

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

Address: 20 Hartigan St, Thurgoona 2640 PO Box 110, Lavington 2641
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Ph: 02 6088 6222 **Parish Priest:** Fr Anthony Dunne **Acolyte:** Denis Golden
Direct Debit: BSB640000: Acc. No.111270902 Include name on transfers.
Cheques: Payable to IHM Parish Account

MASS TIMES

Saturday (Vigil) - 5pm
Sunday 9:30am
~~Monday 8am~~
Tuesday 10am
Wednesday 8:00am
Thursday 5:30pm Mass,
Holy Hour 4:30pm
~~Friday 8am~~
~~Saturday 8am~~

Anointing of the sick Mass
2nd Tues of month, March June Sept Dec.

Reconciliation
Thurs during Holy Hour 4:45 - 5:15pm
Sat 4:30 to 4:55pm before Vigil
Sun 9 to 9.25am
Or anytime, just ask Fr

Baptism and Marriage By appointment

Working Bee - Sat 9:30am to 11am 



PARISH NOTICES

Weekday Mass Times this week:

Masses only on Tuesday 10am & Thursday 5:30pm inc Holy Hour 4:30pm.
Weekend as normal. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

Cleaners needed for the Church:

If you have an hour once every few months to assist in cleaning the Church it would be most appreciated. (*Men too*)

Mobile Phones:

Please mute your mobile phone or turn it off during Mass.

Caritas Donation Boxes: Please return ASAP

Readers: Sat: 5:00pm Denis Golden Sun: 9:30am Mark Mannering

Next week: Sat: 5:00pm Peter Tobin Sun: 9:30am Stefany George

Cleaning Roster: Sat 14h May Yolla & Grace



COVID 19 DIOCESAN PROTOCOLS 25/02/2022

- Masks are encouraged for indoor settings.
- Those who prefer to receive Holy Communion on the tongue are asked to approach communion after those who have received on the hand.



4th SUNDAY OF EASTER

8/05/2022

First reading

Acts 13:14,43-52

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the Sabbath and took their seats.

When the meeting broke up many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them.

The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly. 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said: I have made you a light for the nations,

so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.'

It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside.

But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 99(100):1-3,5

We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Second reading

Apocalypse 7:9,14-17

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

Gospel Acclamation

John 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

Gospel

John 10:27-30

Jesus said:

‘The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice;

I know them and they follow me.

I give them eternal life;

they will never be lost

and no one will ever steal them from me.

The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone,

and no one can steal from the Father.

The Father and I are one.’

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Prayers of the Faithfull:

For our sick, Fr John Speakman, Joan Jacobs, Sam Courtella, Steve Drage, John Dunne, Katerie Byrnes, Jackson Davis, Mathew Dix, Seamus Clancy and Laurie Evans. We pray to the Lord. **R.** Lord hear our prayer.

For our recently departed, Joan McCauley, John McCormick, Sue Barsby and those who’s anniversaries occur at this time including Brian McPherson and Shirley Evens. We pray to the Lord. **R.** Lord hear our prayer.

Communion Antiphon

The Good Shepherd has risen,

who laid down his life for his sheep

and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

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BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In each of the three lectionary cycles, the Gospel is taken from the tenth chapter of the Gospel of John. This chapter of John's Gospel follows Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the rejection of this miracle by Jewish leaders who question Jesus' authority to heal. Jesus responds to this challenge to his authority by calling himself the Good Shepherd. He is criticizing the Pharisees and other Jewish leaders. Already, the Pharisees and other Jewish leaders are so angered that they attempt to stone and arrest Jesus. This controversy with the religious leaders continues until Jesus' death. Set in a moment of tension and conflict in John's Gospel, today's Gospel reading is Jesus' answer to the question, “Are you the Messiah?” Jesus responds by saying, in essence, “If you have to ask, then you are not one of my sheep.” Then Jesus asserts his unity with the Father. At the conclusion of these words, John reports that the Jews intend to stone Jesus for blasphemy, but he escapes arrest. We may be less familiar with the metaphors of sheep and shepherd than those to whom Jesus spoke. The image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd and



the community of followers as his sheep has endured over the centuries as a primary image in our faith tradition. Its power to describe the relationship between Jesus and his followers transcends direct experience with sheep.

The image speaks to us about the protection, security, and care that shepherds represent for their sheep.

Today's Gospel speaks powerfully about the familiarity and intimacy between Jesus and his disciples, expressed as recognizing and knowing another's voice. Today's Gospel also speaks to the relationship between Jesus and the Father. In the Gospel of John, Jesus identifies so closely with the Father that he tells us that they are one—not just close, but actually one. To know Jesus is to know the Father. Jesus doesn't just bring us closer to the Father, Jesus puts us directly into contact with God the Father, removing all distance between us. Our relationship with Jesus is an invitation to share in the life of God.

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SHEPHERD AND THE LAMB: SCOTT HAHN

Israel's mission—to be God's instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth—is fulfilled in the Church. By the "Word of God" that Paul and Barnabas preach in today's First Reading, a new covenant people is being born, a people who glorify the God of Israel as the Father of them all. The Church for all generations remains faithful to the grace of God given to the Apostles and continues their saving work. Through the Church the peoples of every land hear the Shepherd's voice and follow Him. The Good Shepherd of today's Gospel is the enthroned Lamb of today's Second Reading. In laying down His life for His flock, the Lamb brought to fulfillment a new Passover, by His blood freeing "every nation, race, people and tongue" from bondage to sin and death. The Church is the "great multitude" John sees in his vision today. God swore to Abraham his descendants would be too numerous to count. And in the Church, as John sees, this promise is fulfilled.

The Lamb rules from the throne of God, sheltering His flock, feeding their hunger with His own Body and Blood, leading them to "springs of life-giving waters" that well up to eternal life. The Lamb is the eternal Shepherd-King, the son of David foretold by the prophets.

His Church is the kingdom of all Israel that the prophets said would be restored in an everlasting covenant. It is not a kingdom any tribe or nation can jealously claim as theirs alone. The Shepherd's Word to Israel is addressed now to all lands, calling all to worship and bless His name in the heavenly temple. This is the delight of the Gentiles—that we can sing the song that once only Israel could sing, today's joyful Psalm: "He made us, His we are—His people, the flock He tends."

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