

# 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 6088 6222 **Parish Priest:** Fr Anthony Dunne **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**

## PARISH NOTICES

### Parish Priest:

Last week Fr Anthony Dunne commenced his appointment as our new Parish Priest. Please welcome Fr Anthony to our Parish and make yourselves know to him.

### Readers needed for Saturday Evening Mass:

We only have two readers at the moment. If you would like to go on the roster please see Denis Golden.

**Note phone number change:** Presbytery/Office 02 6088 6222



**Financial Report** Cheques payable to IHM Parish Account  
Direct Debit: BSB640000: Acc. No.111270902 Include name on transfers.  
**1st Coll** \$456.60 **2nd Coll** \$234.55 **Env** \$115.00 **Dir Debit** \$730.00

**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 29th Jan Kate Tobin



## DIOCESAN COVID 19 PROTOCOLS 24/12/2021

- Registration still required - QR Code registration preferred.
- Masks are required in indoor settings, subject to exemptions.
- 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.



**First reading****Nehemiah 8:2-6,8-10**

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law. Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose.

In full view of all the people, since he stood higher than all the people, Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered, 'Amen! Amen!' Then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah – His Excellency – and Ezra, priest and scribe, and the Levites who were instructing the people, said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep.' For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

**Responsorial Psalm****Psalm 18(19):8-10,15**

*Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.*

**Second reading****1 Corinthians 12:12-14,27**

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

**Gospel Acclamation****Luke 4:18**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel****Luke 1:1-4,4:14-21**

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your

Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received. Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

He came to Nazareth where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.' *universalis.com*

### **Prayers of the Faithfull:**

**For our sick**, Jackson Davis, Shamus Clancy, Mathew Dix, Katerie Byrnes, Elise Stevens, Carmel Baker, & Laurie Evans.

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

**For our recently departed**, John Corby, Ron Chambers, Aaron Chambers and those who's anniversaries occur at this time inc. Shirley Bevan, Terry Barsby, Patricia McFarland & Terrance Benson.

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

### **Communion Antiphon**

**Cf. Ps 33: 6**

Look toward the Lord and be radiant, let your faces not be abashed

*universalis.com*

## **TONGA TSUNAMI: CARITAS DISTRIBUTES AID**

Caritas is already delivering aid to the population of Tonga, hit on Saturday, 15 January by a tsunami with waves of up to 15 metres, triggered by the eruption of the Tonga Hunga Ha'apai underwater volcano, estimated to be the most violent in 30 years. Some emergency supplies, such as water purification units, jerry cans, hygiene kits, buckets and water taps, that were already stored in Tonga by Caritas are being distributed.

There have been three reported casualties so far and almost 80 per cent of the population has been affected by flooding, contamination of drinking water by volcanic ash, destroyed homes, bridges and roads, lack of fuel, supply shortages etc.

To find out more and to donate, go to ***Caritas.org*** or use the QR code.



## BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

Today's Gospel reading combines two separate passages from the Gospel of Luke. First we hear the opening verses where Luke establishes the purpose of his Gospel. His style is typical of polished Greek and Roman literature. Here we learn that Luke may have written to a specific person, Theophilus; but Theophilus may also be a general reference, functioning as “Dear Reader” might in contemporary writing. In Greek Theophilus translates as “lover of God.” Today's Gospel reading then skips several chapters covering the Infancy Narratives, Jesus' baptism by John, His temptations in the desert, and the beginning of His public ministry.

In chapter four of Luke's Gospel, we hear that Jesus is in his hometown of



Nazareth, attending the synagogue on the Sabbath, which is said to be his custom. In this account, we find another important clue that Jesus lived as a faithful, observant Jew. We will continue to read from Luke's Gospel in sequence for the next two Sundays. As Jesus stands in the synagogue, he reads from the scroll handed to him; it contains the

words of the prophet Isaiah. At this early moment in his ministry, Jesus announces his mission in continuity with Israel's prophetic tradition. This reading from Isaiah defines Jesus' ministry. We will find more evidence of this as we continue to read from Luke's Gospel throughout the year. Jesus' ministry will include bringing glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, healing to the sick, freedom to the oppressed, and proclaiming a year acceptable to the Lord. Through this text from Isaiah, Jesus announces God's salvation. The “year acceptable to the Lord” is a reference to the Jewish tradition of Sabbath years and jubilee. The Sabbath year was observed every seventh year. It was a year of rest when land was left fallow and food stores were to be shared equally with all. A year of Jubilee was celebrated every fiftieth year, the conclusion of seven cycles of Sabbath years. It was a year of renewal in which debts were forgiven and slaves were freed. This tradition of Jubilee is the framework for God's promise of salvation.

And yet in Jesus, something new begins. Jesus not only announces God's salvation, he brings this salvation about in his person. Jesus is Yahweh's Anointed One, filled with the Spirit of God. The Kingdom of God is now at hand. It is made present in Jesus, in his life, death, and Resurrection. Jesus will send the Holy Spirit so that the Kingdom of God can be fulfilled. The Holy Spirit is Jesus' gift to the Church. The Holy Spirit enables the Church to continue Jesus' mission. When we do what Jesus did, bring glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, healing to the sick, and freedom to the oppressed, we serve the Kingdom of God.

*Extract loyolapress.com*