



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, 23rd/24th April 2022 Second Sunday of Easter - Year C

First Reading

[Acts 5:12-16](#)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 117:2-4, 22-27. R. v.1](#)

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. (R.)
3. O Lord, grant us salvation;
O Lord grant success.
Blessed in the name of the Lord
Is he who comes. We bless you from
the house of the Lord; the true God is
our light. (R.)

Second Reading

[Rv 1:9-13, 17-19](#)

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

Gospel

[Jn 20:19-31](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he

said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

Next Week's Readings (30th April/1st May 2022) - Third Sunday of Easter - Year C
1st Reading: Acts 5:27-32. 40-41 2nd Reading: Rv 5:11-14 Gospel: Jn 21:1-19

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/>

Historical Context

My Lord and my God

By the time the Gospel of John was written – in the last decade of the 1st Century – there were already diverse beliefs about Jesus. As is recorded in the gospels, there were those who regarded Jesus as one of the prophets of Israel; others recognised him as the promised Messiah; others still had come to believe in Jesus the Christ as the incarnation of God. That is certainly the theology expressed in the Gospel of John. Perhaps as a means to further his community's theology and correct other ideas, the gospel writer has Thomas declare, "My Lord and my God!"

Sunday Reflection...

© Dianne Bergant CSA

The readings for the Sundays after Easter all provide mystagogical catechesis for the entire church, with a special emphasis for the newly baptised. This instruction is meant to help us recognise the presence of the Risen Lord in our midst. The overarching theme for the Second Sunday of Easter is the celebration of this presence in several manifestations.

While we might seek some obvious, tangible manifestation, each reading speaks of the presence of Christ in a way that we would not expect Christ to be present. He is there in the very throes of sickness, in fear and doubt, in the celebration of the liturgy. These presences challenge us to go beneath appearances, beneath the mundane and banal of life, and there discover the risen Lord in personal mystical experience, in the ministry of the believing community, and in the transformative possibilities of the liturgy.

Experiences of the Risen Lord are not reserved for extraordinarily holy people. Any one of us can be invited into a deep personal encounter when we least expect it, in the most unlikely places, with effects that overwhelm us. In fact, the Risen Christ is always just around the next corner, eager to enter our lives with the transforming power of the resurrection. Being part of a community of believers in prayer can be one of the most profound religious experiences. It not only transforms the present, but it also entrusts us with a vision of what is yet to be, an eschatological hope for a glorious future.

Scriptural Context

Holy Spirit

In the Gospel of John, during the Last Supper discourse, Jesus repeatedly assures his disciples that the Father will provide them with another Advocate to guide them. This advocate (or paraclete) is to be the Holy Spirit. Although 'advocate' carries a certain legal meaning, the gospel writer uses it to mean one who represents the continued presence of Jesus, just as Jesus was the advocate or paraclete of God. In the Holy Spirit that Jesus breathes on the disciples we see the final element of the Trinitarian experience of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



Have you thought?

Does he mean us?

When Thomas made his declaration of faith, Jesus said, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy (or Blessed) are those who have not seen and yet believe.' (v29) Because this gospel was written 60 years or so after the time of Jesus, there were indeed many who believed but had not ever seen him. The blessing is on all those who believe without the benefit of a physical encounter of Jesus. Whilst the gospel was written as an acknowledgement of those at the end of the 1st Century, it is also a blessing and encouragement for believers of today!

Thought of the day...

Lest We Forget

We remember and thank all those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom and country on this Anzac day.



Please Pray For...

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: Fr Anthony O'Keefe, Fr Roderick Lynch, Fr Leo O'Donohue, Bernard Canning, Dennis Walton, Melinda Melville, Len Morrison, Steve Kruger, Alistair Marc Leahy, Mary Stephen, Leanne Sleba, Kaylene Bauer, Norma Cullen, Lucy Jannusch, Mona Boyce, Mavis Gesch

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

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

Parish News...

2022 Date Claimers:

- 25th April - Anzac Day Mass 10am followed by morning tea
- 25th April - Liturgy Group Meeting
- 1st April - Social Justice Meeting at 10.30 am
- 29th May - Feast of the Ascension of the Lord

Sacramental Program Date Claimers:

- 27th April - 2nd Parent Meeting for Confirmation and First Eucharist candidates at 5.30 pm in the Church
- 17th May - Confirmation organisational meeting 3.30pm
- 18th May - Sacrament of Confirmation 7pm
- 19th May - First Eucharist Organisation Meeting and Practice for Mass 1 (22/5/22) at 3.30pm
- 22nd May - First Eucharist (Mass 1) at 11am
- 25th May - First Eucharist Organisation Meeting and Practice for Mass 2 (29/5/22) at 3.30pm
- 29th May - First Eucharist (Mass 2) at 11am

Sacraments Preparation



Anzac Day Monday 25th April 2022

Please join us for a cuppa and an Anzac Biscuit following the 10am Mass.



