



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, 20th April 2025 Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord – Year C

Easter Vigil

First Reading [Gn 1:1 – 2:2](#)

A reading from the book of Genesis

God saw all he had made, and indeed it was good.

Responsorial Psalm [103:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12-14, 24, 35.](#)

(R.) Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Second Reading [Ex 14:15 – 15:1](#)

A reading from the book of Exodus

Tell the children of Israel to march on, to walk through the sea on dry ground.

Responsorial Psalm [Ex 15:1-6, 17-18](#)

(R.) Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.

Third Reading [Ezek 36:16-28](#)

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

I shall pour water over you and I shall give you a new heart.

Responsorial Psalm [41:3, 5; 42:3, 4](#)

(R.) As the deer longs for running streams, so I long, so I long, so I long for you.

Epistle [Rom 6:3-11](#)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Christ, having been raised from the dead, will never die again.

Responsorial Psalm [117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23](#)

Gospel Reading [Lk 24:1-12](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Why look among the dead for someone who is alive?

Easter Sunday

First Reading

[Acts of the Apostles 10:34, 37-43](#)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead

Peter addressed Cornelius and his households: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23. R. v.24](#)

(R.) This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for His love has no end. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. (R.)

Second Reading

[Colossians 3:1-4](#)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

Gospel

[John 20:1-9](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.' So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

Next Week's Readings (26th/27th April 2025) – Second Sunday of Easter – Year C

1st Reading: [Acts of the Apostles 5:12-16](#) 2nd Reading: [Revelation 1:9-13, 17-19](#) Gospel: [John 20:19-31](#)

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/>

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Mary Magdalene

Mary Magdalene, or Mary of Magdala, plays an important role in the gospel accounts of the resurrection. She was obviously a significant follower of Jesus, being named as a witness to the crucifixion, discovering the empty tomb and the first to encounter the risen Christ. One would think that she would hold a prestigious place in the Church, but for many years she was confused with another character identified in the gospels and was portrayed as a prostitute and sinner. Mary is named in each of the four gospels and not once is it indicated that she was a sinner or prostitute. She has been a victim of mistaken identity for 2000 years.

Sunday Reflection...

© Greg Sunter - adapted

Within the gospel reading we have the discovery of the empty tomb by Mary of Magdala; the disbelieving disciples running to find things exactly as Mary had described; and the dawning realisation of what Jesus had meant when he so frequently spoke about rising from the dead. However, if the editors of the Lectionary had chosen to also include the next nine verses of the gospel, we would have also heard the magnificent encounter between Mary and the risen Lord, confirming that it was a woman, Mary Magdala, who was the first witness to Christ's resurrection. As it is, we never hear this account as part of the cycle of Sunday readings. The discovery of the empty tomb – although so simply told – is an astounding event that completes the Paschal Mystery: the passion, death AND resurrection of Jesus. Whilst Christ's willingness to go to his death on the cross was an extraordinary statement of God's love for humankind, it is his rising again from death that offers all Christian people hope. It is the second disciple – the one whom Jesus loved – who is the first to grasp the meaning of what has happened inside the tomb. The gospel tells us that upon entering the tomb and seeing Jesus' burial cloths lying there, 'he saw and he believed'. Unlike the later encounters with the risen Lord, this disciple recognised the truth and significance of what he saw in the empty tomb. He didn't need to see the risen Lord to believe. Perhaps it is he that we today can best identify with. Not in a position to physically encounter the risen Christ, we are capable of seeing the signs of his resurrection and continuing presence in the world and choose to believe.

GOSPEL FOCUS

The disciple Jesus loved

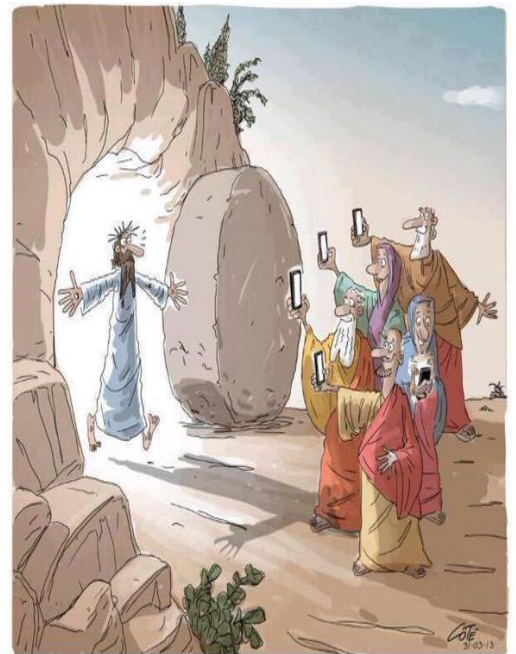
In this week's gospel we see reference to a disciple as 'the one Jesus loved'. It is generally agreed that this disciple is John. There is some suggestion that the disciple, John, is in fact the John ascribed as the author of this gospel. If this is so, to describe himself as the disciple Jesus loved is merely a means of avoiding using a personal pronoun – I or me. Just as Jesus described himself as 'the Son of God' or 'the Son of Man' rather than say 'I', John uses the same convention to avoid naming himself. It is not to suggest that Jesus didn't love his other disciples.

