



Welcome to **OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH**

153 Holberton St, Toowoomba | p: 4634 1453

Email: 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

Mass times: Saturday: 6:30pm Vigil | Sunday: 9.45am

Weekday Mass - Thursday 10am

Primary School: e: lourdes@twb.catholic.edu.au | p: 4591 1200
<https://www.ololtwb.catholic.edu.au>

We would like to acknowledge the Gbala and Jarowair peoples, Traditional Owners of this land and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Sunday, 4th May 2025 Third Sunday of Easter – Year C

First Reading

[Acts of the Apostles 5:27-32, 40-41](#)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

We are witnesses of these words, and so is the Holy Spirit.

The high priest demanded an explanation of the apostles. 'We gave you a formal warning,' he said 'not to preach in this name, and what have you done? You have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and seem determined to fix the guilt of this man's death on us.' In reply Peter and the apostles said, 'Obedience to God comes before obedience to men; it was the God of our ancestors who raised up Jesus, but it was you who had him executed by hanging on a tree. By his own right hand God has now raised him up to be leader and saviour, to give repentance and forgiveness of sins through him to Israel. We are witnesses to all this, we and the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.' They warned the apostles not to speak in the name of Jesus and released them. And so they left the presence of the Sanhedrin glad to have had the honour of suffering humiliation for the sake of the name.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 29:2, 4-6, 11-13, R. v.2](#)

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

1. I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me and have not let my enemies rejoice over me. O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead, restored me to life from those who sink into the grave. (R.)

2. Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him, give thanks to his holy name. His anger lasts but a moment; his favour through life. At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn. (R.)

3. The Lord listened and had pity. The Lord came to my help. For me you have changed my mourning into dancing; O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever. (R.)

Second Reading

[Revelation 5:11-14](#)

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, wealth, glory, and blessing.

In my vision, I, John, heard the sound of an immense number of angels gathered round the throne and the animals and the elders; there were ten thousand times ten thousand of them and thousands upon thousands, shouting, 'The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory and blessing.' Then I heard all the living things in creation – everything that lives in the air, and on the ground, and under the ground, and in the sea, crying, 'To the One who is sitting on the throne and to the Lamb, be all praise, honour, glory and power, for ever and ever.' And the four animals said, 'Amen'; and the elders prostrated themselves to worship.

Gospel

[John 21:1-19](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples. It was by the Sea of Tiberias, and it happened like this: Simon Peter, Thomas the Twin, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee and two more of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said, 'I'm going fishing.' They replied, 'We'll come with you.' They went out and got into the boat but caught nothing that night. It was light by now and there stood Jesus on the shore, though the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. Jesus called out, 'Have you caught

anything, friends?' And when they answered, 'No', he said, 'Throw the net out to starboard and you'll find something.' So they dropped the net, and there were so many fish that they could not haul it in. The disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord.' At these words 'It is the Lord', Simon Peter, who had practically nothing on, wrapped his cloak round him and jumped into the water. The other disciples came on in the boat, towing the net and the fish; they were only about a hundred yards from land. As soon as they came ashore they saw that there was some bread there, and a charcoal fire with fish cooking on it. Jesus said, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.' Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore, full of big fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them; and in spite of there being so many the net was not broken. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' None of the disciples was bold enough to ask, 'Who are you?'; they knew quite well it was the Lord. Jesus then stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and the same with the fish. This was the third time that Jesus showed himself to the disciples after rising from the dead. After the meal Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these others do?' He answered, 'Yes Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He replied, 'Yes, Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Look after my sheep.' Then he said to him a third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter was upset that he asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' and said, 'Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep. I tell you most solemnly, when you were young you put on your own belt and walked where you liked; but when you grow old you will stretch out your hands, and somebody else will put a belt round you and take you where you would rather not go.' In these words he indicated the kind of death by which Peter would give glory to God. After this he said, 'Follow me.'

Next Week's Readings (10th/11th May 2025) – Fourth Sunday of Easter – Year C

1st Reading: [Acts of the Apostles 13:14, 43-52](#) 2nd Reading: [Revelation 7:9,14-17](#) Gospel: [John 10:27-30](#)

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/>

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.

Sunday Reflection...

© Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we concentrate on the different ways that the witness of the community of faith manifests the Lord – the apostolic witness of leadership and service that is accomplished by the various ministries within the church. While today's gospel singles out Peter as a leader within the community, in no way does this mean that such providential care for the church is the sole responsibility of authorised leaders. Rather, it is the responsibility of all the baptised.

