

We Can No Longer Afford to Ignore Our Lady of Fatima's Requests

For 100 years the message of Fatima; or perhaps, Our Lady's requests have largely been ignored. But we cannot afford to do so any longer. We have to do what she told the waiters at Cana: do whatever he tells you.

And what does Christ tell us to do? It is now time to heed those requests, for we can change what happens in our own families and communities, if we heed the message.

What we are about is nothing less than a call to arms: to spiritual arms. We are living in a time and place of intense spiritual battle, and only in taking up spiritual arms will we alleviate the spiritual disease that is at the root of so much suffering in the world today.

What did Our Lady of Fatima ask us to do? Prayer, penance and adoration.

Our Lady was very clear at Fatima about the twofold purpose of this request: to save souls from hell, and to establish peace in the world. What is at stake in the message of Fatima is world peace and eternal salvation!

Our Lady has asked us specifically to pray the Rosary daily. And I ask all families to pray the Rosary together at least once a week.

To do Penance: we must take up this powerful weapon into our spiritual arsenal. Fridays are still days of penance, going all the way back to apostolic times.

Our penitential practices are meant to lead us to have more serious and frequent recourse to the sacrament of Reconciliation. There can be no spiritual revival without a renewal in our practice of Reconciliation.

Then, with Adoration Our Lady picks us up and brings us to her Son. All of our devotions, just as all of our penitential practices, must lead to adoration of God.

As Lucia said, "... our adoration must be a hymn of perfect praise, because, even before we came into being, God was already loving us, and was moved by this love to give us our being." Our consecration must bring about a renewal of our love for, and devotion to, our Lord in the most Blessed Sacrament.

And of course, our Lady also asked us to observe the devotion of the First Five Saturdays and she also asked for devotion to her Immaculate Heart. The devotion consists of attending Mass and receiving Communion in reparation for sins on five consecutive first Saturdays of the month, going to Confession and spending a quarter of an hour praying five decades of the Rosary.

Praying the Rosary, bodily fasting, and adoration of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament: these are the spiritual arms of God that will destroy the spiritual oppression that has marred the last 100 years of world history, and that will bring us God's mercy, the mercy that is world peace and eternal salvation.

Our Lady gave the children after their vision of hell a promise: "In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph."

Let us heed her message in order to hasten that triumph. Her Immaculate Heart is the door that opens up for us entrance into that triumph. It is through that door that we walk from the darkness of sin and death to the light of Christ's truth and mercy. Her Immaculate Heart is the gate of heaven *Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone*



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

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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, Mass of Mercy, *2nd*

Tues of month Anointing of the sick

Wednesday - 8am

Thursday- 7pm, Mass & Family Novena

Friday - 8am

Saturday -8am- Only First Saturdays with
devotions to Bl.V.M.

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 5.30pm - Mother of Divine Grace

~ **Parish calendar** ~

MenAlive committee meeting: Tuesday 17/10/17 at 7:30pm in the Presbytery.

menALIVE: Our Vision: the most Important thing that a man can discover is that God is at work in his life; he is not just out there on his own, battling his way through. The vision of menALIVE is to create an opportunity for that to happen and then try not to get in God's way. **[menALIVE Weekend at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Thurgoona, the 24th and 25th February 2018.](#)**

Five first Saturdays: On Holy Saturday, after Christ's death, all his other friends and disciples scattered in dejection, but Our Lady waited in hope for His resurrection. In Mary's message to the shepherd children of Fatima, she made particular requests associated with Saturdays. Our Lady promised to help at the hour of death those who, on the first Saturday of five consecutive months, go to confession, receive the Eucharist, pray the Rosary and spend fifteen minutes with her meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary with the intention of making reparation to her. If you would like to begin a practice in your life to show affection for our Lady, you could start with the five first Saturdays of the month.



Twenty-Eighth Week in Ordinary Time, 15th October 2017

Collect: May your grace, O Lord, we pray, at all times go before us and follow after and make us always determined to carry out good works. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity.....

First reading **Isaiah 25:6-10**

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wine, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

Responsorial Psalm I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Second reading **Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20**

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation **cf Ephesians 1:17, 18**

Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. **Alleluia!**

Gospel **Matthew 22:1-14**

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'



Communion Antiphon **Cf. Ps 33: 11**

The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

Feast of the week: *Tues*-Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr;

Wed-Saint Luke, Evangelist;

Lord hear our prayers for the: *Sick:* Gloria and Peter McLean, Oliver Butler, John Dwyer, Bob Mannering, *Departed:* Haden Corrigan

Readers: this week: Sat 6pm - Br Patrick Darcy; Sun 9.30am - Kieran Williams

Readers & Cleaners Roster - 21/22 October 2017

Readers: Sat: 6.00 pm - Luke Burton Sun: 9.30 am - Magdalina Kuna

Cleaning: Group 2 - Mary and Jenny

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. First Collection: \$372.60, Envelope: \$470.00 + Direct Debit: \$200.00, Loose: \$166.00

Dressing for the Feast: **Scott Hahn**

God is the king, Jesus is the bridegroom, the feast is the salvation and eternal life that Isaiah prophesies in today's First Reading. The Israelites are those first invited to the feast by God's servants, the prophets. For refusing repeated invitations and even killing His prophets, Israel has been punished, its city conquered by foreign armies.

Now, Jesus makes clear, God is sending new servants, His apostles, to call not only Israelites, but all people - good and bad alike - to the feast of His kingdom. This an image of the Church, which Jesus elsewhere compares to a field sown with both wheat and weeds, and a fishing net that catches good fish and bad.

We have all been called to this great feast of love in the Church, where the veil that once separated the nations from the covenants of Israel has been destroyed, where the dividing wall of enmity has been torn down by the Blood of Christ.

The Lord has led us to this feast, refreshing our souls in the waters of Baptism, spreading the table before us in the Eucharist. And in the rich food of His Body, and the choice wine of His Blood, we have a foretaste of the eternal banquet in the heavenly Jerusalem, when God will destroy death forever.

But are we dressed for the feast, clothed in the garment of righteousness? Not all who have been called will be chosen for eternal life, Jesus warns. Let us be sure that we're living in a manner worthy of the invitation we've received.

