



# 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 | Associate Pastor: Fr BJ Perrett

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 Liturgy of The Word/Mass – Tuesday and 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, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

### First Reading

[Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13](#)

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

*In your midst I will leave a humble and a lowly people.*

Seek the Lord all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands. Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord. In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people, and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord. They will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the perjured tongue will no longer be found in their mouths. But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to disturb them.

### Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 145:7-10. R. Mt 5:3](#)

(R.) Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith forever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan. (R.)

3. It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

### Second Reading

[1 Corinthians 1:26-31](#)

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

*God has chosen what is weak by human reckoning.*

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation

[Matthew 5:12](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad;

Your reward will be great in heaven.

Alleluia!

### Gospel

[Matthew 5:1-12](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Happy are the poor in spirit.*

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage.  
Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted.  
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied.  
Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.  
Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God.  
Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God.  
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'



Next Week's Readings (7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026) – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A  
1st Reading: [Isaiah 58:7-10](#) 2nd Reading: [1 Corinthians 2:1-5](#) Gospel: [Matthew 5:13-16](#)

## Parish Activities

**ANAM CARA** – Wednesday 9.00am in the Presbytery

**BAPTISM** information mornings are held on the 1st Sunday of the month at 10.45am. 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 in the Quiet Room at the Church every Thursday after the 10am Mass.

**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 1pm in the Presbytery.

**LOURDES PRAYER GROUP** - meet in the Quiet Room every Tuesday after the 10am Liturgy of The Word.

**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 at 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

#### Purity

Purity and impurity was a major issue in 1st Century Jewish society. The Priests and Pharisees maintained that only pure adherence to the Law could make a person acceptable in God's eyes. Impurity came to be associated with physical disease and injury. Those with severe disease or disability were regarded as sinful and punished by God. Jesus' statement, 'Happy are the pure of heart', would have scandalised those who maintained that purity came through strict observance of Law. Jesus suggests that purity (and impurity) comes from within a person rather than from the outside – regardless of their observance of the Law.

### Sunday Reflection...

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To follow Jesus does not mean merely that one travels with him from place to place. It means that one learns from him, that one follows his manner of life and his way of thinking. To follow Jesus means to follow his example in the way he respects himself and other people, in his use of the things of the natural world. It means that one listens to what he says, and asks for an explanation when what he says is not understood. All of this requires that the disciple be a learner, one who can learn from the life of Jesus as well as from his teaching.

The first lessons that the disciples must learn are found in the beatitudes. The same lessons are placed before us, the modern-day disciples. The setting of Jesus' teaching is so serene; a mountain apart, a teacher with his disciples gathered around him, simple statements that are coupled with glorious rewards. However, the reality of the lessons is in stark contrast with this tranquil scene. These beatitudes, these blessings call for profound inner transformation.

The gospel outlines the kind of person the disciple is to become; the psalm sketches the program to which the learner is called. The disciples of Jesus are not merely his followers; they also continue the work that he began. In whatever circumstance of life we find ourselves, as disciples of Jesus we work to sustain the good that is in the world and to transform whatever needs transformation.

### Living the gospel

#### Be-attitudes

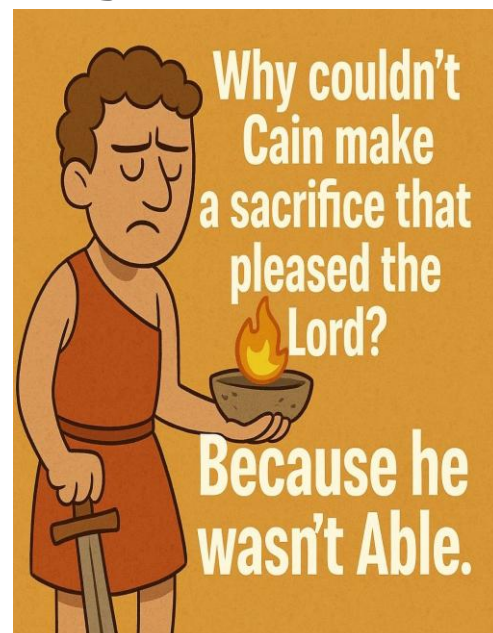
*One way to read the Beatitudes is that Jesus was commending and blessing the various people who found themselves in those sorts of conditions. Another, is as a list of qualities that all people should strive to exhibit. It's not just some people who happen to be economically poor who are blessed. Rather, we must all have a poverty of spirit – a humility about our need for God's merciful action in our lives. All are called to hunger and thirst for justice and all are called to be merciful. The Beatitudes are not a menu to select from, but rather an essential list of ingredients.*

