Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is devotion to Jesus Christ Himself. For all Catholic men and women, families and young people troubled by the many afflictions of modern life, this devotion has been a great source of consolation. The devotion to the Sacred Heart began on Calvary when the Heart of Christ was pierced on the Cross; it opened the door to realizing how deeply Jesus loves us. In return, He wants nothing other than our total love. God wants us to love Him without reserve. This is what devotion to the Sacred Heart is all about.

If the Church is Christ’s Body on earth, we should expect her to be bruised, broken, and blemished, just as he was. But we should also expect her to be headed toward a resurrection “without spot, wrinkle, blemish, or any such thing” (Eph 5:27). If it is indeed true that the Church is Christ's Body on earth – bruised, broken, and headed for glory – then I want to be part of this Body...

The saints are those who’ve had the courage to feel the infinite abyss of longing in their souls and in their bodies and to open that longing in “the groanings of prayer” to the One who alone can heal their “wound of love.” I remain Catholic because I want that healing – I need that healing...

Sadly, Catholicism is thought to be a “religion of law” much more so than a “religion of longing.” But the Catechism of the Catholic Church doesn’t begin with a discussion of law. It begins with desire. Of course, there are “laws” within the Church, but each and every one of them serves only to point our longing in the right direction. As G.K. Chesterton astutely observed, “And the more I considered Christianity, the more I found that while it had established a rule and order, the chief aim of that order was to give room for good things to run wild.”

Christopher West, The Cor Project

Faith & Family Studies: 7pm-8:30pm Wednesday 17 June.
Please join us we journey along the path of salvation history.
The Bible is the Word of God written for our benefit and instruction.
Yet for many Catholics the Bible remains a mystery, gathering dust on the shelf.
St Jerome once said, "in the sacred books, the Father who is in heaven meets His children with great love and speaks with them."
Eleventh Sunday Ordinary Time—Year B
Sunday 14 June, 2015

Entrance Ant: O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

Collect: O God, strength of those who hope in you, graciously hear our pleas, and, since without you mortal frailty can do nothing, grant us always the help of your grace, that in following your commands we may please you by our resolve and our deeds.

First Reading: Ez 17:22-24.
The Lord says this: ‘From the top of the cedar, from the highest branch I will take a shoot and plant it myself on a very high mountain. I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel. It will sprout branches and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Every kind of bird will live beneath it, every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches. And every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am the one who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow, every withers green trees and makes the withered green. I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.’

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Second Reading: 2 Cor. 5:6-10.
We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

Gospel: Alleluia, alleluia! The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to Him will live forever. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mk. 4:26-34.
Jesus said to the crowds, ‘This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time: he starts to reap because the harvest has come.’

He also said, ‘What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.’

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

Prayers of the Faithful
We pray for all peoples troubled by the many afflictions of modern life to deepen their devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Let us pray to the Lord.
We pray for the sick in our parish and in our hospitals: Isabella Morris, Annie Gosstray, Vivian Weatherall, Denise Prochazta. Let us pray to the Lord.
We pray that eternal light may shine on the faithful departed, Olly Reichel and all whose anniversaries occur at this time, and for all the Holy Souls. Let us pray to the Lord.

Communion Ant. There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Prayer After Communion: As this reception of your Holy Communion, O Lord, foreshadows the union of the faithful in you, so may it bring about unity in your Church.

Feasts This Week: Eleventh Week Ordinary Time.

Financial Report: Please make cheques payable to “Thurgoona Catholic Parish” or Direct Debit: BSB 012-708: Ac No. 3546 39223. Please include name on transfer.

Reading & Cleaning Roster:
Weekend 20 / 21 June
5.30 pm Pauline Pascoe Group 4 Church Cleaning Eucharistic Adoration
9.30 am Jorgette Hudson Grace Jodko & JolaStempinski 13

Congratulations to Brooke Hardie on the occasion of her First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

I’ll whisper, “I love You, my Jesus,”
And ask that we never may part;
I love You, O kind, loving Jesus
And press You still nearer my heart.

Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make my heart like unto Thine.

June,
Month of the Sacred Heart