

(continued) delineated and promoted by Pope Francis both links us to the pastoral action and ethos of the Lord himself and is highly attuned to the challenges and culture of the 21st century. The "see-judge-act methodology" that undergirds this understanding of pastoral theology is rooted in the world as it is, rather than in the world as it is imagined to be. The pastoral theology of Pope Francis, rejects a notion of law which can be blind to the uniqueness of concrete human situations, human suffering and human limitation. Banish judgementalism from the life of the church, and replace it with the constantly affirming love of Jesus Christ. Embrace the principle that lived experience of human sinfulness and human conversion are vital to understanding the central attribute of God in relation to us, which is mercy. Realize that "the pastoral theology of Pope Francis requires that the liturgical and sacramental life of the church be formed in compassionate embrace with the often overwhelming life-challenges which prevent men and women at periods of their lives from conforming adequately with important Gospel challenges. The bishop said that while opponents of "elements of the pastoral mission of Pope Francis" often argue that "doctrine cannot be superseded by the pastoral," it is "equally important to recognize that the pastoral cannot be eclipsed by doctrine." And pastoral authority is as important as philosophical authenticity or authenticity in law contouring the life of the church to the charter which our Lord himself has given us. *From NCR*

The Truth About St. Joseph (Part 3)

The Richness of St. Joseph

If Mary obtained such an abundance and such a treasury of graces from the first moment of her existence on earth so that she might become a worthy Mother of God, then, too, Saint Joseph must have received the corresponding apportionment of grace for his office, which in a way approached that of our Blessed Lady. This fund of grace, however, depended entirely on the development of the saint's interior life; indeed, the more modest and retiring the external activities of Saint Joseph were, the more abundant was the increase of his treasury of interior graces. Surely the circumstances of the saint's life, such as the continual example of our Saviour and of the Mother of God,

and his intimate companionship with them, could not have been more propitious for the fostering of the interior life. How great must have been the purity of his thoughts, designs, and aspirations, since, like an angel in the vision of the thrice-holy God, he constantly dwelled and moved in the presence of our Lord! How profound and impressive his recollections in all his exterior actions, since his whole life and all his efforts were an undivided service of God and were dedicated to the promotion of the most exalted designs and counsels of God! How ardent the love that was stored away in his heart! How could it be otherwise, since all that happened round about him, what he saw and heard, was a manifestation of the most marvellous mysteries of

God's love, unheard-of sources of grace, and revelations of the divine wisdom and beauty itself! As the moon enters a cloud and transfigures it with its light, so must Saint Joseph, who had sunk his whole being into God, have shone interiorly with the divine effulgence itself.

Patron of the Interior Life

Saint Joseph, therefore, from the fact that he was completely given to the interior life, is a patron of this life unsurpassed by any other. He was not a light beaming into our eyes, but was rather an all-pervading fragrance which all who come near it perceive without knowing its source. And so the fragrance of his interior virtues, as the model of the interior life, continues to pervade the Church of God.



Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Thurgoona

Parish Priest: Fr John Fowles



Show me your faith apart from your works and I by my works will show you my faith. James 2:18

Pastoral Associate: Br Denis Devcich | **Acolyte:** Denis Golden
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Parish Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday from 9:30am to 12:30pm

Mass Times

Saturday: - (Vigil) 6pm
Sunday: - 9:30am & 5:30pm
Monday: - 8am
Tuesday: - 10am,
2nd Tues of month-Anointing of the sick,
3rd Tues of month-Mass of Mercy
Wednesday: - 8am
Thursday: - 7pm, Mass & Family Novena
Friday: - 8am
1st Saturday of Month only: - 8am- with
 devotions to Bl.V.Mary
Working Bee: Sat - 9am to 11am

Sacraments and Devotions

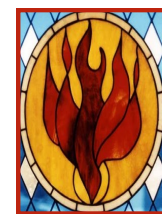
Adoration - Fri 8:30am to 10:30am
Precious Blood - Fri 10am
Rosaries - Thurs 6:30pm and Sun 9am
Reconciliation - Thursday after Novena
 Sat 5:30 to 5:50pm before Vigil,
 Sun 9 to 9.20am & 5.00 to 5:20pm
Baptism and Marriage - By appointment
Legion of Mary Praesidia :
Mon 9:30am - Mystical Rose
Wed 8:30am - Mary Immaculate
Thur 6.00pm - Mother of Divine Grace
Mary's Mantle - 1st Sunday of month
 after 9.30am mass

~ Parish Notices ~

Holiday Leave: From **25th June to 13th July** Fr. John will be having two weeks annual leave and also annual retreat. In his absence Fr. Jim Victory will be offering the Masses. Fr. Jim has been a great helper here now for some years and is very much loved and appreciated by all the community.

The Australian Catholic Bishops have released a statement regarding the sentencing of Archbishop Philip Wilson. A copy of this statement has been attached to the Notice Board at the entrance to our church for your benefit.