### gospel focus

#### Covenant

The structure of the Beatitudes can be seen as yet another attempt by God to re-establish a covenant between Godself and the people. Throughout Jewish history, God called the people back into relationship and re-established God's covenant with them. Like all the previous versions of the covenant, the Beatitudes contain both a series of demands and a series of promises. It is a two-way deal. The first part of each Beatitude is a statement of what the people are called to do and the second part is God's promise of how they will be rewarded for their right action.

### Thought of the week...





## Please Pray For...

### Recent Deaths:

**Anniversaries:** (30<sup>th</sup> Jan – 5<sup>th</sup> Feb) Jim Brown, Lynette Davis, Paula Ruhle, Maria Murphy, Stephen Kruger, Mary Madden, Mary Nicholson, James Corkin, Francis Williamson, Stanley McKenzie, Kenneth Schultz, Luke de Winter, David Smith, Ian McQuillan, Margaret Morris, Patricia Booshand, Rev Fr Howard Crowe, Rev Msgr Michael Potter, Ven A/Deacon Robert O'Shea

**Those Who Are Sick:** Hannah Parton (of Bargara), Garry Birch, Sr Cecilia Bailey, Peter Reynolds, 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 Oliveira, 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

**February Birthdays:** Margaret Greer, Colleen Redinger, Pat McDonnell, Laura Bentley, Michael Kelly, Joan O'Sullivan, Vic White

## Parish News...

Sat 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan	o 6.30pm Mass
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	o 9.45am Mass including Children's Liturgy
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	o Feast of the Presentation of the Lord o 6.30pm Parish Council Meeting
Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	o 10am LOW o 10.30am Prayer Group
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	o 9am Anam Cara in the Presbytery o 6pm Parish Meeting in School Hall
Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	o 10am Mass o 10.30am Craft and Friendship Group
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	

### Date Claimers:

**11<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes - 10am OLOL celebration in the school hall at 10am.

**18<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Ash Wednesday – Mass 5.30pm

**21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> Feb** – First Sunday of Lent

### Parish Meeting Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February

As part of the process leading to the appointment of a new pastor for the parish, parishioners are invited to take part in a meeting to be held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, 6pm – 7.30pm. These gatherings will provide an opportunity for parishioners to participate in small group discussion centred on the strengths of the parish and its future needs. Your insights and reflections are valued and will help inform this important appointment. All parishioners are encouraged to attend. Please indicate on the form at the church entrance or contact the Parish Office if you would like transport. A light supper will follow.

### Baptism

We joyfully welcome Leonard Linnan, son of Nicholas and Brooke, into Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism this Sunday. Please keep Leonard and his family in your prayers.

## Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day & Volunteer Celebrations

On the weekend of the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> of February, we would like to thank and celebrate all our wonderful volunteers. Please join us for dinner (dinner provided) from 5pm – 6pm on Saturday evening or at morning tea after the 9.45am Mass.

Please bring a plate to share for Morning Tea.



### Lenten Program – are you interested?

Please indicate your interest in the 2026 Lenten Program by adding your name to the list at the church entrance. The cost of the Program books will be covered by the parish and can be used for either group or individual preparation. Copies of accompanying CDs, if needed, can be purchased by the parish office on your behalf.

### Word of God Sunday

The Catholic Church in Australia celebrates Word of God Sunday on the first Sunday in February each year. The Sacred Scriptures are not just a series of stories or historical narratives and biographies. They have a specific authority. They are inspired directly from God. They are not like other books that gather dust on a bookshelf but are living documents that inform every aspect of our lives. We pray that our Church will continue to respond to the Word of God, as we continue to be missionary disciples of Christ. May we continue to listen to the Scriptures when they are proclaimed, and may God's word fall on good soil that will lead to a fruitful harvest.

