



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, 2nd/3rd April 2022 5th Sunday of Lent - Year C

First Reading

[Is 43:16-21](#)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army, which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick:

No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it? Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds.

The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink. The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 125. R. v.3](#)

(R.) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. (R.)
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. (R.)
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. (R.)

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. (R.)

Second Reading

[Phil 3:8-14](#)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to gain him.

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

Gospel

[Jn 8:1-11](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

Next Week's Readings (9th/10th April 2022) – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord – Year C
1st Reading: Is 50:4-7 2nd Reading: Phil 2:6-11 Gospel: Lk 22:14-23:56

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/>

GOSPEL FOCUS

Restoring honour

When the accused woman is brought before Jesus for judgment he neither looks at the woman nor at the accusers. He bends down and writes in the dirt. When the accusers melt away, Jesus (still kneeling on the ground) looks up at the woman to speak to her. She has probably never been treated with this level of respect in all her life. With this action, as much as anything else, Jesus restores dignity and honour to the woman. No longer looked down upon, she can begin a new life.

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Forgiven, not forgotten

The words Jesus speaks to the accused woman could as easily be addressed to each of us. We all feel at times that we've done the wrong thing – something we don't deserve to be forgiven for. However, Jesus says to us, I know you've done the wrong thing, and you are already forgiven, but you need to make a commitment to change and not repeat the error. It is Jesus' promise not to give up on us - not to forget about us - that we can draw strength from as we try to respond to his challenge to change.

Project Compassion Sunday Reflection...

Pope Francis has spoken a great deal about our need for more women to occupy positions of leadership, both in the Church and in the world at large. For example, in his wonderful letter about the way we belong to each other, Fratelli Tutti, he says 'the organisation of societies worldwide is still far from reflecting clearly that women possess the same dignity and identical rights as men. We say one thing with words, but our decisions and reality tell another story.' He is concerned about 'those women who endure situations of exclusion, mistreatment and violence'.

Pope Francis is very much reflecting the attitude of Jesus whose closeness to women distinguished him as a leader and teacher in his time. You might think of significant encounters in the New Testament: the woman at the well, Martha and Mary, the widow of Nain. You might also think of the woman we meet in today's Gospel, described by the scribes and Pharisees as 'caught in the very act of committing adultery.' Listen to the sneer in those words.

These men, who are supposed to be educated and respected, have been peeping through the window. Their behaviour is salacious, domineering and demeaning. In their self-righteousness, they threaten violence. There is no sign of the woman's partner who is surely just as much part of the story. Jesus neatly turns the tables. He starts by sitting on the ground, occupying a position lower than that of the woman. He is the only one not taking an eyeful of her.

Caritas Australia, whom we support through Project Compassion, has long acted in constructive ways to uphold the dignity of women and honour their strength, resilience and leadership. A good example is Shaniella, a young woman from a remote village in the Solomon Islands. She is the feature of this week's story and embodies the theme of this year's Project Compassion: For all future generations. Take a few minutes to share her story and consider the odds she is overcoming to create a safer and healthier environment for herself and her community. She is the kind of person who should surely grab our attention.

Today's second reading reminds us that none of us is perfect. But like St Paul, we are still running, still trying to achieve 'the perfection that comes through faith in Christ.' This does not mean judging others as the scribes and Pharisees did. It means challenging ourselves, in the words of the prophet Isaiah, to put water in the wilderness as we consider what we might do 'for all future generations.'

SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

Jerusalem

This gospel passage begins with Jesus going to the Mount of Olives. We know the Mount of Olives best from the passion narratives in the synoptic gospels. But today's passage is not part of the last week of Jesus' life. The three synoptic gospels generally portray the ministry of Jesus as something of a journey towards Jerusalem and have him arriving just in time for the Passover and his arrest. However, the gospel of John places most of Jesus' ministry in and around Jerusalem to better focus the tension between the teachings of Jesus and the Jewish hierarchy.

Thought of the day...



Please Pray For...

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: Rita Moore, Kevin Langton, Herbert John Reis, William Sarquis, Tom Burns, Ted Edge, Colin Quinn, Cliff Bauer, Elizabeth Ann Duff, Graham Smith

Those Who Are Sick: 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, Olivia Zvirblis and Alan Curr.

April Birthdays: Christina Dever, Catherine Dyson, Veronica O'Connell, Thomas Kelly, Monica Thompson, Pat MacGinley

Parish News...

Easter Mass Times

- 5th April - 2nd Rite of Penance at 7.30pm
- 9th/10th April - Palm Sunday 6pm, 9.30am and 5.30pm
- 11th April - Chrism Mass 5.30pm at St Pat's Cathedral
- 14th April - Holy Thursday Mass 7pm
- 15th April - Good Friday Stations of the Cross 10am
- Passion of the Lord 3pm
- 16th April - Holy Saturday Mass 7pm
- 17th April - Easter Sunday Mass 8am & 9.30am

1st Rite of Reconciliation for Lent

- 2nd & 9th April - 4.45pm
- 5th & 12th April - 10.30am



Parish Pastoral Council –

Recommendations for Memberships

Recommendations for Membership to the Parish Pastoral Council close after the 5.30pm Mass this weekend.

Please place nomination forms (available at the church entrances) in the boxes provided. To nominate online please click [here](#)

Choir Practice for Easter

Sunday, 3rd April & Sunday, 10th April
after 9.30am Mass at 10.30am



ALL SINGERS & MUSICIANS NEEDED!