In their teaching and preaching, the apostles moved from one understanding of God's presence and activity in the midst of the people to another. This new understanding had the death and resurrection of Jesus at its core. The light of the resurrection illumined their former religious convictions and aspirations, and they were undeterred in their commitment to spread this good news, this new word, this transforming light.

A martyr is a witness, one who is so committed, that that person is willing to suffer any consequence, even death, in order to be faithful. The apostles rejoiced that they had been found worthy of ill-treatment for the sake of the name of Jesus. The Lamb who is exalted is the one who was slain, and Peter is told that, like his master, he will pay for his commitment with his life. Even the psalm alludes to the suffering that must be endured by those who have chosen to be faithful. This kind of steadfastness has always been a persuasive witness.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Feed my sheep

When Jesus asks Peter, "Do you love me?" and Peter repeatedly assures Jesus that he does, Jesus instructs Peter to "Feed my sheep." This image of feeding sheep is used to describe the caring leadership Peter is to take over the other disciples and the other followers of Jesus. The image of a shepherd has carried through the years and finds expression in the stylised shepherd's crook (crosier) that is carried as a symbol of office by bishops. The people of the church are often referred to as the bishop's flock – further carrying on the image of a shepherd and his sheep.



HAVE YOU THOUGHT?

153 fish

When the disciples drag ashore their miraculous haul of fish, the gospel writer tells us that there were 153 fish! This seems an odd number and an odd fact to specifically mention. Mathematically, 153 is a number with several interesting attributes, and historically, it has been suggested that the ancients believed that there were 153 species of fish or 153 nations in the world. Like nearly every number used in the Bible, its meaning is symbolic, not literal. It is intended to convey that the catch of fish was huge and is indicative of the vast numbers of people who will be caught up in the disciples new ministry.

Thought of the week...

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin 5, and Ryan 3.

The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake.

Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson.

If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.'

Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, 'Ryan, you be Jesus!'



Please Pray For...

Recent Deaths

Anniversaries (2nd – 8th May): Irene McDonnell, Pam Daley, William Sims, Matt Stower, Kevin McNamara, Eileen Josephine Davis, Frank Bernard Pemble-Smith, Rev Fr William Murphy, Rev Fr Brian Moran, Rev Fr Vincent Maher

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

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

Parish News...

Sat 3/5	o 6.30pm Mass
Sun 4/5	o 9.45am Mass
Mon 5/5	o Office Closed for Public Holiday
Tue 6/5	o 10am LOW o 10.30am Prayer Group in the Quiet Room
Wed 7/5	o 9am Anam Cara in the Presbytery o 6.30pm SPRED in the Church
Thu 8/5	o 10am Mother's Day Mass (school hall) o 10.30am Craft & Friendship in the Quiet Room
Fri 9/5	

Date Claimers:

- 11th May – World Day of Prayer for Vocations
- 12th May – Parish Council Meeting 6.30pm
- 13th May – Sacrament of Confirmation 7pm
- 18th May – Sacrament of First Eucharist 11.30am

Mother's Day Gift Ideas

Madonna Magazine gift subscription - Annual Subscription: \$70 (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. www.madonnamagazine.com.au/article/subscriptions

Majellan Magazine gift subscription - A \$24 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/>

Pray for the Cardinals this Conclave

Conclave officially begins on 7th May, after a nine-day mourning period for Pope Francis.

Heavenly Father, we pray in union with the whole church for the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Cardinals. May the Princes of the Church listen attentively to Your Spirit during the conclave.

Almighty God, we pray that the conclave brings us a new Pope who pleases You by guiding Your Church to grow in faithfulness to You. We pray together with the intercession of our Mother Mary and all the Saints. Please Lord, protect and guide your Church during this time of transition. Amen.

Wheelie Walker to give away

If you or someone in your family is interested in this wheelie walker, please contact the parish office on 4634 1453.



School Reunion

A school reunion is being organised for students who attended St Mary's College during the decade of the 1960s. The reunion will be held on the 31st May 2025 in the function hall. Please contact Ross Fallon on rossfallon@bigpond.com if you are interested in attending.

