



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> 

Parish Priest: Fr Bony Abraham

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 Liturgy of The Word/Mass – Tuesday and 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 Giabal and Jarowair peoples, Traditional Owners of this land and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Sunday, 12th April 2026

Second Sunday of Easter - Year A Divine Mercy Sunday

First Reading

[Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47](#)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone. The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed. They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 117:2-4, 13-15, 22-24. 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. I was thrust, thrust down and falling but the Lord was my helper. The Lord is my strength and my song; he was my saviour. There are shouts of joy and victory in the tents of the just. (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. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

Second Reading

[1 Peter 1:3-9](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

Gospel

[John 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 (18th/19th April 2026) – 3rd Sunday of Easter – Year A

1st Reading: [Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 22-33](#) 2nd Reading: [1 Peter 1:17-21](#) Gospel: [Luke 24:13-35](#)

Parish Activities

ANAM CARA – Wednesday 9.00am in the Presbytery

BAPTISM information mornings are held on the 1st Sunday of the month at 10.45am. 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 in the Quiet Room at the Church every Thursday after the 10am Mass.

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 1pm in the Presbytery.

LOURDES PRAYER GROUP - meet in the Quiet Room every Tuesday after the 10am Liturgy of The Word.

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 at 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, Jeni Bonell, Jessica Ramos, 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

My Lord and my God

This extraordinarily clear statement of belief about the divinity of Jesus appears nowhere else in any of the four gospels. Why does the Gospel of John make this statement and not any of the other gospels? It must be remembered that the Gospel of John was the last of the four gospels to be written – at least 20 years after the Gospel of Mark and some 60 to 70 years after the death of Jesus. The early Christians had been cast out of the Jewish tradition and were making sense of how their own beliefs could stand apart from Jewish tradition. With the break from Judaism, Christians felt able to express their developing belief that Jesus was God.

Sunday Reflection...

Dianne Bergan CSA

The themes for the second Sunday of Easter set the tone for the entire Easter season. They are all directed toward mystagogical instruction, primarily of the neophytes who were baptised during the Easter Vigil, but also of the whole Christian community. The readings for this season provide us an extended meditation on the resurrection and on our own incorporation into it through the mysteries of initiation.

Most of us are like Thomas who looked for some tangible evidence of the resurrection. We do not find it any easier to live by faith than he did. However, when we do live by faith, we actually discover tangible proof. This proof can be seen in the way the community reaches out in care and support to others. Jesus extends his wounded hands to us as he did to Thomas, and the community is invited to touch his wounds as we touch the wounds of our world. We find a similar situation in the reading from Acts where the fledgling Christian community grew in number as a result of the teaching of the apostles. So it has always been. Those who are not eye witnesses of the actual events are called, through the teaching of others, to witness to the power of the resurrection.

Although the blessings that we derive from the resurrection are clearly gifts from God, they are nonetheless costly gifts. They have been won through the blood of Christ, and we too may have to pay dearly for having received them.



Have you thought?

Those who have not seen

Jesus says to Thomas, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' That's us! Jesus' words in the gospel are meant for people like us living today. We are not in the position of Thomas and the other disciples who were able to see the risen Lord face to face and so convince themselves of his rising. The gospel recognises that to believe in the resurrection without that physical, personal encounter with Jesus is to be celebrated even more. Happy are we - Blessed are we - who have not seen and yet still believe!

SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

Not an ending?

The final two verses of this gospel passage (Jn 20:30-31) read like the conclusion to the whole gospel. They are a statement of finality about the purpose for writing the gospel and something of a blessing for those who read it. Yet, surprisingly, there is another whole chapter that follows this passage that deals with still more post-resurrection appearances. Most scripture scholars believe that the end of Chapter 20 was the original ending of the gospel and that Chapter 21 is a later addition – possibly added by the community for whom the gospel was originally written.

Thought of the week...



©2008 Cuyler Black Inherithemirth.com

Please Pray For...

Recent Deaths: Sue Zvirblis

Anniversaries: (10th - 16th April) Elizabeth Sims, Christopher Nugent, Maria Gerstner, Mick Long, Anne Gleeson, Gus Plater, Sr Mary McGovern, Elizabeth Hopper, Rev Msgr Leslie Schuhkraft, Rev Fr John Michael, Rev Fr Lex Herzig, Rev Fr Anthony O'Keefe

Those Who Are Sick: Kev Roberts, Margaret York, Garry Birch, Sr Cecilia Bailey, Peter Reynolds, Peter Hickey, Kathie Ober, Brian Reardon, Van Vu, Eileen Reedy, Carmel Green, Jasmine Fletcher, Margaret Conrick, 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

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

Parish News...

