



Welcome to **OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH**

153 Holberton St, Toowoomba | p: 4634 1453 | f: 4634 1940

Email: lol.parish@bigpond.com | <https://lolparish.org.au> 

Priest in Residence - Rev John Quinlan

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm

Pastoral Coordinator: Jenny Ferguson Email: lol.pastoralcoordinator@gmail.com

Reconciliation: Saturday 4.45pm

Mass times: Saturday: 6:00pm Vigil | Sunday: 9.30am & 5.30pm

Tuesdays at 10am

Primary School: e: lourdes@twb.catholic.edu.au | p: 4591 1200

<https://www.ololtwb.catholic.edu.au>

We acknowledge and respect the living culture of the Gialal and Jarowair peoples, past, present and emerging, the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet.

Sunday, 8th May 2022 Fourth Sunday of Easter - Year C

First Reading

[Acts 13:14, 43-52](#)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

We are now turning to the gentiles.

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats.

When the meeting broke up, many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them.

The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said: I have made you a light for the nations, so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.'

It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside.

But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul

and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 99:1-3. 5. R. v.3](#)

(R.) We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

1. Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before him, singing for joy. (R.)
2. Know that he, the Lord, is God. He made us, we belong to him, we are his people, the sheep of his flock. (R.)
3. Indeed, how good is the Lord, eternal his merciful love. He is faithful from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading

[Rv 7:9, 14-17](#)

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

The Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water.

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said to me, 'These are the people who have been through the

great persecution, and because they washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

Gospel

[Jn 10:27-30](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I give my sheep eternal life.

Jesus said:

'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life; they will never be lost and no one will ever steal them from me. The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone, and no one can steal from the Father. The Father and I are one.'

Next Week's Readings (14th May/15th May 2022) – Fifth Sunday of Easter – Year C

1st Reading: Acts 14:21-27 2nd Reading: Rv 21:1-5 Gospel: Jn 13:31-35

Parish Activities

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Friday afternoons in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel from 1:00pm - 5:30pm.

ANAM CARA – Wednesday 9.30am in the Presbytery

BAPTISM information nights are held on the 1st Wednesday 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.

CRAFT & FRIENDSHIP GROUP - meet every Thursday at 10:00am in the quiet room at the church.

ECUMENISM GROUP - meet the fourth Saturday of each month at 9:30am in the Children's Liturgy Room followed by a cuppa.

LITURGY GROUP - meet every 4th Monday of the month at 7:00pm in the presbytery.

LOURDES PRAYER GROUP - meet after the 10am Mass every Tuesday.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL – meet the first Monday of each month at 6.30pm in the Presbytery.

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 second and fourth Thursday mornings in the quiet room at the church at 8:00am.

Parish Councillors

Sue Whitelegg, Robie Jayawardhana, Jon Dwan, Leisa Fanning, Julius Soriano, Brian Roberts, Cristianne Dias and Candice Poulton.

Parish Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults Representatives:

Our Parish is committed to supporting the right of everybody to be and feel safe. Concerns about the safety of children or vulnerable persons may be raised with our Parish Safeguarding Representatives (**Joe & Sarah Kelly 0437 839 838**). If you believe anybody is at immediate risk of harm you should phone 000. Further details of safeguarding procedures can be found on the noticeboard.

Toowoomba Diocese Safeguarding Resources can be found at <https://www.twb.catholic.org.au/professional-standards-safeguarding-children-the-vulnerable-policy/>

SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

The Father and I are one

The final sentence of today's passage has Jesus declaring, "The Father and I are one." It seems a fitting way to finish the gospel reading for liturgical use in the Easter season. However, the passage in John's gospel continues on. Immediately upon hearing these words, the listening crowd grab rocks and are about to stone Jesus to death! They were horrified by his apparent blasphemy - claiming to be one with God. Such a bold declaration of oneness with the Father was no doubt used by the gospel writer to try to eradicate emerging questions about the divinity of Jesus.

Sunday Reflection...

