

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

Email: thurgoonacatholicparish@hotmail.com **Web:** www.thurgoonacatholicparish.com

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

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT



Come and join us this Sunday evening after the 5.30pm Mass.

Please bring a salad to share, also your own refreshments.

The Parish will provide a sausage sizzle.

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Monday - 8am

Tuesday - 10am

Wednesday - 8:00am

Thursday - 7 pm Mass, Novena

FRIDAY - Christmas Eve

- 7pm
- Midnight

SATURDAY - Christmas Day

- 9:30am

Sunday Mass (*no Vigil*)

- 9:30am
- 5:30pm



RECONCILIATION

Tuesday 21st: 6pm - 7pm

Wednesday 22nd: 6pm - 7pm.

Thursday 23rd: 6pm - 7pm.

First reading

Micah 5:1-4

The Lord says this:

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth.

Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 79(80):2-3,15-16,18-19

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Second reading

Hebrews 10:5-10

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me.

You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin;

then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, ‘God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.’

Notice that he says first: *You did not want* what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and *you took no pleasure* in them; and then he says: *Here I am! I am coming to obey your will*. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second.

And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 1:39-45

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah’s house and greeted Elizabeth.

Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, ‘Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.’

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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, Marjorie Ptasiuk, Mary Hickey and those who's anniversaries occur at this time inc. Douglas Thomson and Fr James Victory.

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

Communion Antiphon

Is 7: 14

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel.

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PARISH NOTICES

Parish Christmas Hamper:

"Thank you Thank you Thank you" for your wonderful support towards the "Feed My Lambs Project"

Please know that through your generosity, you have put smiles and joy back into the hearts of those in need.

The hampers were prepared by the Legion of Mary to share the joy of Christmas as part of their St. Martha's Kitchen project.



Fatima Calendars:

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

Library:

Educational & Inspirational DVDs available in the Church foyer, free to borrow and return. *See Denis Golden*

Parish Register:

This register will assist Fr Dunne to get to know his new parish. Please email your details, phone, address etc to thurgoonacatholicparish@hotmail.com.

Financial Report

Cheques payable to IHM Parish Account

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

1st Coll: \$506.70

2nd Coll: \$214.90

Env: \$190.00

Dir Debit: \$595.00

DIOCESAN COVID 19 PROTOCOLS 15/11/2021

- Registration still required - QR Code registration preferred.
- Masks are optional and encouraged when social distancing is not possible.
- Those who prefer to receive Holy Communion on the tongue are asked to approach the communion line after those who have received on the hand.



BACKGROUND ON TODAY'S GOSPEL

Our Gospel reading prepares us to witness Christ's birth by showing us how Jesus was recognized as Israel's long-awaited Messiah even before his birth. Our attention is turned from the ministry of John the Baptist to the events that preceded his birth. The story of John the Baptist and his parents, Elizabeth and Zechariah, are reported only in Luke's Gospel. Luke pairs the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus, establishing John's early connection to the Messiah.

Our Gospel reading recalls Mary's actions after the announcement of Jesus' birth by the angel Gabriel. Mary goes to visit Elizabeth, her cousin, who is also with child. Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles that they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation. If we were to continue to read the verses that follow in Luke's Gospel, we would hear Mary respond to Elizabeth's greeting with her song of praise, the Magnificat. In Luke's Gospel the Holy Spirit helps reveal Jesus' identity as God to those who believe.



Elizabeth is filled with the Holy Spirit and sings Mary's praise because she bears the Lord. We sing these words of praise to Mary in the Hail Mary.

Even John the Baptist, the unborn child in Elizabeth's womb, is said to recognize the presence of the Lord and leaps for joy. It is appropriate in Advent that we consider the role of Mary in God's plan of salvation. Elizabeth describes Mary as the first disciple, as the one who believed that God's word to her would be fulfilled. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to everyone. Because of this, Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan for salvation.

Extract: loyolapress.com

EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE WITH GOD



Remember that God is always with us and that everything is possible for God. Also remember that our spiritual Mother is with us always, drawing us nearer to her son, and that Mary is with God. Indeed Mary has a unique relationship with the Trinity. The angel Gabriel is sent to Mary by God, Mary will give birth to Jesus, and the Holy Spirit will come upon Mary. This relationship was particularly dear to Pope John Paul II. He received great consolation from engaging with the mystery of Mary and her relationship to God. May we also benefit from meditating on the Holy family as we prepare for the Christmas celebration.

Extract: cgcatholic.org.au/LivingWord