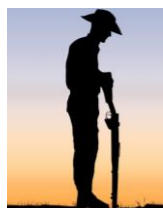
Sat 11 th April	o 6.30pm Mass
Sun 12 th April	o 9.45am Mass
Mon 13 th April	o
Tues 14 th April	o 10am LOW o 10am Glenvale Villas Visitation o 10.30am Prayer Group
Wed 15 th April	o 9am Anam Cara in the Presbytery
Thurs 16 th April	o 10am Mass o 10.30am Craft and Friendship Group
Fri 17 th April	o Paul Stibbard Funeral TBC

Date Claimers:

- 14th April – Glenvale Villas Visitation
- 20th April – BUPA Visitation
- 22nd April – Parish Council Information Session 6.30pm
- 24th April – OLOL School Anzac Day Assembly 2pm
- 25th April – 10am Mass Anzac Day

Anzac Day Saturday 25th April 2026

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



Good Friday Holy Land Collection

Please return your Good Friday envelopes as soon as possible. Thank you for your generosity.



HOLY LAND COMMISSARIAT

Message from Fr Bony

A heartfelt thank you to both St Anthony's and Our Lady of Lourdes communities for the combined beautiful Easter liturgies. It was truly a wonderful, combined effort. I am especially grateful to all our volunteers for their generous service. As someone new, I felt deeply supported and encouraged by everyone. Thank you and may the joy of the Risen Lord continue to work through us.

With much gratitude

The Liturgy Group would like to express their appreciation for the efforts of all those who participated in the Easter Celebrations. The Readers, iPad operators, Musicians, Choristers, Eucharistic Ministers, Welcomers, Altar Servers, Coordinators and all those who helped with palms, torches and candles. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and ensured that the commemoration of the most important feast in the Church's calendar was both moving and prayerful in every way. Special thanks too to Fr Bony and members of St Anthony's Parish for celebrating with us.

Easter is not just a weekend.

Easter is not just a weekend; it's a whole season! It begins on Easter Sunday and runs through to Pentecost, seven weeks in duration. The colour gold or white is used during this time to signify the glory of the Lord and our joy in the resurrection. It is a time when we, as a Church, focus on the promises of Jesus to save us from evil and be with us in our lives.

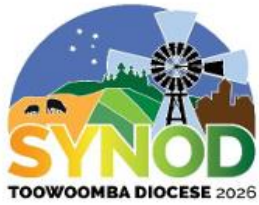
Keeping safe!!

The carpark areas are getting much darker as the season changes. The Parish Pastoral Council encourages all parishioners to bring a torch to the evening Mass to minimise the risk of falls or injuries.

**Pope Leo's Monthly Intention for April
For priests in crisis**

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Ministers	Ipad Operator	Piety Stall
18 th April at 6.30pm	Hoopert Family	B Witham	J & S Kelly	M Cushway J Joseph	H. E Castles W. J Kelly W. J Johnston	Kelly Family	M Cushway
19 th April at 9.45am	Anderson Family	M Ondrus	C Rawlinson K Kruger	D Young J Burke	H. P Murphy W. C Anderson W. C Watson	K Langdale	A Suhr



Toowoomba Synod
Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba
73 Margaret Street, East
Toowoomba

Tuesday 7 April, 2026

Toowoomba Synod Listening Sessions

The Synod Listening Sessions are an integral part of the Synod process. These sessions enable us to gather as a diocese, share our joys and sorrows, pray together, and discern where the Holy Spirit is encouraging us to take action for our future. This is an opportunity for each person in the diocese to contribute to our Synod, with the information gathered at these sessions being directly fed back to the Bishop for his discernment and deliberation for the Synod assembly which will be held 23-24 October 2026. Registrations for these sessions are essential. If you have not registered, we cannot guarantee that you will be able to join the Listening Session, due to venue capacities. These Listening Sessions are only the beginning; we hope that Parishes and communities will host their own Listening Sessions. We encourage you to do so! Please liaise with your Priest or contact us at Synod@twb.catholic.org.au if you need support doing so.