Date	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Ministers	Ipad Operator	Piety Stall
7 <sup>th</sup> Feb at 6.30pm	G Schoorl	C Golightly	B Witham R Johnston	Ward Family	H. J Kelly W. J Johnston W. W Hoopert	Soriano Family	K Ward
8 <sup>th</sup> Feb at 9.45am	Dias Family	J Anderson	J Bonell A Cournane	R Fallon K Langdale	H. T Ryan W. S Rosentreter W. C Anderson	J Cash	C Redinger



Dear Friends,

A truly historic moment for our Diocese is just weeks away - and limited tickets remain for our upcoming dinner event on Thursday, 26 March, and Breakfast event on Friday, 27 March, welcoming **His Eminence Mykola Cardinal Bychok CSSR** on his first-ever visit to Toowoomba. Both events will feature a **live on-stage interview** with His Eminence, conducted by Michael Crutcher, former editor of The Courier-Mail. It is a rare opportunity to hear directly from an inspiring Church leader whose presence marks a moment of deep spiritual and cultural significance for our community.

#### **Tickets Are Selling Fast - Don't Miss Out**

Avoid disappointment by securing your place now. These events will not be repeated, and seating is limited. Book your Dinner Ticket [here](#). Book your Breakfast Ticket [here](#)  
**Supporting a Sacred Legacy**

All proceeds from the dinner and breakfast support the restoration of St Patrick's Cathedral, ensuring this treasured landmark is preserved as we prepare for the Centenary of the Diocese in 2029. We would be honoured to welcome you to one of these events. *The Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba*

#### **I Am Light - Daily Lenten Prayers**

I Am Light, Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality, offers 2.30min daily video prayers, inviting you to pause, reflect, and notice God's presence in Scripture, music, and images. Each day is a chance to encounter Christ's light in your life and in the world. Created by Michael Hansen SJ, these brief daily prayers will enlighten you through Lent and prepare you for the night of lights on Holy Saturday. Register [here](#) to receive your blessing to your inbox each day from Ash Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February to Easter Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

#### **World Day of Prayer Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March**

**10am Church of Christ Toowoomba North**

18 Progress Crt, Harlaxton

**Contact:** Fiona Margetts [fiona.margetts@gmail.com](mailto:fiona.margetts@gmail.com) or 0418 747 739

**6.30pm St Bart's Anglican Church**

103 Stenner St, Rangeville.

**Contact:** Penny Fuelling: [pmfuelling@gmail.com](mailto:pmfuelling@gmail.com) or 0436 407 553



World Day of Prayer 2026  
Focus on Nigeria



#### **News re. Fr BJ's appointment to St Anthony's Parish and Our Lady Of Lourdes Parish**

Bishop Ken Howell has appointed Fr BJ to St Anthony's Parish and Our Lady of Lourdes Parish for an additional two years, with his current term ending end of 2027. The bishop extends his gratitude to the parishes for welcoming Fr BJ and is sure both parishes will thrive under the servant leadership of the (yet-to-be-appointed) pastor and his associate.

**Note from Fr BJ:** Thank you all so much for the many ways you have welcomed me and helped me grow in 2025. Thank you also for the love you showed me and Fr Jamie over the Christmas season. I very much look forward to continuing as parochial vicar in the parishes over the coming two years and assisting the parish priest in his leadership and service.

#### **WELCOME VISITORS AND NEW PARISHIONERS**

If you are new to the area or have recently started attending Church services at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and would like to be added to our Parish register to receive our weekly bulletin and/or other parish information, please complete the following details.

TITLE: ..... NAME.....

ADDRESS.....POSTCODE.....

PHONE NUMBER.....EMAIL ADDRESS.....

**Please add me to your Parish Register:** Yes ☐ No ☐

**Privacy Statement:** Our Lady of Lourdes respects the privacy rights of all individuals associated with parish community life. We seek your permission to use the information collected to fulfil the Parish commitment. Yes ☐ No ☐

**Please hand in at Church or email to:** [ourladyoflourdesparish@twb.catholic.org.au](mailto:ourladyoflourdesparish@twb.catholic.org.au)