Gardening/Maintenance Working Bee

Saturday 10th May, 8.30am – 10.30am followed by M/Tea. All welcome to come lend a hand: Prune/tidy gardens, Spray/pull weeds. BYO wheelbarrow, shovels, gloves, Secateurs

Holy Land & Project Compassion

An amount of \$1,250 was donated for the Holy Land collection on Good Friday and \$3,686.70 was raised for Project Compassion. Thank you for your generosity.

	Altar Servers	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Ministers	I pad Operator	Piety Stall
10 th May at 6.30pm	G Hoopert A Mendoza	G School M Cushway	C Ferguson	B Smith S Kelly	M Cushway J Johnston	H. K Ober W. J Johnston W. J Sullivan	J Ferguson	J Wells
11 th May at 9.45am	S Dias	Poulton Family	T Ryan	M Cash K Kruger	Denny Family	H. P Murphy W. C Watson W. J Axtell	J Cash	M Webb

TOOWOOMBA
together


CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

Igniting Change

7TH MAY 2025
5.45PM - 6.30PM
EMPIRE THEATRE GARDENS
56 NEIL ST
TOOWOOMBA

Toowoomba Together aims to drive social change around domestic and gender-based violence through education, awareness campaigns, preventative programs, and meaningful partnerships.

CONNECT WITH US
www.toowoombatogether.org



E NEWS UPDATE

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

CHANGE OF DATE: FEAST FOR FREEDOM FUNDRAISER

The Feast for Freedom fundraiser, a pot-luck dinner hosted by The Dignity Project, originally scheduled for 6pm on Saturday, 26 April at the St Anthony's Community Centre has been postponed due to the funeral service for Pope Francis. The dinner is now rescheduled for Saturday 17 May 2025, further details to follow. Enquiries to St Anthony's Parish Office 4636 1737.

ABRAHAMIC FAITHS GATHERING

Date: 7/5/25 Wednesday

Time: 5:45pm, followed by light dinner

Where: St Anthony's Community Centre, Memory St Tmba
Organised by Downs and Toowoomba Churches Together, the evening will begin with a short presentation by each faith group on "Hope". [See flyer for details.](#)

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS EVENT

Date: 11/5/25 Sunday

Time: 8:30am - 4:00pm

Where: Holy Spirit Seminary, Banyo (Brisbane)

A day for young men from Toowoomba and the surrounding areas at Holy Spirit Seminary. Join us for prayer, Mass and a recreational activity with the seminarians. For further information and RSVP, contact Deacon BJ Perrett on 0499 102 073 or bjperrett@twb.catholic.org.au

Social media/newsletter ad - [version 1](#) and [version 2](#)

WEBINAR: LAUNCH TURN DEBT INTO HOPE WEBINAR

Date: 16/5/25 Friday

Time: 12:00pm

In partnership with the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace, Caritas Australia is pleased to invite everyone to join the webinar launch of the Turn Debt into Hope campaign.

Today, unsustainable public debts rob nations of resources needed for health, education, and climate action, trapping generations in poverty. In the words of Pope Francis, "if we really wish to prepare a path to peace in our world, we must commit ourselves to remedying the remote causes of injustice, settling unjust and unpayable debts" (*Spes Non Confundit*, n16). We must act now to break this cycle of inequality.

Find out more about the [Turn Debt into Hope campaign and register for the webinar here.](#)

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY ECUMENICAL SERVICES

Date: 4/6/25 Wednesday

Time: 12:00pm

Where: St Stephen's Uniting Church, 51 Neil St Tmba


Time: 6:30pm

Where: Lifeworks Uniting Church, 615 Boundary St Tmba

At least once a year, Christians are reminded of Jesus' prayer for his disciples that "they may be one so that the world may believe" (John 17:21). Christians come together to pray for their unity. This year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is 1-8/6/25 and hosted by the Uniting Churches. All are warmly welcome to attend.

[Download flyer/newsletter ad.](#)

The World Mission May Rosary Prayers



Join Catholic Mission online to honour Mother Mary during the month of May through praying the Rosary.

THE WORLD MISSION ROSARY
Once Family in Faith | One Family in Mission

World Mission May Rosary Prayers

Mon to Fri via Teams
Date: 1st May to 31st May 2025
10:00 am to 11:00 am

Meeting LINK:
<https://tinyurl.com/cmrosary>



MISSIONARIES OF HOPE
among all peoples

catholic mission
Reach out. Give life.