© Dianne Bergant CSA

This Sunday is traditionally referred to as Good Shepherd Sunday. However, the readings for today focus more on the flock than on the shepherd. The overarching theme appears to be unity in diversity. Placing this theme within the context of the Easter season, we might refocus it slightly and suggest that today we celebrate the presence of the Risen Lord in communities of difference.

Unity in diversity is first found in the divine union of the Trinity. All other models of unity flow from it. Both the first and the second readings depict communities made up of people from every nation, race, people and tongue, Jews and Gentile alike. This is precisely the makeup of most communities today. Parishes and religious groups that were born with a particular cultural identity have changed in complexion and composition. Despite the obvious differences, all are children of the one God, all are joined in their common confession of faith.

Not everyone is happy with diversity. Some within the early community resented the success of Paul and Barnabas and they tried to turn the people against them. This sounds strangely familiar to us. Religious groups born out of struggle and hard work, that were lovingly nurtured and that grew strong, often resist what they perceived to be the invasion of foreigners. If these people could only take as their model the company of the blessed revealed in John's vision, they would see that those who have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb come from every nation and race and people and tongue.

GOSPEL FOCUS

Do you love me?

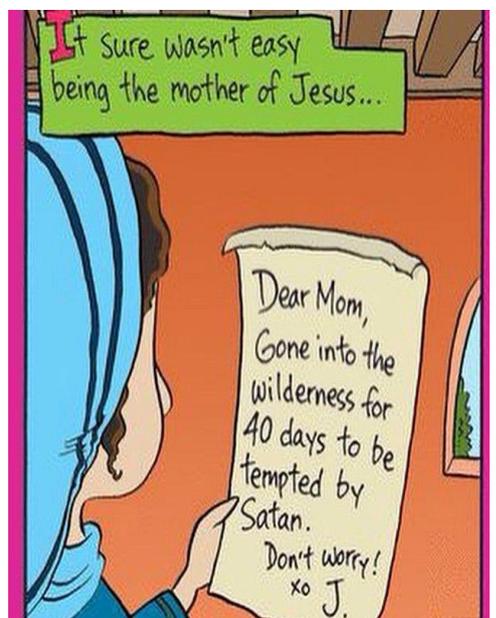
Three times Jesus asks Peter, "Do you love me?" and three times Peter answers, "You know I do." Some writers suggest that the three-fold question by Jesus and the three-fold reply by Peter is intended to balance out the triple denial of Jesus by Peter at the time of the arrest and trial of Jesus. Where once Peter denied even knowing Jesus, he now declares his love for Jesus in no uncertain terms. It is a reminder to all of us that there is no act that we can perform that cannot be forgiven by God and from which we cannot come back.



Have you thought? Eternal life

In the gospel passage, Jesus says of the sheep that belong to him, "I give them eternal life." He does not say, "I give them the promise of eternal life." The message that comes through the gospel of John is clear that eternal life is not some future existence, but rather a new way of being in the here and now. But that is not to suggest that there is not an 'eternal' quality to eternal life. The gospel of John makes clear that eternal life begins in the here and now but has no end.

Thought of the day...



Please Pray For...

Recent Deaths: Alan Curr

Anniversaries: Fr Brian Moran, Fr Vincent Maher, Msgr Patrick McMorro, Fr Thomas Isaac, William Sims, Kevin McNamara, Eileen Davis, Frank Pemble-Smith, Patrick Boland, Delma Wells, Kevin Uprichard

Those Who Are Sick: Ros Kettle, Frank Kenneally, Christene and Neil Fanning, Joan Shearer, Carmel & Ron O'Brien, Margaret Munroe, Lillian Roberts, Rachel Wiggan, Brian Thomson, Francis Swinson, Hazel Machin, Fiona Heneghan, Noela Vonhoff, Charles Shann, Fr Don Murray, Judy Reardon, Delima Faigl, Ava Bateman, Peggy Thies, David Martin, Damian Laurence, Patty Ryan, Valarie Reibelt, John Axtell, Ted Schulz, Noel O'Mara, Mick O'Mara, Patrick Wright, Tanya Prince, Tim Zvirblis and Olivia Zvirblis.

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

Parish News...