Listening Sessions:

Warwick: Sat 9 May, 9.30am-11.30am at St Mary's Parish

Dalby: Mon 11 May, 7-9pm at St Joseph's Parish Centre

Roma: Tues 12 May, 7-9pm at the Justine King Centre, All Saints Parish

Charleville: Wed 13 May, 7-9pm at St Mary's School Hall
Toowoomba:

Sat 16 May, 9.30-11.30am at Edmund Rice Cultural Centre, St Mary's College Toowoomba

Tues 16 June, 6-8pm at Micah Centre, Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office, Toowoomba

Online: Tues 26 May, 10-11.30am via Teams

Click [here](#) to register

QR Code



Mrs. Sally Hood
Synod Facilitator

Ms. Rachel Pingel
Synod Moderator

Prayer vigil for peace

Pope Leo XIV will lead a prayer vigil for peace on 11th April at St Peter's Basilica and he invites all the faithful to join him in prayer. "On this day of celebration, let us abandon every desire for conflict, domination, and power, and implore the Lord to grant his peace to a world ravaged by wars and marked by a hatred and indifference that make us feel powerless in the face of evil," he said.

LOLO School Anzac Day Prayer

The Year 5's will lead a special commemorative prayer for Anzac Day on Friday 24th April at 2pm in the school hall. All are welcome.

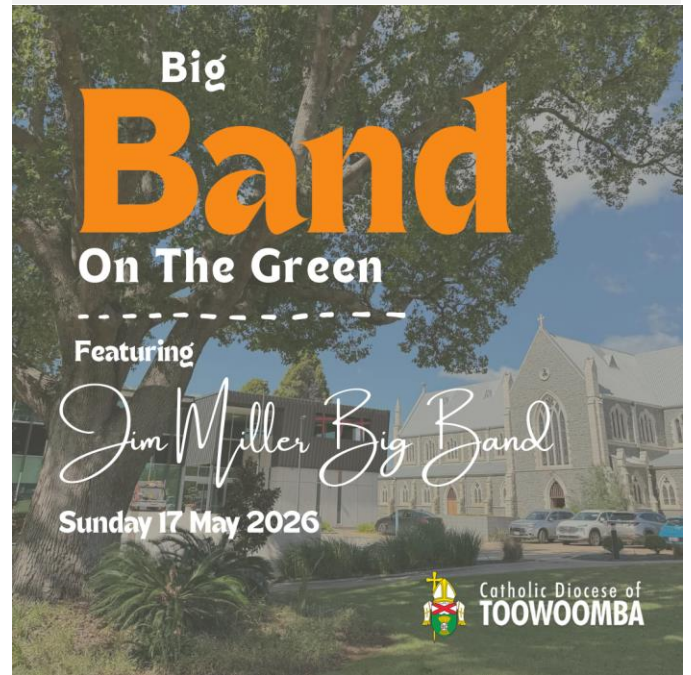
Mothers' Day

The OLOL School Mothers' Day Mass and Morning tea will be held on Thursday 7th May at 10 am in the school hall.

All are welcome. For catering for the morning tea this form must be completed by Friday 1st May. [2026 Our Lady of Lourdes Mothers Day Morning Tea - Fill in form](#)

E NEWS UPDATE

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



THE CLOUD OF UNKNOWNING

Date: 8/5/26 Friday **Time:** 9:30am for 10:00am start - 3:00pm
Where: Sychar House of Prayer & Spirituality, 69 Margaret St
Cost/RSVP: \$35, Register with Sychar 0458 223 603 or mtokmak@twb.catholic.org.au

Enjoy a moment for deep rest for body, soul and spirit, with opportunities for quiet reflection and creative expression for those who wish. This is a time to nourish ourselves so we can more deeply and authentically support and serve others on their journeys. Facilitated by Sr Denise Brosnan rsj.

[See flyer for details.](#)

Divine Mercy Sunday

Declared by Pope John Paul II on April 30, 2000, following the canonisation of St. Faustina, Divine Mercy Sunday remains a relatively recent addition to the liturgical calendar. Divine Mercy Sunday, observed on the Second Sunday of Easter, is a cherished celebration deeply rooted in the hearts of many believers. Originating from the private revelations of St. Faustina Kowalska, this day emphasises devotion to the Divine Mercy and underscores the significance of mercy in our lives as inspired by biblical teachings.

This feast holds profound meaning, especially following the spiritual journey of Lent and the celebration of Jesus' resurrection during Easter. Divine Mercy Sunday invites us to reflect on God's boundless mercy and grace that continually uplifts and sustains us. It also reminds us of the importance of extending mercy and compassion to others, mirroring the love that God lavishes upon us.

For those interested in participating in the Divine Mercy Chaplet or learning more about the novena, resources are available at:

<https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/pray-the-chaplet> to learn how to say the Divine Mercy Chaplet using rosary beads, and

<https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/novena> for more information on the nine-day novena.