DIFFERENT VIEW

An empty tomb?

There are some writers who have questioned the historical accuracy of the empty tomb account of the resurrection. Some theologians and biblical scholars (e.g. members of the 'Jesus Seminar') argue that historically, it is far more likely that the victim of Roman crucifixion would be left to rot on the cross or buried in a shallow criminal's grave – not laid to rest in an expensive private tomb. However, they do not argue against resurrection. They maintain that Jesus' body was not 'resuscitated' or 'reanimated'. What happened to his corpse, they argue, is irrelevant to Christ's resurrection.

Thought of the week...



Please Pray For...

Recent Deaths

Anniversaries (18th – 24th April): Haylee Kaarsberg, Iris Leahy, Ivy Ashcroft, Doreen Coral Roberts, David MacGinley, Bernard Canning, Dennis Walton, Melinda Melville, Len Morrison, Steve Kruger, Allistair Marc Leahy, Mary Stephen, Leanne Sleba

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

April Birthdays: Christina Dever, Veronica O'Connell, Thomas Kelly, Monica Thompson, Jonah Joseph, Savanna Joseph, Shania Joseph, Catherine Dyson, Joe Kelly

Parish News...

Sat 19/4	o 6.30pm Easter Vigil Mass (St Anthony's)
Sun 20/4	o 9.45am Mass
Mon 21/4	o Bupa Visitation
Tue 22/4	o 10am LOW o 10.30am Prayer Group in the Quiet Room
Wed 23/4	o 9am Anam Cara in the Presbytery o 6.30pm SPRED in the Church
Thu 24/4	o 10am Mass o 10.30am Craft in the Quiet Room o SVDP Meeting 2pm in the Quiet Room
Fri 25/4	o 10am Anzac Day Mass followed by Morning Tea

Date Claimers:

- 25th April – Anzac Day Mass 10am followed by morning tea
- 27th April – Divine Mercy Sunday
- 29th April – Liturgy Group Meeting 10.30am
- 30th April – 4th Workshop for Sacraments of Confirmation & Communion 3.30pm

Project Compassion

Please return all Project Compassion envelopes as soon as possible.

Pope Francis' Monthly Intention for April

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

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 Wheelbarrows, shovels, gloves,

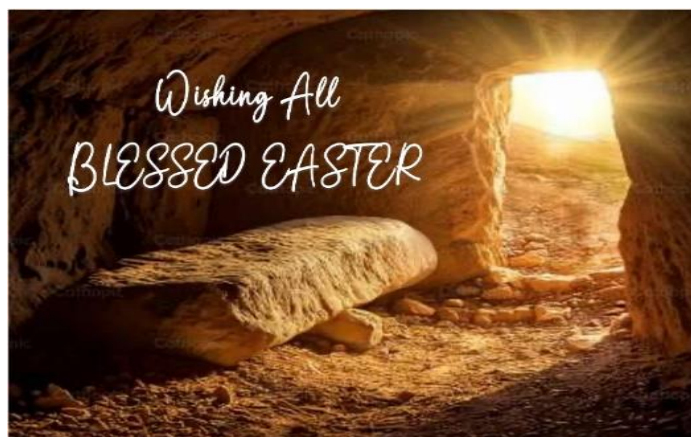
Secateurs etc

Working Bee



Easter Ceremony Times

- ❖ 17th April - Holy Thursday Mass at 7pm (St Anthony's)
- ❖ 18th April – Good Friday Stations of the Cross at 10am (OLOL)
- ❖ 18th April – Good Friday Passion of the Lord at 3pm (OLOL)
- ❖ 19th April - Easter Sunday Vigil Mass Time 6.30pm (St Anthony's)
- ❖ 20th April – Easter Sunday Mass at 9.45am (OLOL)



Anzac Day Friday 25th April 2025

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



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. Amen

	Altar Servers	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Ministers	I pad Operator	Piety Stall
26 th Apr at 6.30pm	E Ward L Ward	D & N Clark	J Wilson	B Witham J Soriano	M & M Quinn	H. R Johnston W. G Ferguson W. S Kelly	M Connell	K Ward
27 th Apr at 9.45am	J Poulton S Dias	Dias Family	C Hudson	J Coman C Rawlinson	Dias Family	H. A Courname W. C Watson W. P Murphy	M Conrick	C & S Dias



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

THE WORLD MISSION ROSARY
One Rosary in Faith, One Prayer at a Million

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




NEWS UPDATE



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

VISTA IGLESIA: PILGRIMAGE TO SEVEN CHURCHES IN TOOWOOMBA

Date: 19/4/25 Saturday **Time:** 8:30am-12:00pm
Join us for a traditional Visita Iglesia in Toowoomba, a spiritual pilgrimage to 7 churches. We will pray the Way of the Cross, with two stations at each parish. The journey will start at Sacred Heart Church and end at St Patrick's Cathedral, followed by light refreshments. All are welcome to journey with us in faith and reflection [Social Media tile 1](#) and [Social Media tile 2](#)