2022 Date Claimers:

- 29th May – Feast of the Ascension of the Lord
- 5th June – Social Justice meeting

Planned Giving

On-line Planned Giving forms will be emailed on Monday 9th May. Paper copies will be available at the back of the church next weekend. Please return the forms as soon as possible.

Mother's Day Gift Ideas

Pay it forward Vinnies Gift card

Vinnies Gift Cards are often a life saver for many in our community in need. In times of crisis, with a Vinnies card people can purchase essential clothes, linen, or other goods from our stores. Purchase a Vinnies Gift Card at a Vinnies store and let the team know you want to 'pay it forward'. The staff will make sure to 'pay it forward' to someone in need who visits the store. Tell mum you've purchased a "Pay It Forward" Vinnies Gift Card on her behalf.

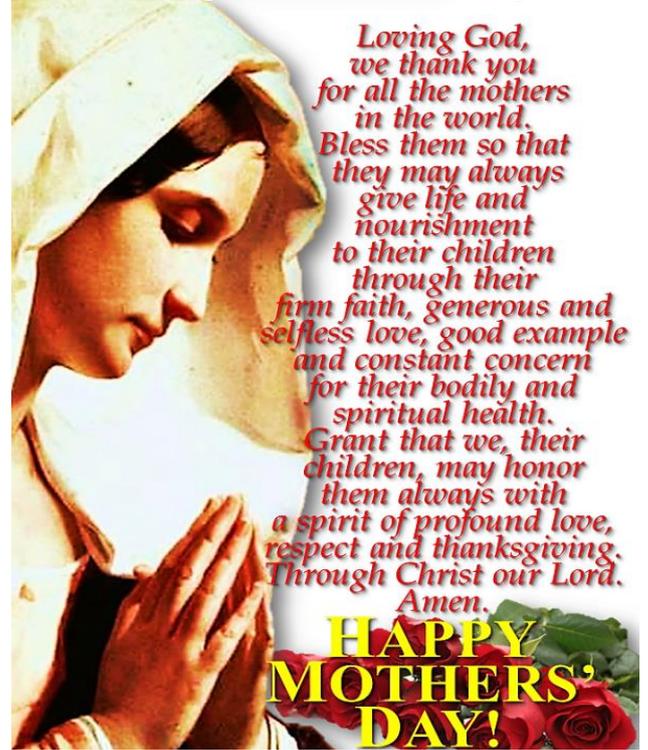
Madonna Magazine gift subscription - Annual Subscription: \$58 (Four Issues – Spring, Summer, Autumn And Winter) Madonna is a magazine of spiritual reading for lay people. Through personal stories and reflections, it demonstrates the presence of God in our everyday lives. It develops knowledge and appreciation of the Christian faith through informative articles on Christian beliefs, history, spirituality and practice.

<https://www.madonnamagazine.com.au/article/subscriptions>

Majellan Magazine gift subscription - A \$20 gift subscription to the Majellan provides a long-term reminder of what it means to be family. Published 4 times a year, it is packed with stories about family and faith to help families be the best they can be. It is a perfect gift for mums. Go to:

<https://majellan.media/product/the-majellan-magazine-gift-subscription/>

A Prayer for Mother's Day



Sacramental Program Date Claimers:

- 17th May - Confirmation practice meeting 3.30pm
- 18th May – Sacrament of Confirmation 7pm
- 19th May – First Eucharist Practice for Mass 1 (22/5/22) at 3.30pm
- 22nd May – First Eucharist (Mass 1) at 11am
- 25th May - First Eucharist Practice for Mass 2 (29/5/22) at 3.30pm
- 29th May – First Eucharist (Mass 2) at 11am

Sacraments Preparation



Time	Altar Servers	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Extraordinary Ministers	I pad Operator	Piety Stall
14 th May at 6pm	I Whittaker	G Schoorl M Cushway	B Witham	M Cleary J Soriano	G Ferguson	M Connell	N Doyle
15 th May at 9.30am	M Kelly T Kelly	C Poulton L Wagner	N Ryan	J Coman K Kruger	P Murphy	B Saunders	A Suhr
15 th May at 5.30pm	N Morcom M Morcom	S Whitelegg A Hickey	C Golightly	L Bentley C Smith	M Whitelegg	B Bambosek	C Roberts

SmartLoving Breakthrough

An online course for spouses in troubled Marriages



If your marriage is under stress or you feel disconnected from your spouse, but don't know how to ease the pain, join us for this online course.

