

# Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Thurgoona



"Do whatever He tells you" John 2-5

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**Ph:** 02 6088 6222 **Parish Priest:** Fr Anthony Dunne **Acolyte:** Denis Golden  
**Presbytery Account** (First Collection) BSB 066-789 Acc. 100 005 587  
**Parish Account** (Second Collection) BSB 066-789 Acc. 100 003 738

## MASS TIMES

**Saturday** (Vigil) - 6pm  
**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, 10am  
2nd Tues of Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec.

### Reconciliation

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

**Baptism and Marriage** By appointment  
**Working Bee** Sat 9.00am to 11am

## CHRISTMAS

### First reading

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt, and consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of Hosts will do this.



**25/12/2022**

**Isaiah 9:1-7**

### Responsorial Psalm

*Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.*

**Psalm 95(96):1-3,11-13**

## Second reading

**Titus 2:11-14**

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus.

He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.



## Gospel Acclamation

**Lk2:10-11**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I bring you news of great joy: today a saviour has been born to us, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

## Gospel

*Vigil and Midnight Masses*

**Luke 2:1-14**

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn.



In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing:

'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

## Gospel

*9:30am Mass*

**John 1:1-18**

In the beginning was the Word: and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower. A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that



everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth. John appears as his witness. He proclaims: 'This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.' Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received – yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known. *universalis.com*

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

**For our sick,** Marie Fowles, Peter Tydeman, Ray Byrnes, Fr Reece Beltrame, Graeme Murphy, Greg Baker, Gwen Abikhair, and Jackson Davis.  
We pray to the Lord. **R.** Lord hear our prayer.

**For our recently departed,** Greg Fraser, Leone Bouquet, John Quinn and those who's anniversaries occur at this time including those in the bulletin.  
We pray to the Lord. **R.** Lord hear our prayer.

### **Communion Antiphon**

The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.



**Jn 1: 14**

*universalis.com*

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

Mary Hickey, Fr Jim Victory, Heather Parker, Fr Frank Young, Eileen Moran, Margaret Wighton, Dr David Nelson & Douglas Thomson.

**Readers:** Sat: 7:00pm Peter Tobin Sun: 9:30am Steve McCrohan

**Next week:** Sat: 6:00pm Mary Seidel Sun: 9:30am Jorgete Hudson

**Cleaning Roster:** Sat 31th Dec Denis



### **PARISH COUNCIL**

Sandy Zeromski (Sec)

Denis Golden

Maria Sparshott (Chair)

Denis Devcich

Mark Mannering

Simon Horsfall (Dep Chair)

Jodie Cunningham

Mary Seidel



## **CHRISTMAS DAY TABLE PRAYER**



Come, Lord our God and surround our feast day table as we delight in this joyous season of Christmas. Gift us in this meal with the taste of happiness as we savour this coming together of family and friends. As singing angels rejoiced at the birth of the Christ Child in Bethlehem, so may we take great joy in this our Christmas dinner-celebration. Bless it and us in Your holy name. *Extract: Edward Hays*



## THANK YOU



It is time to again thank all of you who have helped to keep our parish up and running this year, including but not limited to (and in no particular order):-

Saturday Working Bee helpers, Martha's Kitchen workers, Sacristan, Bulletin and Website creators, Legion of Mary members, Altar servers, Liturgical/Mass preparation helpers, church cleaners, weekly financial contributors, Christmas Crib Constructor, Parish handymen, Pastoral Council members, State Religious Education Teachers, Raffle organisers and fund raisers, the MACE Sisters, Collectors, Counters, Bankers, Gardeners, Mowers, Home Care givers, Adorers, Altar linen carers, Bookkeepers, Welcoming team & Bulletin distributors, Cantors, Choir, Musicians, and PC operators, Parish records registrar, St Vincent de Paul volunteers, Meal providers, Flower arrangers and Florist, Lectors, Finance Committee; and *all of you* in supporting each other by your weekly witness to the Faith.

Thank-you and may Almighty God Bless you and your families for your kindness and goodwill. May you have a happy and holy Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

*Fr Anthony.*



## SCOTT HAHN: NEW SONG

The Church's Liturgy rings in Christmas with a joyful noise. We hear today of uplifted voices, trumpets and horns, and melodies of praise. In the First Reading, Isaiah foretells Israel's liberation from captivity and exile in Babylon. He envisions a triumphant homecoming marked by joyful singing. The new song in today's Psalm is a victory hymn to the marvellous deeds done by our God and King. God has shown the might of His holy arm, they say. This language recalls the Exodus, where the people first sang of God's powerful arm that shattered Israel's enemy, Egypt. In Jesus, all nations to the ends of the earth will see the victory of God over the forces of sin and death.

Jesus is the new king. He is the Word of God, the one through whom the universe was created and is sustained. In speaking to us through His Son, God has unveiled a new age, the last days. The new age is a new creation. In the beginning, God spoke His Word and light shone in the darkness. Now, in this new age, He sends us the true light to scatter the darkness of a world that has exiled itself from God. He is the one Isaiah foretold, who brings good tidings of peace and salvation, who announces to the world that God has come to dwell and to reign. So we sing a new song on Christmas. It is the song of those who have believed in the Christ child and have been born again, who have by grace been given the power to become children of God.

*Extract: stpaulcenter.com*