Palms needed for Palm Sunday

If you or anyone you know has palms that the Liturgy Group could use on Palm Sunday please advise the Parish Office as soon as possible.



Pope's monthly Intention for April

Health Care Workers

We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.

Lismore Flood Appeal 2022

The Diocese of Lismore has launched its 2022 Flood Appeal. To donate please transfer funds to:

BSB: 037-889 Account No: 1061 5829
Account Name: DOL Flood Appeal

Social Justice Easter Raffle

LOL Parish and Social Justice Group will once again hold an Easter Raffle with all proceeds going to Project Compassion. Tickets will be on sale, before and after weekend Masses, from the 2nd April, until Easter Sunday. Prizes will be drawn at Easter Sunday 9.30 am Mass.

By supporting Fairtrade at Easter, you are empowering small scale cocoa farmers in developing countries to improve their lives and livelihoods, invest in their communities and control their futures. Tickets \$1ea



Project Compassion Prayer 2nd / 3rd April

Loving God,

We pray that all women may be respected and encouraged to take their rightful place in society. We pray also that all people will have access to clean water and safe house. May we act for justice in concrete ways, such as through Project Compassion. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Palm Sunday Roster

Time	Altar Servers	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Extraordinary Ministers	Ipad Operator	Piety Stall
9 th of April 6.00pm	E Ward	K Roberts M Cushway	_____	1) N Doyle 2) L Walsh N) J Wilson J) G Borger O) _____	K Walsh	_____	K Ward
10 th of April 9:30am	E Dwan	A Cournane _____	_____ _____	1) M McLean 2) _____ N) M Ondrus J) _____ O) _____	_____	_____	
10 th of April 5:30pm	M Obst N Obst	_____ _____	_____	1) _____ 2) _____ N) L Bentley J) _____ O) _____	L Bentley	_____	

Ars Cantorum
presents
Eastertide Music

extracts from a contemporary Easter cantata
Behold Your King by John W. Peterson
with additional music by a mix of composers including
Dubois, Gore Ouseley, Handel, Leighton, & Rheinberger

Friday 8 April 2022 at 7pm

followed by light refreshments in the Parish Centre

St James Church
Cnr Russell and Mort Streets Toowoomba

Trina Timbs - Conductor
Andrew Doecke - Accompanist
Cameron Smith with Le Toot ensemble

tickets can be pre-purchased from
St James Parish Office (4639 1858) or via Choir Members

Tickets \$20 accompanied school age children - no charge

Enquiries - 0439 355 089

Slavery-Free Easter

As Easter is fast approaching, ACRATH is calling for everyone to consider the ethical dimensions of their purchases; we ask you to **make sure your Easter chocolate is slavery-free.**

Fairtrade Chocolate Brands

- Green & Blacks
- Aldi
- Alter Eco
- Bennetto Natural Foods Co
- Moser-Roth
- Pico
- Wellington Chocolate Factory
- Tony's Chocolate



Fairtrade Retailers

- Aldi
- Woolworths
- Coles
- IGA



Offer a Mass for your Loved One This Easter



ACN AUSTRALIA

As we approach the Holy Season of Easter consider offering up a Mass for your loved ones. These Mass stipends support priests in the poorest parts of the world who have no other means of support and are offered for the intentions of the benefactor. You can also send your loved ones a Mass card.

Visit www.aidtochurch.org/masses

Good Friday Stations of the Cross

We gather on the steps of St Patrick's Cathedral on Good Friday 15th April, 2022 at 7.30am to carry the cross around a variety of key locations in the CBD. Each stop is a 'station' and we will pause, read a reflection and pray. The reflections will help us be in solidarity with some of the many injustices in our world. We will return to the Cathedral for our final 'station' around 9am. Please join us as we walk with Jesus.

Any queries to David Tutty at 0428130895 and dtutty@twb.catholic.org.au



Palm Sunday Gathering for Peace, Hope & Justice

Reviving the Tradition of the Palm Sunday Peace March

2pm Sun 10th April, Village Green Ruthven St

On the first Palm Sunday, the people called out "Hosanna, hosanna" which means "Please save us." It's a cry that refugees around the world are making today. Please save us from war. Join with us to advocate for peace and to undertake action for justice for refugees.

Please see the Noticeboard for more details.

A joint activity of:

Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba



Social Justice Commission



Prayer for Sacramental Candidates

God of all ages,
You send out Your Spirit to touch the hearts of all people, so that they may believe in You and in Jesus whom You sent.

Look kindly on the Sacramental candidates and their families as they listen to Your voice. Open their hearts to Your Spirit and bring to fulfillment the good work that You have begun in them. Make us an instrument of Your love.

Teach us to reverence what is holy in others, and to be patient with what we do not understand. Deepen our faith in the Gospel and help us to pass it on by our example. We pray that You will continue to guide and sustain us. We praise you through Christ our Lord. Amen



Project Compassion Sunday
2nd & 3rd April



Shaniella 23, from the Solomon Islands was determined to forge a path out of poverty, moving away to vocational school. With your support, Shaniella was able to overcome further challenges of natural disasters, and gain the skills she needs to create a brighter future for herself.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 so this transformational program can continue to empower and strengthen vulnerable communities For All Future Generations



Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.