay tuned for further details. [St Mary's Catholic Parish, Warwick QLD](#)

## **LENT 2025 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY, BRUCE DOWNES**

Lent is a time when we can grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Easter. Be inspired. Be refreshed. Be renewed!

For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is FREE and you can sign up here: <https://BruceDownes.org/Lent> Go to BruceDownes.org for more information.