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Prayer for Anzac Day

Gracious and loving God, the cross of Christ is the sign of your desire for justice and peace for all. Open our minds to your vision as we remember all who suffered through Australia and New Zealand's involvement in wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations. Grant all servicepersons who sacrificed health and life for the good of all, the gift of your deep peace. May we who inherit the freedom for which they fought become instruments of your peace in our homes, workplaces and world.

We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.



Thank you!



Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion 2022. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit lent.caritas.org.au and donate online

Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty.

Time	Altar Servers	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Extraordinary Ministers	I pad Operator	Piety Stall
30 th April at 6pm	I Whittaker	D & N Clark	C Ferguson	R O'Brien Joseph Family	W Hoopert	Soriano Family	J Robertson
1 st May at 9.30am	G Ryan I Ryan	J Blumke B Saunders	M Ondrus	P Murphy Cleber Dias	J Coman	Dwan Family	H O'Sullivan
1 st May at 5.30pm	M Morcom N Morcom	K Langdale B Bambosek	J See	L Bentley C Golightly	W Beetson	D Stark	V Barker

Anzac Day Relection

– Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ

Anzac Day this year is a time to mediate on war, to honour those who have been required to service in it, to show and to remember our shared humanity.



This year Anzac Day promises to be a subdued celebration with marches in which people who have fought in wars and their relatives can take part.

Few will be able to travel to Gallipoli to remember the invasion. The focus of the day will remain on the sorrow of war and not on the heroic achievements of soldiers or on imagined distinctive Australian qualities displayed at Gallipoli. The association of soldiers at Gallipoli with footballers playing their Anzac Day games will seem not only crass but ridiculous.

This year we shall remember with compassion people who died and whose lives were maimed by war with sorrow, and think of war with horror, not excitement. It has lain before our eyes all this month. Each day in the media we see the destruction in Ukraine of cities, of centuries-old centres of civilisation. We see the young soldiers on both sides brought into the conflict and sent back in body bags. We see the columns of refugees leaving Ukraine and read of those forced to stay in cities that are bombed around the clock, where the dead lie frozen in the ice with the living.

As we think back to Gallipoli, we think of the grief that spread from the battlefield to the Australian families and rural settlements who lost sons, brothers, fathers and the hopes of growing communities. We think, too, of the families to which soldiers returns, changed for the worse by their experience and sucking joy out of their families.

Anzac Day, too, encourages us to attend to the sorrow of later wars in which Australians have taken part – to the divisive Vietnam War, to Iraq and Afghanistan. We see beneath the honours of war the cost of constantly living in danger, where every farmer and grandmother might be an enemy fighter, and where Australian soldiers are seen as passing like straw in the wind. We see the hurt done to mind and spirit by war, and the cost to a rich humanity.

Anzac Day this year is a time to meditate on war, to honour those who have been required to serve in it, to be compassionate to those who have lost lovers and children, and to feel with those who have lost their humanity through their experience of war. It is a day to swear off all the dystopias that glorify mass destruction and to shout out compassion and other human responses.

Anzac is a day to pray for the dead and grow in compassion for the living dead left behind by war.

Training for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

The ACU Centre for Liturgy is offering a new online training program for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, supported by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. Classes start April 27.

For further information see our website <http://www.acu.edu.au/centreforliturgy/pastoral-training>

or contact the Centre on

(02) 9701 4751 or

CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au



Diocesan E-news...

DIOCESAN UPDATE
E-NEWS Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba

A NEWSLETTER FOR PARISHIONERS,
PARISH STAFF, CLERGY
AND MEMBERS OF THE WIDER CHURCH COMMUNITY

THREE SAINTS CELEBRATION 2022

St. Joseph's Parish, Stanthorpe

Sunday 1 May 2022

An afternoon and evening to celebrate the Three Saints visit Facebook for further information: 'Three Saints Celebration Stanthorpe'

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK LAUNCH

Date Claimer

Tuesday 26 July from 10am

St. Patrick's Cathedral, Toowoomba

BBI: DISCIPLES & LEADERS PROGRAM - Toowoomba

Diocese 2022:

Discipleship and Participation

The Disciples and Leaders program with BBI-Taite will continue for four Tuesday nights in May and four Tuesday nights in August 2022. Participants on the previous modules are invited to again register for these further modules. 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.

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.

FOR RURAL AREAS: As far as possible, your needs will be a priority on weekends. A day or morning of reflection can be made available in your parish at your request. You may wish to consider other ways Sychar can be of help to you – for example, introducing you to a method of spiritual sharing according to the Ignatian tradition which is being used by a group called Anam Cara (Soul Friend) that meets fortnightly at Sychar.

You are most welcome to visit if you are in Toowoomba – however, to ensure that someone can be there to greet you, please contact Sr. Elaine ahead of time if possible at 0458 020 906. Also please note that 'Sychar Solidarity' No 22 is available on the website.

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](#)

Employment Opportunity

Are you looking for flexible part-time work, with kind people, that can fit in with your timetable. My elderly parents have funding to help them with cleaning and gardening to enable them to stay in their home. I am looking for kind, intelligent people to employ. Please call 0434 284 251 for further details if you are interested.

Thank you. Regards, Genevieve Swan