



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 | Associate Pastor: Fr BJ Perrett

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 Gjalal and Jarowair peoples, Traditional Owners of this land and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Sunday, 15th February 2026 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

First Reading

[Sirach 15:15-20](#)

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus
He never commanded anyone to be godless.

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34. R. v.1](#)

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

1. They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law! They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts. (R.)
2. You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care. May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. (R.)
3. Bless your servant and I shall live and obey your word. Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. (R.)
4. Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will keep them to the end. Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my heart. (R.)

Second Reading

[1 Corinthians 2:6-10](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began.

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God

which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him. These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel

[Matthew 5:17-37](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Such was said to your ancestors; but I am speaking to you.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven. 'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven. 'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will

answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny. 'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell. 'It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery. 'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

Next Week's Readings (21st/22nd Feb 2026) – First Sunday of Lent – Year A
1st Reading: [Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7](#) 2nd Reading: [Romans 5:12-19](#) Gospel: [Matthew 4:1-11](#)

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

But I now say to you...

There is a distinct pattern to the teaching examples Jesus provides: 'You have heard it said ...'; 'but I now say to you...'. This was a common method of teaching in Jesus' day and is often used as an example to suggest that Jesus was regarded as a Rabbi in his day. It is a typical rabbinical method of interpreting scripture. The rabbi quotes the teaching (you have heard it said...) and then offers an interpretation or reinterpretation of that teaching (but I now say to you). While it is an unfamiliar teaching style for us today, it would have been common in Jesus' time.

Sunday Reflection...

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Jesus continues to instruct the disciples in the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven. The readings for today focus our attention on the nature of true wisdom. It is this true wisdom which prompts us to choose the right course of action. It is true wisdom that directs us in our interpretation of the law.

The longer we live, the more we realise that life experiences open up for us a series of choices. With these choices we chart the path that we will take. Circumstances might be thrust on us, but we can still make choices about how we will deal with them. Obedient people do what they are told; wise people choose what good they will do. True wisdom calls us to choose life and whatever enhances life. If we are truly wise, we will come to realise that what was acceptable and life-enhancing in one situation may not be appropriate in another. Life is fluid, and our thinking and acting must be flexible enough to adapt when necessary.

True wisdom, which comes to us through the Spirit, will enrich us with insight into life in ways we never thought possible. We will realise where and how we fit into the vast and interrelated ecosystems of the universe, and we will be overawed with the majesty and intricacy of its workings. We will understand once and for all that the value of anything is determined by its capacity to enrich life, and we will commit ourselves to and cherish every manifestation of that life.



Have you thought?

Teaching examples

Jesus cites several examples of the Law to demonstrate the way in which he has come to fulfil those teachings, rather than to abolish them. He reinterprets the teachings on killing, adultery, divorce and oath-breaking. When there is an attitude of observing the very literal meaning of law, there is a tendency to look for loopholes wherever possible. This attitude had become the norm in Jesus' day. His reinterpretations are designed to challenge people to think about the law in a broader context and to take the law into their heart rather than looking for ways to get around it.

Living the gospel

Interpretation

Jesus demonstrates the crucial nature of interpretation. It is easy for us today to look at something like the Ten Commandments or the Beatitudes and dismiss them as irrelevant. Taken literally, they may seem to have fairly limited application to our modern lives. However, interpreted in a broader context and within the context of our own lives, such ancient codes of behaviour can take on new significance. Jesus points us towards the importance of looking beyond the surface and searching out the truth of such statements. Interpretation of scripture for our modern lives and modern world is vital to living life to the fullest.

Thought of the week...



"He's a bit of a perfectionist..."

Please Pray For...

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: (13th - 19th Feb) John Arnell, Eileen Bell, Andrew McKindlay, Bryan Burke, Eunice Mahoney, Graham Cosgrove, Mary Leach, Mel Murray, Rev Msgr John Bergin, Rev Fr Michael Hayes

Those Who Are Sick: Gerard Nolan, Hannah Parton (of Bargara), Garry Birch, Sr Cecilia Bailey, Peter Reynolds, Peter Hickey, Kathie Ober, Brian Reardon, Van Vu, Eileen Reedy, 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

February Birthdays: Margaret Greer, Colleen Redinger, Pat McDonnell, Laura Bentley, Michael Kelly, Joan O'Sullivan, Vic White

Parish News...

Sat 14 th Feb	o 6.30pm Mass
Sun 15 th Feb	o 9.45am Mass including Children's Liturgy
Mon 16 th Feb	o 10am BUPA Visitation
Tues 17 th Feb	o 10am LOW (pancakes for Shrove Tuesday) o 10.30am Prayer Group
Wed 18 th Feb	o 9am Anam Cara in the Presbytery o 5.30pm Ash Wednesday Mass
Thurs 19 th Feb	o 10am Mass o 10.30am Craft and Friendship Group
Fri 20 th Feb	

Date Claimers:

18th Feb – 5.30pm Mass Ash Wednesday
 21st/22nd Feb – First Sunday of Lent
 22nd Feb – 1st Workshop Confirmation/Communion 10.45am
 2nd Mar – Parish Council Meeting 6.30pm
 8th Mar – 2nd Workshop Confirmation/Communion 10.45am
 10th Mar – Glenvale Villas Visit & Anointing of the Sick
 12th March – Anointing Mass 10am

Birthday Blessings



Wishing Joan O'Sullivan a very Happy Birthday as she turns 90 on 20th February. May God bless you with peace, joy and His loving presence always.