FEAST FOR FREEDOM FUNDRAISER

Date: 26/4/25 Saturday **Time:** Following 5pm Mass
Where: St Anthony's Parish Community Centre, Memory St Tmbaa
All are welcome to a pot-luck dinner hosted by The Dignity Project. Please bring a plate to share, BYO cold drinks. Funds raised go to support the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, [donate online](#) or with cash on the night. RSVP 20 April to the Parish Office 4636 1737.
[See flyer for details.](#)

MEN ALIVE: GROWING GOOD MEN

Date: 27-29/6/25 Fri-Sun **Where:** Emu Gully, Helidon Spa
Cost: \$490.00 Father & Son Pair
A weekend experience for fathers and their teenage sons. Growing Good Men is an experientially-based program which encourages and enables fathers and sons to strengthen their relationship and to explore important issues of growing into manhood. It is designed for fathers and their adolescent sons aged 12 to 16 years (school years between 7 and 10). [Book tickets and find out more here.](#)
[See flyer for details.](#)

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY UPDATE

The St Vincent de Paul Society welcomes Mark Copland as Membership and Development Officer. Mark will be a familiar face to many across the diocese. You can contact Mark on ph 07 46995222 and mark.copland@svdpqld.org.au
Another familiar face is Fr Jamie Collins. [Watch Mark's chat with Fr Jamie](#) in his capacity as Vinnie's Spiritual Director for the Toowoomba Diocese. You can also watch Mark's chat with [Josephine Mardinin from Holy Angels Conference](#) and [Bob Frost from St Anthony's Conference.](#)

ANIMATED MOVIE: KING OF KINGS

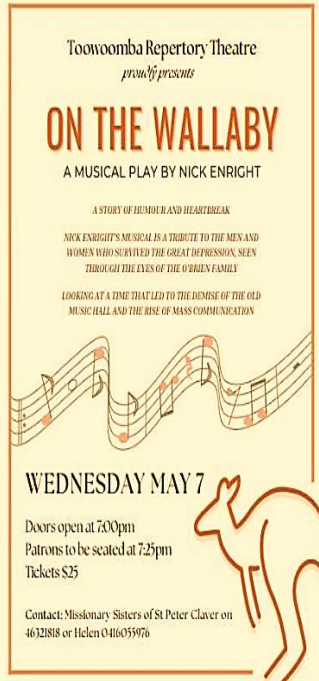
Rated PG
This film sets out to inspire and uplift our communities and families, especially our children.
This beautifully animated film, featuring an esteemed cast including Kenneth Branagh, Uma Thurman, Mark Hamill, Pierce Brosnan, Ben Kingsley, Forest Whitaker and Oscar Isaac, presents the life of Jesus Christ through the imaginative lens of Charles Dickens narrating to his son, Walter. [Watch the trailer here](#)
Currently showing at [Toowoomba Grand Central cinema.](#)
For more information or to collaborate on hosting an event, please feel free to contact Bruno at Rialto Distribution at bruno@rialtodistribution.com

Thank You from Pavi

The most wonderful news!
Pavi has been granted permission to apply for a regular visa and stay in Australia. Your support and care for Pavi and us during this time of advocacy has meant so much to us. It has demonstrated the power of community and compassion. We can only thank you from the bottom of our hearts.
Pavi, Phil and Moira

On The Wallaby

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver are hosting a musical play at the Repertory Theatre, Wed 7th May. The play, "On the Wallaby" is a story of humour and heartbreak. It is a tribute to those who survived the Great Depression; a time that led to the demise of the old music hall and the rise of mass communication.
Doors open at 7.00pm for a 7.25pm start. Supper is provided and raffle tickets are for sale. Tickets are \$25 each and can be bought by ringing Helen on 0416055976 or The Sisters on 07 46321818.



Toowoomba Repertory Theatre
proudly presents

ON THE WALLABY

A MUSICAL PLAY BY NICK ENRIGHT

A STORY OF HUMOUR AND HEARTBREAK


NICK ENRIGHT'S MUSICAL IS A TRIBUTE TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SURVIVED THE GREAT DEPRESSION, SEEN THROUGH THE EYES OF THE URBAN FAMILY

LOOKING AT A TIME THAT LED TO THE DEMISE OF THE OLD MUSIC HALL AND THE RISE OF MASS COMMUNICATION

WEDNESDAY MAY 7

Doors open at 7:00pm
Patrons to be seated at 7:25pm
Tickets \$25

Contact: Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver on 46321818 or Helen 0416055976




**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Easter Sunday
20th April 2025

Happy Easter from all of us here at Caritas Australia!

As we celebrate this season of hope and renewal, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion this Lent. As we reflect on the Easter message of love, compassion, and new beginnings, we are reminded of the incredible impact your contributions make. Together, we are building a world where no one is left behind.

It's not too late to donate.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