- Identify your conflict triggers.
- Learn strategies to de-escalate an argument.
- Restore hope with practical relationship strategies.

smartloving.org/breakthrough

Divine Mercy Sale 50% Off (ends May 31)

Use coupon code: **DivineMercy**

Father Stu – coming to Toowoomba 12th May

God wanted a fighter and He found one. Mark Wahlberg stars in the inspiring true-life story, Father Stu, an unflinchingly honest, funny, and ultimately uplifting drama about a lost soul who finds his purpose in a most unexpected place. A boxer-turned-priest who inspired countless people during his journey from self-destruction to redemption. Click [Here](#) to view trailer.



SPRED – Where Faith and Friendship Meet

Are you...

- * Looking to add meaning to your life, by making a real difference in the life of someone else
- * Interested in making new friends & developing new skills
- * Searching for a way to deepen your own faith

...then, SPRED may be for you!

SPRED is having a friend to walk beside you in the everyday happenings of life, which is exactly where God is to be found. Could you be a friend to someone in SPRED?

For more information:

- Check out the display at the back of the church
- talk to any of our Parish SPRED Volunteers
- or contact Loretta Coman at the SPRED centre on 4632 8427 or
- Email spred@twb.catholic.org.au



Diocesan E-news...



ORDINATION DATE ANNOUNCED

Our two Deacons, Nathan Webb and Brian Redondo will be ordained to the Priesthood on Saturday 25 June 2022 at St Patrick's Cathedral, Toowoomba with the ceremony commencing at 10am.

As a Diocese we rejoice at this news and pray for Brian and Nathan as they prepare for their Ordination.

BBI: DISCIPLES & LEADERS PROGRAM - Toowoomba Diocese 2022:

Discipleship and Participation

The Disciples and Leader program with BBI-Taite will continue for in May and August 2022. New participants are invited to join the Disciples and Leaders program. To register, please email your contact details to Christine Hickey, Bishop's Secretary, at bishsec@twb.catholic.org.au.

The module for May (currently underway):

Participation and worship: praying the Mass together

1. participating in the gathering;
2. participating in the Word;
3. participating in the Eucharistic rites
4. participating in the community

The module for August will be:

Participation and the life of the community: being parishioners together

- 1. The heart of the community:** what is the Christian community in the Spirit among the saints; key features of pastoral care; learning from others: lessons from the land and the people.
- 2. The mission of the community:** what do we bring, what do we become?; the social justice dimensions of the life of the church.
- 3. Leading in and from the community:** what does Christian leadership look like?; having the 'smell of the sheep'.
- 4. A church in every community and a community in every church:** the integration of our community in the larger community; the teaching of Fratelli tutti.

SYCHAR HOUSE OF PRAYER & SPIRITUALITY

69 Margaret Street Toowoomba

SYCHAR SECOND TERM SCHEDULE: 19 April – 24 June 2022:

Best times for accessing the library during term are Tuesday or Wednesday mornings or before or after an advertised Sychar event. Alternatively, you may contact 0458 020 906 to arrange for a time that is manageable for you. You are welcome to enjoy the peace and quiet of the garden at any time. A flat behind the main house offers quiet space for those wanting a personal day of reflection.

Upcoming Sessions

Seeing with New Eyes: Opening to the Wisdom of the Parables

Six weekly sessions Monday 16 May to Monday 20 June 2022 7pm to 8.30pm (approx.) For more information [Click here](#)

100% Wool Neck Warmers

These gorgeous neck warmers have been lovingly created by two of our parishioners and are available in an assortment of colours for \$15ea at the piety stall or Parish Office. All proceeds will be donated to the OLOL SVDP Conference to help support local families.

