

(cont) and the Church as “one flesh,” God’s plan for the world is fulfilled. Eve was “mother of all the living”. In Baptism we are made sons and daughters of the Church, children of the Father, heirs of the eternal glory He intended for the human family in the beginning. The challenge is to live as children of the kingdom, ever more faithful in love and devotion to the ways of Christ and teachings of His Church.

Mother Angelica’s “Guide to Practical Holiness” (Sophia Institute Press) JPAMG

None of us are born saints. We have constantly to strive for that honour. The word “strive” immediately conjures up notions of the great effort required. Sometimes an agonising effort! It can exhaust us spiritually but, as Mother Angelica says in her book speaking of the Venerable Matthew Talbot, “It was pain, disappointment, and a feeling of emptiness that pushed him into the arms of God” when after living addicted to alcohol for many lonely years there came a moment of “conversion”. In that moment he was gifted with the grace needed to firstly, ask forgiveness of God, and then beg for His help. Although his physical means in life never much improved, spiritually, his life continued to grow exponentially and to reach great heights of sanctity that finally led him home to God on 7th. June 1925.

All people have faults that they must constantly strive to conquer, but it is only in those battles to always do God’s will that sanctity is finally achieved. Mother Angelica lists “six similarities found in all saintly people: * A love for God and neighbour, * A determination to imitate Jesus, * An immediate rising after a fall, * A complete break away from grievous sin, * A growth in virtue and prayer and * The accomplishment of God’s will”. She insists we can all be saintly. Mothers and fathers in carrying out their daily duties with the model of Jesus and His Blessed Mother in their hearts can lead saintly lives. Children can be saintly too, through obedience to parents and just being “joyful and loving” at their own stage in life. But she warns that “being faithful to the duties of one’s state in life and faithful to the grace of the moment are not as easy as they appear.” She reminds us we will be trying to live “spiritual lives in an unspiritual world”. “Christianity is a way of life, a way of thought... that is contrary to the way of the world.” It is the way that the good Christian attends to all the hum-drum details of everyday life and the “Spirit in which he accomplishes ordinary human needs and demands (that) makes him holy.” He will make mistakes but resolve to correct and learn from them. He then “tries harder to be like the Master”. Mother Angelica assures us that “saints are ordinary people with the compassion of the Father in their souls, the humility of Jesus in their minds and the love of the Spirit in their hearts (and) when these beautiful qualities grow day by day...holiness is born.” Through everyday examples and encouraging advice Mother Angelica in her book guides us in “practical” ways to understand that the desire to lead a saintly life is what God wishes for us all and though it will be the ‘harder’ way it is most gloriously attainable! As with all the good men and women of times past who now enjoy their final reward, we too must pick up our Cross and follow in the steps of our Saviour and know that He will pave the way with abundant graces to guide us home. ***Mother Angelica (1923-2016) founder of Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN)***



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

Phone: 02 6043 2222 | thurgoonacatholicparish@hotmail.com

Fax: 02 6043 2224 | www.thurgoonacatholicparish.com

Address: 20 Hartigan St, Thurgoona 2640 | PO Box 110, Lavington 2641

Mass Times

Saturday: - (Vigil) 6pm

Sunday: - 9:30am & 5:30pm

Monday: - 8am

Tuesday - 10am, Mass of Mercy

2nd Tues of month-Anointing of the sick,

Wednesday - 8am

Thursday- 7pm, Mass & Family Novena

Friday - 8am

1st Saturday of Month only:-8am- with devotions to the Blessed Virgin 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

Mary’s Mantle - 1st Sunday of the month after 9.30am Mass

Parish Notices

20th Anniversary of Immaculate Heart of Mary

Parish: On 8th December 2018, our Parish will be celebrating a special **MILESTONE**. Parishioners are invited to participate in a meeting to be held in the Marian Centre on Tues. 9th October at 7.30pm. It is important that we reflect and give thanks, praise and glory to God for all things and to honour His Mother under her title of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.



Hav-a-Chat:

Ladies due to the long weekend last week ‘Hav-a-Chat’ will be held at the Thurgoona Golf Club this Monday

8th October 2018 at 12 noon. Our special Guest Speaker will be Fr. Joel Wallace. We look forward to seeing you all. Please feel free to bring a friend and enjoy the gathering.

27th. Sunday in Ordinary Time 7th October 2018

Collect: Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of Your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat You, pour out Your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask.

First Reading

Genesis 2:18-24

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed: 'This at last is bone from my bones, and flesh from my flesh! This is to be called woman, for this was taken from man.' This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 127

May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

Second Reading

Hebrews 2:9-11

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind. As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

Gospel Acclamation

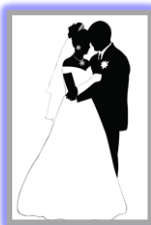
1 John 4:12

Alleluia, alleluia! If we love one another, God will live in us in perfect love. *Alleluia!*

Gospel

Mark 10:2-16

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one



body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.' People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.



Communion Antiphon:

Lamentations 3:25

The Lord is good to those who hope in Him, to the soul that seeks Him.

Lord hear our prayers for the Sick: Lyn Byrnes, Helen Quirk, Paul Coelli.

For the recently departed: Maxine O'Brien, Pat Pass, .

Anniversaries : Mons. Hartigan, Mons. Barry, Georgina Nelson

Financial Report: cheques payable to Thurgoona Catholic Parish or Direct Debit: BSB 012-708: Ac No. 3546 39223. Include name on transfer. First Collection \$417.40 Second Collection (Envelope) \$395.00, Direct Debit \$410.00, Loose: \$225.50

Readers this week: Sat 6pm-Luke Burton 9.30am-Br. Denis Devich

Readers Roster: 13th/14th October 2018

Sat: 6.00 pm -Damien Tocher 9.30 am - Vera Galvin

Cleaning Roster: Sat. 13th Oct. Isabella and Dennis

Reflection on Today's Gospel

Dr. Scott Hahn

In today's Gospel, the Pharisees try to trap Jesus with a trick question. The "lawfulness" of divorce in Israel was never an issue. Moses had long ago allowed it. But Jesus points His enemies back before Moses, to "the beginning," interpreting the text we hear in today. Divorce violates the order of creation, He says. Moses permitted it only as a concession to the people's "hardness of heart" their inability to live by God's covenant Law. But Jesus comes to fulfil the Law, to reveal its true meaning and purpose, to give people the grace to keep God's commands. Marriage is a sacrament, a divine, life-giving sign. Through the union of husband and wife, God intended to bestow His blessings on the human family making it fruitful, multiplying it until it filled the earth. That's why today's Gospel moves so easily from a debate about marriage to Jesus' blessing of children. Children are blessings the Father bestows on couples who walk in His ways, as we sing in today's Psalm. Marriage also is a sign of God's new covenant. As today's Epistle hints, Jesus is the new Adam made a little lower than the angels, born of a human family. The Church is the new Eve; the "woman" born of Christ's pierced side as He hung in the sleep of death on the cross. Through the union of Christ...