Free plastic water containers

We have a number of 20ltr plastic water containers to give away. Perfect for camping and caravanning. Please contact the parish office by Monday 23rd February if you're interested.



Planned Giving Regular Reporting

Regular Planned Giving is essential to the ongoing financial health of our parish. Each year in May, we provide you with a financial update and ask you to review your current gift and pledge an amount for the year ahead. This information is very important in helping us manage our financial position for the year. It is important to ensure that we can continue to be able to meet our increasing ongoing financial expenses.

Each month we will include regular financial updates in the bulletin comparing the planned giving amounts received for the month (loose, envelope and direct debits) with our average ordinary expenditure for that same month. We hope this will help in quickly identifying any financial gaps or shortfalls which may be happening and allow us to react in a timely manner to ensure our parish remains healthy. Thank you for your ongoing generosity and support of our parish.

Parish Groups

Our parish has many active groups that provide opportunities to get to know other members of the Parish and foster community spirit. These groups offer us the opportunity to reach out and care for one another, to offer support and encouragement and to share joys and sorrows. If you would like to join a Parish Group or you would like more information about any of our Groups, please contact the Parish Office and we can put you in touch with the group leader.

Have any suggestions or need help?

One of the aims of the Parish Pastoral Council is to support and develop the ongoing life of our parish community. Members of the Parish Pastoral Council are available before and after Mass to assist if you have any suggestions, concerns or need help in any way. Suggestions may also be placed in the Parish mailbox on the table at the main entrance of the church.

**SUGGESTION
BOX**



Date	Welcomers	Commentary	Ministers of the Word	Offertory Procession	Extraordinary Ministers	Ipad Operator	Piety Stall
21 st Feb at 6.30pm	D & N Clark	B Witham	C Ferguson S Kelly	M Cushway J Joseph	H. P Hoopert W. G Ferguson W. C Golightly	Kelly Family	J Sullivan
22 nd Feb at 9.45am	A Cournane C Poulton	T Ryan	D Young C Rawlinson	A Suhr J Burke	H. P Murphy W. G Birch W. R Fallon	A Winder	C & S Dias

His Eminence Mykola Cardinal Bychok CSSR



Dinner Thursday 26th March

Breakfast Friday 27th March

Tickets Are Selling Fast - Don't Miss Out

Avoid disappointment by securing your place now. These events will not be repeated, and seating is limited. Book your Dinner Ticket [here](#). Book your Breakfast Ticket [here](#)

Summary Pages for Parish Discernment Meeting

A summary of the responses gathered at the Parish Discernment Meeting held on Wednesday 4th February and facilitated by Peter Dorfield and Angela Travers is now available. These responses form an important part of the appointment process for the new pastor and your support is very much appreciated. Please click [here](#) to view. A paper copy is also available on the noticeboard.

Project Compassion 2026



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Project Compassion Sunday

14–15 of February 2026

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

Your generosity this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent*.

E NEWS UPDATE

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

ACBC SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is releasing two Social Justice Statements this year – one in February and the second in August, ahead of Social Justice Sunday. The first, entitled *The Cost of Our Living: Economic and Social Justice for the Common Good*, was launched this past Monday (9/2/26). The PDF of the eight-page statement is available at this link on the catholic.au website: [Social Justice Statements](#)

An audio version of the statement is available on the ACBC Audio Reads platform: [ACBC Audio Reads | Podcast on Spotify](#). And you can watch the [launch of the statement here](#).

PREPARING FOR THE INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS 2028

When: 19/2/26 Thursday *Time:* 7:30pm - 8:45pm AEDT

Where: Online [register here](#)

The Archdiocese of Sydney is hosting an online workshop to discuss how we can prepare ourselves and our parish communities for the International Eucharistic Congress (IEC) in 2028. Learn what the IEC is about, how you can get involved, and how the power of the Eucharist can transform lives and communities. All are welcome.

WHAT'S GOING ON AT SYCHAR

Where: Sychar House of Prayer and Spirituality, 69 Margaret Street Toowoomba

[See the full Term 1 schedule here](#). Find out more about [Sychar on the diocesan website](#).

Dreams as prayerful portals

Date: 27/2/26 Friday

Time: 8:45am for 9:00am start - 2:00pm

Facilitated by Patrick Oliver. The dream can be an invaluable way to help us listen to the invitations and movements of the soul. Of course they are not the only means, but they are gifts freely given for us to take to prayer. [See flyer for details](#).

Friends of Silence

Date: Weekly Fridays 20/2 - 27/3/26

Time: 10:00am - 1:00pm

An unguided open sanctuary of silent prayer. Enter a space of deep interior stillness, where the ordinary dissolves into quiet wonder. This is an unguided sanctuary for personal prayer, pausing to simply be held in Presence. [See flyer for details](#).

BIG BAND ON THE GREEN

When: 17/5/26 Sunday

Time: 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Where: TCSO lawn, overlooking St Patrick's Cathedral entry 29 Lawrence St, South Toowoomba

Cost: \$25pp [Book tickets through TryBooking](#)

Join us for a family-friendly afternoon of big band favourites on the green beside the Cathedral, featuring songs made famous by Frank Sinatra, Michael Bubl , and other well-loved artists, performed live by the Jim Miller Big Band. Settle in with your picnic, relax, and enjoy crowd-pleasing classics as we come together to raise funds to preserve and restore St Patrick's

Unclaimed and Lost Property

Please check the table at the back of the church for lost property. Any unclaimed items at the end of next weekend will be donated to St Vincent de Paul.

**LOST
PROPERTY**