

ST THOMAS MORE'S PARISH

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE GIABAL AND JAROWAIR PEOPLE, THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS WHO HAVE WALKED UPON AND CARED FOR THIS LAND FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS.

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HOURS: WED & THURS 9AM-3PM

CO-ORDINATOR: JACINTA MCGOVERN

HOURS: TUES-FRI 9AM-3PM

PRIEST DIRECTOR: FR. MICHAEL O'BRIEN

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: SARAH HOLCOMBE

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
ST THOMAS MORE'S CATHOLIC

PRIMARY SCHOOL:

DUANE WANN, PRINCIPAL

DONNA BARLOW, APMI



The wedding feast of Cana Gospel is rich in meaning, as it reveals both the relationship of Mary and Jesus, as well as Jesus' response to his mother.

"Do whatever He tells you." We know, of course, from this Gospel, that Jesus responds with an abundant and generous gift of the finest wine, far beyond anyone's imagined expectation. I am in awe of this first public miracle of Jesus. I am also mindful of Mary, the model of advocacy, and how she lays a template for intercessory prayer.

On reflecting on this exchange, I wish I could better model Mary in my own life. I must admit that I tend to pray with a solution and outcome in mind. I have tried to model Mary's complete trust in my own relationship with her Son. Yes, I do state my needs and concerns, although I know that He knows them. I have been trying to step back and simply lay them before Him, as Mary did. My role is to speak from the heart and trust. I may have a solution in mind, but I do not know all variables that may play out. The key is to let God's will unfold, not mine.

I have found that when I have been able to truly let go – to trust in God's response, peace can be found even in trying circumstances. Prayers are answered in unexpected ways. Unforeseen circumstances occur that shed light, open doors, and bring insight. I have found this to be true throughout my life in varied circumstances. I am still a work in progress, but Mary is my model.

After pondering Mary's advocacy, my attention is drawn to how Jesus chooses to perform His miracle. He could have simply made the wine from nothing, but he involves the servers who fill the jars to the brim with water. He takes the ordinary and transforms it into the extraordinary. It is a foreshadowing of His taking bread and wine which becomes his Body and Blood. The familiar and ordinary becomes the Real Presence. Does Jesus not do this with us? Water, bread, and wine are ordinary, and of this world.

We, too, are tied to this world and have our deficits, weaknesses, and blind spots. We have finite knowledge and insight into the Divine. Yet Jesus takes each of us and breathes life into our souls. Through Baptism, we are washed clean of original sin. Through Reconciliation, we are absolved of our sins and renewed. Through the Eucharist, we receive Jesus Himself and His abundant graces.

We, like the servers, are asked to do our part in God's plan. Through God's Providence, we are each given different gifts to fulfill His plan. As St. Paul notes, "To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit." Our challenge is to recognize these gifts and to be ever mindful that they are given to us from God for a purpose. Perhaps it is within a local community, church, or within our own families. Our challenge is to follow Mary's instruction of doing whatever Jesus tells us to do. This requires prayer, discernment, and trust in God's lead. Jesus asks for our trust in Him. In turn, He asks us to do His will. As Mary advocates for us, we too are called to advocate for others in the world.

*God Bless
Jacinta*

Readings

Isaiah 62:1-5

As the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

One and the same Spirit distributes different gifts as He chooses

John 2:1-11

The first of the signs given by Jesus was at Cana in Galilee.

Please remember in your Prayers...

People will stay on this list for 1 month unless otherwise advised, please continue to update the parish office of your prayer requests.

Those who are ill: Michelle Phillips, Kat Jennings, Marc Slevin, Bob Kilmister, Bernadette Martyka, Damian Wyvill, Kylie Lane, Nev Sarquis, Judith Keleher, Andrew McGregor, Nancy Daly, Deb Handley, Greg Twidale, Glenna Kasmer, Joan Leonard, Sister Dorothy Bayliss RSC

Recently deceased: Clare McGoldrick, Jim Walpole(Cairns), Elizabeth McCafferey(Ireland)

Anniversaries of the departed: Ian Steger(2015)

We Give Thanks For:

**At the request of the Pope
This Month we pray for**

For the right to an Education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

Job Vacancy – Admin Support Officer, St Anthony's Parish, Toowoomba.

St Anthony's Parish is looking for an Admin Support Officer to work up to 20 hours per week. Days and hours are negotiable. Please submit resume to Fr. Jamie Collins (admin@stanthonysparish.com.au) by 10th February.



This weekend we welcome Jacob Sebastian Lina into our Church family

The Hospitality Roster for the year is in the Foyer please fill this in.

The Parish Ministry rosters will be renewed for the year. Is there a ministry you could volunteer to help with or are there any changes you need made?



The Sacramental programme kicks off in February, please use the form below to enroll



Are you new to the Parish? We'd love to hear from you. Scan the QR code below to fill out our Parish Census Card



| | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| Monday 20 St Fabian St Sebastian | 9am Mass STM 5.30pm Mass SPC | Rosary in Chapel before Mass |
| Tuesday 21 St Agnes | 9am Mass SPC | |
| Wednesday 22 St Vincent | 7am Mass SPC | 10am - Open Door |
| Thursday 23 | 7am Mass SPC Rev Fr William Behm | |
| Friday 24 St Francis de Sales | 930am Mass STM 7am Mass SPC | Rosary in Chapel before Mass |
| Saturday 25 The conversion of St Paul | 6pm Mass STM 7am, 6pm Mass SPC | 8am-9am Reconciliation at St Pat's |
| Sunday 26 Australia Day | 8.30am Mass STM 7am, 9am, 5.30pm SPC | |

Planned Giving

Direct Debit \$710.50

Envelopes \$1037.50

Loose \$410.65

Donation Point \$150

Thank you for your generous donations.

Planned Giving Account

ST Thomas More's, BSB 064-786,

Account Number 100014249.



| WEEK 4 | Saturday | Sunday |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| MASS CO-ORDINATORS | J. McGovern | W. Dingle |
| Welcomers | B O'Keeffe | W & C Dingle |
| Organist/Singer | M Dickenson, K. Boulus | P. Dwan, V Pfeiffer |
| Readers | J. Doherty, K. Morris, J. McGovern | P. White-Davison, M. Wills, K. Pikramenos, K. Rouse |
| Communion Ministers | J. Hintz, M. Lobo, C. Bathurst | R. Mauch, J. Kennedy, L Holcombe, H. Whittaker |
| Money counters | P. Pemberton, B. Williams, T. Conway | |

Please reference your name/envelope number