

## Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus - Fr. Thomas Rosica

One of the most popular devotions within the Church is devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It's historic center is in Paray-le-Monial, a small village in Burgundy, where St. Margaret Mary Alacoque (1647-1690) lived. She was a Visitation nun to whom Jesus appeared.

In December 1673, during Christ's first apparition to St. Mary Margaret, Jesus gave her this message: "My Sacred Heart is so intense in its love for men, and for you in particular, that not being able to contain within it the flames of its ardent charity, they must be transmitted through all means."

Jesus showed Himself to Sr. Margaret Mary in a way that she could understand – with a human heart aflame with love. He told her that He would be present in a special way to those devoted to His Sacred Heart and that His presence would lead to peace in families, the conversion of sinners, blessings in abundance and perseverance when death was near.

To know God's love in Jesus and to share it with others is the central message of the gospels. There has been no change in this message for two thousand years. Ways of explaining our faith may change, forms of prayer may be altered, certain devotions may come in and out of style, but at the core is the loving heart of Jesus, which remains constant and true.

*The message of the Sacred Heart is one of God's deep and intimate love for us.*

The heart is, above all, the emblem of love, and by this characteristic, the devotion to the Sacred Heart is naturally defined.

In today's love-starving world, how we need to follow the example of Jesus Christ in His unspeakable love for us. If there is one adjective that describes the modern world, this world is a loveless world. This world is a selfish world. This world is so preoccupied with space and time that it gives almost no thought to eternity and the everlasting joys that await those who have served God faithfully here on earth. No one reaches heaven automatically. Heaven must be dearly paid for. The price of reaching heaven is the practice of selfless love here on earth.

That is what devotion to the Sacred Heart is all about. It is the practice of selfless love toward selfish people. It is giving ourselves to persons that do not give themselves to us. In all of our lives, God has placed selfish persons who may be physically close to us, but spiritually are strangers and even enemies. That is why God places unkind, unjust, even cruel people into our lives. By loving them, we show something of the kind of love that God expects of His followers.



## 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, 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 ~

**First Holy Communion & Reconciliation Preparation classes** will begin at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish on the 26th July 2017 at 4.30pm to 5.30pm each Wednesday until the 6th of September. First Reconciliation will be celebrated on Saturday 9th September & First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday 10th September 2017. Please indicate to Lyn Byrnes 60432232 if your child requires the above Sacraments.

**Planned Giving Envelopes for the New Financial Year:** are now available in the foyer. Please take your envelopes, We welcome any new parishioners to our plan giving programme. You are able to pay by cheque payable to "Thurgoona Catholic Parish" or Direct Debit: BSB 012-708: Ac No. 3546 39223. Please include name on transfer. "The Gift of Giving they say has lost it's way... but I'm a believer no matter what you say".

**Morning tea - bring a plate:** 2nd July 2017 After 9:30am Mass

*Going to church is a joy, and arriving early  
for Mass is an extended joy. Arrive at church  
a few minutes early in order to relax,  
meditate and prepare spiritually for Mass.*



## Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sunday, 25 June 2017

**Collect:** Grant, O Lord, that we may always revere and love your holy name, for you never deprive of your guidance those you set firm on the foundation of your love. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

### First reading Jeremiah 20:10-13

Jeremiah said: I hear so many disparaging me, "Terror from every side!" Denounce him! Let us denounce him! All those who used to be my friends watched for my downfall, 'Perhaps he will be seduced into error. Then we will master him and take our revenge!' But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero; my opponents will stumble, mastered, confounded by their failure; everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs. But you, O Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice, who scrutinise the loins and heart, let me see the vengeance you will take on them, for I have committed my cause to you. Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, in your great love, answer me.

### Second reading Romans 5:12-15

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

### Gospel Acclamation Jn 15:26. 27

*Alleluia, alleluia!* The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses. *Alleluia!*

### Gospel Matthew 10:26-33

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops. 'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows. 'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'



### Communion Antiphon Ps 144(145):15

The eyes of all look to you, Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

**Feast of the week:** *Wed*-St Irenaeus, Bishop; Martyr,  
*Thur*-Sts Peter and Paul, apostles

### Lord hear our prayers for the:

*Sick:* Noel Glasgow, Matthew Cameron, Kieran Clifford, Theresa McCooke, Jack Dwyer *Departed:* Gail Sutcliffe, Vicky Coelli, Vincent Murray, Patrick O'Brien, Jeanetta Armour *Anniversaries:* Sussane Blighton, Barry Pascoe, Braidon Hensel

**Readers: this week: Sat 6pm - Luke Burton Sun 9.30am - Simon Horsfall**

### Readers & Cleaners Roster - 1/2 July 2017

**Readers: Sat: 6.00 pm - Damien Tocher Sun: 9.30 am - Br Denis Devich**  
**Cleaning: Group 4 Grace Jadko**

**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: \$351.20, Envelope: \$495.00+ Direct Debit: \$200.00, Loose: \$242.10

### XII Sunday - June 25, 2017 Vatican Radio

St. Teresa of Avila is famous as a theologian, reformer of the Carmelite Order, and spiritual advisor to the great medieval Spanish mystic, St. John of the Cross. But Teresa's ministry was not well received in her community. Her sisters had grown lax in faith and practice, and when she called for reform their response was to throw her out of convents that she herself had established.



On one occasion, she was turned out at night in the middle of a rainstorm. Dressed only in her coarse wool habit, she climbed into a donkey cart and was riding along when the wheel of the cart hit a ditch and the cart turned over, dumping Teresa into the mud. She sat there, in mud-soaked wool, looked up to heaven, and said, "Lord, if this is the way you treat your friends, it's no wonder that you don't have many." But frustrated as she was, Teresa clung to God.

In one of her meditations on the Disciplines of the Holy Spirit, Teresa talks about how we must not be deceived by the appearance that evil triumphs over good. She wrote, "God uses the Devil as a sharpening-stone for Christians." Teresa not only taught this lesson, she lived by it. She never gave up on God, even when her sisters opposed her by going to priests and bishops to make trouble for her. She kept right on teaching what she knew to be the truth. And eventually, she won out.

Her desire was to be faithful, and God prospered her efforts. Today, she is known as a Doctor of the Church -- an exemplary teacher and thinker -- while the nuns who treated her so badly remain dead and unknown. And the Carmelite convents of Teresa's reform continue to this very day.