

Our Only 'Fanaticism' Should Be Love

Pope Francis told Egyptian Catholics that truly living the faith means ridding ourselves of hypocritical attitudes and focusing on the only obsession that counts: loving others, no matter how hard it is. "God is pleased only by a faith that is proclaimed by our lives, for the only fanaticism believers can have is that of charity! Any other fanaticism does not come from God and is not pleasing to him!" True faith is one that makes us more charitable, more merciful, more honest and more humane. It moves our hearts to love everyone without counting the cost, without distinction and without preference.

True faith leads us to protect the rights of others with the same zeal and enthusiasm with which we defend our own. Indeed, the more we grow in faith and knowledge, the more we grow in humility and in the awareness of our littleness.



Refugees by Brian Bilston

They have no need of our help
So do not tell me
These haggard faces could belong to you or me
Should life have dealt a different hand
We need to see them for who they really are
Chancers and scroungers
Layabouts and loungers
With bombs up their sleeves
Cut-throats and thieves
They are not
Welcome here
We should make them
Go back to where they came from
They cannot
Share our food
Share our homes
Share our countries
Instead let us
Build a wall to keep them out
It is not okay to say
These are people just like us
A place should only belong to those who are born there
Do not be so stupid to think that
The world can be looked at another way

(now read from bottom to top)

A bit of humour

A young priest was giving a lesson on the 23rd Psalm to the children in third grade. He noticed that little Jimmy seemed upset with the verse, "Surely, goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life." So the priest asked him, "What's wrong, Jimmy?" Little Jimmy replied, "Well, I'm not too worried about the goodness and mercy part, but I'm not so sure that I would like Shirley following me around all the time."

May is when we pray the Rosary



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 Mass

Tuesday: - 10am, Mass of Mercy, *2nd
Tues of month Anointing of the sick*

Wednesday: - 8am

Thursday: - 7pm, Mass & Family Novena

Friday: - 8am

Saturday: - 8am - *1st Sat of Month
Blessed Virgin Mary Mass*

Sacraments and Devotions

Adoration: - Fri 8:30am to 10:30am

Precious Blood - 10am

Rosaries: - Thurs 6:30pm and Sun 9am

Reconciliation: - Thursday after Novena
Sat after 8am Mass & 5:30 to 5:50pm
Sun 9 to 9.20am & 5.00 to 5:20pm

Baptism and Marriage: - By appointment

Legion of Mary Praesidia:

Mon: 9:30am - Mystical Rose

Thur: 5.30pm - Mother of Divine Grace

Wed: 8:30am - Mary Immaculate

~ Parish Notices ~

Mannus Prison: "I was in prison and you came to me" (Matt.25). Would you like to partake in the Kairos Project by providing a container of homemade biscuits Which will be picked up for delivery on Sunday at 11am.

Mission Wrap Up: Our Parish Mission conducted by Fr Ben Cameron achieved more than I ever expected with large numbers in attendance each night. Having a mission is a great spiritual oasis gracing us to continue on through the desert of adversity which we are all called to journey through in life. It has been a great joy for me to witness the beautiful faith that has moved so many, especially, young people to attend the Mercy Father's Mission in such great numbers.

Archbishop Fisher Calls NSW Catholics to Urgent Action to Defend Life

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP has called Catholics in New South Wales to urgent action to protect human life in the state. Refer to the following web site for more information - http://www.sydneycatholic.org/news/latest_news/2017/2017428_881.shtml

Anointing of the sick mass: 9th May at 10am

*"My past, O lord, to your mercy; my present, to your love;
my future, to your Providence!" St Padre Pio*

Fourth Sunday of Easter, 7th May 2017

Collect: Almighty ever-living God, lead us to a share in the joys of heaven, so that the humble flock may reach where the brave Shepherd has gone before. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

First reading Acts 2:14,36-41

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.' Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

Second reading 1 Peter 2:20-25

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty. This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. **Alleluia!**

Gospel John 10:1-10

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.' Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them. So Jesus spoke to them again: 'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate



of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

Communion antiphon: The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia

Feasts of the week: Sat - Our Lady of Fatima

Lord hear our prayers for the:

Sick: Matthew Cameron, Noel Glasgow, Ray Curtis, Fr Con Croese, Enid Doherty, John Mahoni, Theresa McCooke, Kieran Clifford **Departed:** Pat Coleman, George Honey, John Murray, Darcy Young, , **Anniversaries:** Therese Penn, Richard Bartosik, Krystyna Ziolkowska,

Readers: this week: Sat 6pm - Patrick Darcy Sun 9.30am - Br Denis Devich

Readers & Cleaners Roster - 13/14 May 2017

Readers: Sat: 6.00 pm - Luke Burton Sun: 9.30 am - Vera Galvin

Cleaning: Group 3 Kate Tobin

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: \$366.10, Envelope: \$300+ Direct Debit: \$300, Loose: \$165.50, Caritas: \$1102.10

Scott Hahn: What Are We To Do?

Easter's empty tomb is a call to conversion. By this tomb, we should know for certain that God has made Jesus both Lord and Messiah.

He is the "Lord," the divine Son that David foresaw at God's right hand. And He is the Messiah that God had promised to shepherd the scattered flock of the house of Israel.

Jesus is that Good Shepherd, sent to a people who were like sheep without a shepherd. He calls not only to the children of Israel, but to all those far off - to hear His voice.

The call of the Good Shepherd leads to the restful waters of Baptism, to the anointing oil of Confirmation, and to the table and overflowing cup of the Eucharist.

We have been baptized. But each of us goes astray like sheep. We still need daily to repent, to seek forgiveness of our sins.

We are called to follow in the footsteps of the Shepherd of our souls. By His suffering He bore our sins in His body to free us from sin. But His suffering is also an example for us. From Him we should learn patience in our afflictions, to hand ourselves over to the will of God.

Jesus has gone ahead, driven us through the dark valley of evil and death. His Cross has become the narrow gate through which we must pass to reach His empty tomb...

