

# Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Thurgoona



James 2:18

Show me your faith apart from your works and I by my works will show you my faith

**Parish Office Hours:** Tuesday & Wednesday from 9:30am to 12:00pm

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

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**Ph:** 02 6043 2222 **Admin:** Fr Beltrame 0409 982 915 **Acolyte:** Denis Golden

## MASS TIMES

**Saturday** (Vigil) - 6pm

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

**Monday** - 8am

**Tuesday** - 10am

**2nd Tues of month: Anointing of the sick**

~~Wednesday~~ - 8:00am

**Thursday** - 7 pm Mass and Novena - IHM

**Friday** - 8am

1st Saturday of Month - 8am Mass

**Reconciliation**

Sat 5:30 to 5:50pm before Vigil

Sun 9 to 9.20am & 5.00 to 5:20pm

**Baptism and Marriage** - By appointment

**Working Bee - Sat 9am to 11am**

## DIOCESAN COVID 19 PROTOCOLS 8/11/2021

- **Wear a Mask**
- **Register**
- **Physical distancing**
- **Singing** Only people who are fully vaccinated
- QR Codes preferred.
- Different households 1.5m



**Taking Communion:** We strongly encourage you to take communion on the hand due to the high risk of transmission and the concern of other parishioners. **If you are to have communion on the tongue you must wait until everyone has received communion on the hand and be at the end of the line.**

**Please take your bulletin home to minimise virus spread**

## PARISH NOTICES

### Mass Times:

No Mass in our Church this Wed 15th Dec as Fr Reece is unavailable

### Carols By Candlelight - 19th December:

Come and join us next Sunday evening after the 5.30pm Mass. Please bring a salad to share, also your own refreshments. The Parish will provide a sausage sizzle.



### Parish Christmas Hamper:

Prepared by St Martha's Kitchen (**Legion of Mary**) to support families in need. Please leave your contributions in the box in the Church foyer.

### Fatima Calendars:

A beautiful and practical spiritual resource. \$8.00 ea.

**First reading**

**Zephaniah 3:14-18**

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp.

The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Isaiah 12**

*Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.*

**Second reading**

**Philippians 4:4-7**

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Isaiah 61:1 (Luke 4:18)**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

**Gospel**

**Luke 3:10-18**

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them. *universalis.com*

## Prayers of the Faithfull:

**For our sick,** John Corby, Gary Smith, Mathew Smith, Katerie Byrnes, Wendy Mills, Elise Stevens, Carmel Baker, & Laurie Evans

We pray to the Lord. **R.** Lord hear our prayer.

**For our recently departed,** Mary Hickey and those who's anniversaries occur at this time including Douglas Thomson and Fr James Victory.

We pray to the Lord. **R.** Lord hear our prayer.

## Communion Antiphon

**Cf. Is 35: 4**

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us. *universalis.com*

**Readers:** Sat: 6.00pm Peter Tobin Sun: 9.30am Stefany George

**Next week:** Sat: 6.00pm Barb McDermott Sun: 9.30am Simon Horsfall

**Cleaning Roster:** Sat 18th Dec Kate Tobin



**Financial Report** Cheques payable to IHM Parish Account

Direct Debit: BSB640000: Acc. No.111270902 Include name on transfers.

**1st Coll:** \$498.00 **2nd Coll:** \$252.20 **Env:** \$115.00 **Dir Debit:** \$530.00

## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST



John the Baptist features again in the today's Advent Gospel. He was a contemporary of Christ, known for evangelization and the baptizing of Jesus Christ. He was born through the intercession of God to Zachariah and Elizabeth, who was otherwise too old to bear children. According to scriptures, the Angel Gabriel visited them to say they would have a son and that they should name him John. When Elizabeth was pregnant with John, she was visited by Mary, and John leapt in her womb. This revealed to Elizabeth that the child Mary carried was to be the Son of God.

John began his public ministry around 30 AD, and was known for attracting large crowds across the province of Judaea and around the Jordan River. When Jesus came to him to be baptized, John recognized him and said, "It is I who need baptism from you." Jesus told John to baptize Him anyway, which he did, whereupon the heavens opened, and the Spirit of God was seen like a dove. The voice of God spoke, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." John instructed his followers to turn to Christ, calling Him the "Lamb of God" and these people were among the first Christians. Following his baptism of Christ, John's popularity grew so much that he alarmed King Herod. Herod ordered him arrested and imprisoned. John condemned Herod's marriage to his half-brother's wife and for this he was beheaded, sometime between 33 and 36 AD. His feast day is June 24.

*Extract from catholic.org/saints*



## SCOTT HAHN: WHAT MUST WE DO?

The people in today's Gospel are "filled with expectation." They believe John the Baptist might be the messiah they've been waiting for. Three times we hear their question: "What then should we do?" The messiah's coming requires every man and woman to choose - to "repent" or not. That's John's message and it will be Jesus' too. "Repentance" translates a Greek word, *metanoia* (literally, "change of mind"). In the Scriptures, repentance is presented as a twofold "turning" - away from sin and toward God. This "turning" is more than attitude adjustment. It means a radical life change. It requires "good fruits as evidence of your repentance". That's why John tells the crowds, soldiers, and tax collectors they must prove their faith through works of charity, honesty, and social justice. In today's Liturgy, each of us is being called to stand in that crowd and hear the "good news" of John's call to repentance. We should examine our lives, asking from our hearts as they did: "What should we do?" Our repentance should spring not from our fear of coming wrath but from a joyful sense of the nearness of our saving God. This theme resounds through today's readings: "Rejoice! The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all," we hear in today's Epistle. In today's Responsorial, we hear again the call to be joyful, unafraid at the Lord's coming among us.

*stpaulcenter.com*

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

### FRIDAY - Christmas Eve

- 7pm
- Midnight

### SATURDAY - Christmas Day

- 9:30am

### Sunday Mass *(no Vigil)*

- 9:30am
- 5:30pm

