

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

Ash 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

Stations of the Cross: 6.00pm Friday during lent in the Gardens

Ash Wednesday Mass: 8:00am

Lenten Groups: Tuesdays 6:30PM. Parish Centre with Fr Anthony

Wednesdays 10:30am. Call Pauline Pasco 0419 807 065

Accommodation for CSU Students:

A number of overseas students are seeking accommodation from March to October. Call Denis Devcich on 0402 431 099

Synod of Bishops - Extension:

The local consultation period for the international Synod on Synodality has been extended. Submissions can now be received through the online portal until Sunday, March 13. What steps does the Holy Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our “journeying together”? Find out more and share your contribution at: catholic.org.au/synodalchurch

Catechists: We will soon need Catechists for Thurgoona Public School. Please contact Fr Anthony or the office on 02 6088 6222

COVID 19:

- Masks are encouraged for indoor settings.
- 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

Ecclesiasticus 27:5-8

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation.

The orchard where a tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 91(92):2-3,13-16

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: *Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting?*

Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

Gospel Acclamation

Philippians 2:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 6:39-45

Jesus told a parable to his disciples: 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles.

A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

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Prayers of the Faithfull:

For our sick, Katerie Byrnes, Elaine Pascoe, Alex Krivtchoun, Jackson Davis, Shamus Clancy, Mathew Dix, Carmel Baker & Laurie Evans.

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

For our recently departed, Bro Chris Greck, Peter Kerstjens and those who's anniversaries occur at this time inc. Andrew Trethowan, Brian Baker and Dallas Hanrahan.

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

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 12: 6

I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me,
sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High..

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Financial Report Cheques payable to IHM Parish Account

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

1st Coll \$402.05

2nd Coll \$184.70

Env \$135.00

Dir Debit \$495.00

Readers: Sat: 6.00pm Barb McDermott Sun: 9.30am Mark Mannering

Next week: Sat: 6.00pm Mary Seidel Sun: 9.30am Stefany George

Cleaning Roster: Sat 5th Mar Isabella



ASH WEDNESDAY A DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE

Pope Francis made a heartfelt appeal for peace in Ukraine at his public audience in the Vatican on Feb. 23. He appealed to the consciences of “those with political responsibility” and “all the parties involved” to “refrain from any action that would cause even more suffering to the people.” He also appealed “to everyone, believers and nonbelievers alike” to make March 2 - Ash Wednesday - “a day of prayer and fasting for peace.” Francis looked distressed as he addressed hundreds of pilgrims from around the world. He had been briefed on the alarming crisis and the threat that Russia would invade Ukraine, a nation of 44 million people that gained its independence in 1991 following the collapse of the Soviet Union.

americamagazine.org

LENT IS A JOURNEY

Lent begins this week, and so do our Lenten traditions: self-denial, Stations of the Cross, the Friday fish fry, rice bowls, and hopefully some time in silence to listen more attentively to the Lord's quiet voice calling us to rest in his love. It's such an ingrained part of our Catholic culture: "What are you giving up for Lent?". Why the fuss? And isn't it a bit of overkill? Haven't we suffered through the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, natural disasters, personal traumas: financial distress, job insecurity, family problems etc. Do we really need to do still more penance?

Penance is not self-imposed punishment. The word *penance* comes from the Latin verb "to convert". It's all about conversion, making space for God in our noisy, busy lives. St. Paul's words in our second reading tell us why penance matters. About a quarter-century after Christ's death and resurrection, the Apostle to the Gentiles instructed the Corinthian Christians: "Be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labour is not in vain." He issues three commands, be firm, be steadfast and always fully devoted. St. Paul knew what he was talking about. As he travelled the Mediterranean world bringing the Gospel to new lands and starting new churches, he suffered all kinds of indignities. Imprisonments, riots, shipwrecks, beatings, exposure to the cold etc. Paul suffered all these things willingly, because he recognized that there was something better than what this world had to offer. Upon his next visit to Corinth, St. Paul would write another letter in which he would declare that "the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us". Do we share St. Paul's glory-focused perspective? Paul's three instructions to the Corinthians are no less relevant to us today than they were when the Apostle first wrote them. They give us a nifty itinerary for our Lenten journey: be firm, be steadfast, and be devoted.



In our present world of excess food, drink, entertainment, news, text messages and everything else that consumes our time and dulls our senses, we need to take a step back, to hit the mute button on it all, in order to hear God's voice so that we can respond firmly, steadfastly, and devotedly. We hear our Lord in the Gospel today speak about good trees having to bear good fruit, but if we are to bear good fruit, we have to first receive proper spiritual nutrition by hearing God's word. Before Ash Wednesday, the Lord invites us to prepare for this annual spiritual journey. Imagine you're going on a sightseeing tour in a city you've never visited before. You're going on foot, so anything you want to bring with you, you must carry all day. You have to decide what you really need and what to leave behind. Lent is a journey. What needs to come with us, and what needs to stay behind? During these final days before Ash Wednesday, let us accept the Lord's invitation to leave all the excess behind and journey forward with faith, knowing that the Lord, who comes to us in this Eucharist as our Bread for the journey, has something greater to offer us, eternal life. "Death is swallowed up in victory." It was the Lord's own death that swallowed death up in the victory of his empty tomb. Let us hasten to meet him there. *Extract: Rev. Llane Briese, hprweb.com*