Ignite Youth Conference **26th—20th September 2018** Come join over 1500 young people, ministry leaders, teachers, priests and religious. The conference is designed to provide excellent formation from leading Australian and international Catholic presenters. www.igniteconference.com.au



Confirmation Preparation Classes: To be held - Marian Centre 4.30pm on the following days - 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th of August; 5th, 12th, 19th of September. **Confirmation will take place on the 23rd September 9:30am Mass.** If you have children ready to be confirmed please make arrangements with Fr John.

Collect O God, who in the abasement of Your Son have raised up a fallen world, fill Your faithful with holy joy, for on those You have rescued from slavery to sin You bestow eternal gladness.

First Reading Ezekiel 2: 2-5

The spirit came into me and made me stand up, and I heard the Lord speaking to me. He said, 'Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to the rebels who have turned against me. Till now they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me. The sons are defiant and obstinate; I am sending you to them, to say, "The Lord says this." Whether they listen or not, this set of rebels shall know there is a prophet among them.'

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 122

Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for His mercy.

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

In view of the extraordinary nature of these revelations, to stop me from getting too proud I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to beat me and stop me from getting too proud! About this thing, I have pleaded with the Lord three times for it to leave me, but he has said, 'My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness.' So I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me, and that is why I am quite content with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships, persecutions, and the agonies I go through for Christ's sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong.

Gospel Acclamation Luke 4: 18

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me: He sent me to bring Good News to the poor.. Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 6: 1-6

Jesus went to his home town and his disciples accompanied him. With the coming of the sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue and most of them were astonished when they heard him. They said, 'Where did the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted him, and these miracles that are worked through him? This is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary, the brother of James and Joset and Jude and Simon? His sisters, too, are they not here with us?' And they would not accept him. And Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is only despised in his own country, among his own relations and in his own house'; and he could work no miracle there, though he cured a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.



Communion Antiphon Psalm 33:9

Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed the man who seeks refuge in Him.

Lord hear our prayers for the: *Sick:* Margaret Dunne, Joan McLaurin, Fran Kernaghan, Ernest Denouse, Danielle Scorah *Departed:* Laurena Antat, Geoff Jervois, John Foster.



St. Benedict (c. 480-543) born to a noble family in Norcia, Italy. Studied in Rome, became a hermit for many years. Known for his piety and counsel and as such was asked to become Abott when the local Abbott died. Known for the rule of life he developed which became the template for monastic life thereafter. Benedict spent the rest of his life realizing the ideal of monasticism based on his Rule. He died at Monte Cassino, and has since been made patron protector of Europe.

Readers this week: Sat 6pm-Peter Tobin Sun 9.30am-Jorgette Hudson

Readers & Cleaners Roster - 14th/15th July 2018

Readers: Sat: 6.00 pm - Luke Burton Sun: 9.30 am - Mark Mannering

Cleaning: Kathleen Horsfall and Alison

Financial Report: cheques payable to Thurgoona Catholic Parish please or Direct Debit: BSB 012-708: Ac No. 3546 39223. Please include name on transfer. First Collection: \$424.20 Envelope:\$325.00 Direct Debit \$120.00 Loose: \$185.00

Reflection

Scott Hahn

As we've walked with the apostles in the Gospels in recent weeks, we've witnessed Jesus command the wind and sea, and order a little girl to arise from the dead. But He seems to meet His match in His hometown of Nazareth. Today's Gospel is blunt: "He was not able to perform any mighty deed there." Why not? Because of the people's lack of faith. They acknowledged the wisdom of His words, the power of His works. But they refused to recognize Him as a prophet come among them, a messenger sent by God. All they could see was how much "this man" was like them – a carpenter, the son of their neighbour, Mary, with brothers and sisters. Of course, Mary was ever-virgin, and had no other children. The Gospel refers to Jesus' brothers as Paul refers to all Israelites as his brothers, the children of Abraham (see [Romans 9:3,7](#)). That's the point in today's Gospel, too. Like the prophet Ezekiel in today's First Reading, Jesus was sent by God to the rebellious house of Israel, where He found His own brothers and sisters obstinate of heart and in revolt against God. The servant is not above the Master (see [Matthew 10:24](#)). As His disciples, we too face the mockery and contempt we hear of in today's Psalm. And isn't it often hardest to live our faith among those in our own families, those who think they really know us, who define us by the people we used to be – before we chose to walk with Jesus? As Paul confides in today's Epistle, insults and hardships are God's way of teaching us to rely solely on His grace. Jesus will work no mighty deeds in our lives unless we abandon ourselves to Him in faith. Blessed then are those who take no offense in Him (see [Luke 7:23](#)). Instead, we must look upon Him with the eyes of servants – knowing that the son of Mary is also the Lord enthroned in the heavens.

Pastoral Theology for a Post-Modern World: Bishop McElroy says 'lived reality' is at the heart of Francis' pastoral theology. The "lived reality of men and women and children and families" and their "sufferings and challenges and joys" are at the center of "a moment of explicit theological renewal that will contribute enormously to the spread of the Gospel in this new millennium. That understanding of the emerging pastoral theology

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