

St Ignatius Church Kensington Terrace, Toowong

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

26th November 2023

Year A

<u>As Cold As Hell!</u>

Holy Spirit Church Harriett Street, Auchenflower The wags used to say that you go to Heaven for the climate and to Hell for the company! It just shows how much we managed to give Christianity such a bad name that people should suggest, even in jest, that those outside it are much more

sociable than those within it. Whatever happened to the ideals of a Jesus who, according to St Luke at least, was considered by some of his contemporaries as "a glutton and a drunk, a friend of sinners and tax collectors (or should that read 'publicans'?)" (Luke 7/34).

Yet, as human beings, we are creatures of habit and we form our being according to the habits we inculcate. At the very core of our being, we are creating ourselves by the habits we develop. Each decision we make, no matter how small or seemingly insignificant, builds us up around the central question as to whether life is about ME or about OTHERS. Every time I make a ME-decision, it pushes me towards isolation; every decision which is inclusive of others takes me out of myself and into relationship with others. As we go through life, we strengthen our identity with the one or the other. Some theologians call this our 'FUNDAMENTAL OPTION', an option for our own self and our own greed, or an option for outreach and the good of others.

This is not a question about whether a person is gregarious or otherwise. It is not a question of being outgoing or not. It is not even a question of philanthropy. One could be doing all sorts of good things around the neighbourhood, but the motivation may be SELF - to get the kudos from others (*"They have had their reward" Matthew 6/2*). On the other hand, another person may be struggling to do anything much, even appearing to be antisocial, but, given all they have to carry, either from their past or their current situation, it may be a very significant outreach. Remember the example of the widow's mite (Mark 12/41-44).

The 'FUNDAMENTAL OPTION' is not a question of outward show. It is about what is going on inside; what sort of person we are creating ourselves to be. Of course, it is never totally one-sided. Nobody is totally ME-centred and nobody is totally OTHER-centred, but the further on we go, the more we get confirmed and conformed in our choices, and the more consistently we act according to the nature we have created of ourselves.

At the moment of our death, in that fateful meeting with God, theologians suggest we make our "FINAL OPTION". As God comes to us, as OTHER, we either reach out to the other, which is God, or reject the other and cocoon ourselves in our own greed and self-pity. It would be a more than hopeful person who would think that one could go against the habit of a lifetime, built up in all those little and big decision, to act contrary to a nature we have created. And so our 'Final Option' will reflect our 'Fundamental Option' developed through life.

And the consequence? If we reach out to the OTHER, we are drawn into the circle of life, the life of others and enjoy the community of Love (the Communion of Saints) or, alternatively, our overwhelming self-interest and inability to face the Other drives us further into ourselves as we create the walls of our own Hell around us.

So, how many people are there in Hell? Only one! For when one is so full of one's own self-interest, there is no room for anybody else.

And how many Hells are there? I don't know, but there are as many as the people who choose to create them for themselves. A chilling thought!

J. Dece

PARISH WEEKDAY MASSES: HOLY SPIRIT Auchenflower: 9am Mondays and Fridays. ST IGNATIUS TOOWONG: 5.30pm Tuesdays & Wednesdays& 9.15am Thursdays.

PARISH WEEKEND MASSES: HOLY SPIRIT Auchenflower: Sunday 8.30am. <u>ST IGNATIUS</u> Toowong: Saturday 6.00pm Vigil and Sunday 7.00am & 5.00pm.

We respectfully acknowledge the Turrbal/Jagera people, as the traditional custodians and caretakers of the land which is the Toowong Catholic Parish. We acknowledge the Elders, past and present and emerging. May we, too, be good stewards of this land.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR FR WREX'S RETIREMENT & WELCOME OF JESUITS.

Important Update: Thank you to all who have registered to attend the lunch to farewell Fr. Wrex and welcome the Jesuits. The response has been so overwhelming that sadly we cannot accept any more registrations for luncheon.

However, everyone is welcome to attend the Thanksgiving Mass on **Sunday 26 November** at St Ignatius Church at 10am. ~ <u>Please note</u>, there will be no 7am Mass on this date.

Volunteers. If you are unable to deliver your food donations or assist as planned, please advise Mary Anne Paddock on M: 0407 003 097 or E: <u>padfam@iitnet.net.au</u> ASAP so other arrangements can be made.

Livestream: This Mass will be livestreamed if you are unable to attend (or can be viewed back later) - link: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cWmoPhzFzNw</u>

~ Please note, 5pm Mass on this date will not be live-streamed.

Lift Access: People needing to access the lift will need to be dropped off at the entrance gates to the church. There can be no parking in the grounds or dropping off close to the lift due to the very limited space.

Gift for Fr Wrex. If you wish to make a financial contribution for the gift to Fr Wrex, please put an envelope marked 'Gift' in the collection at Mass or visit parish office (during office hours) or alternatively you can make one via credit card (Bpoint link—<u>https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/toowong?BillerCode=2046332</u>).



Spoken Response: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Sung Response: The Lord's my Shepherd (Crimmond)

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!

Your Prayers Are Requested For All Parishioners & friends who are sick & in need

SICK: Maria Duque, Susi Rieder, Pat Clohessy, Ricardo Pacheco, Louis Nunan, Elvira Pertudo, Mia O'Donnell, Elizabeth Teresa, Tandina Gabriel, Cathy Mamata, Melissa Acosta, Doreen Waller, Matthew McKay, Nina Starkey, Lyndal & Grant Mitchell, Sr Marie Patrice rsm, Judy Hijin, John O'Rourke, Glenice Dickinson, Hannah Sinead, Susi Hopkins, Leigh Victoria, Adriana Meneses, Paul Massingham, Fr Michael Lowcock, Isabella Shand, David O'Connor, Liam O'Brien, Marie O'Sullivan, Glenice Dickinson, Denise Dimauro, Allison King, Zeneida Feril, Eugene Carniel, Allan Doxey, Patrice McKay, Margaret Twomey, Nat Lentz, Deb Galbraith, Melissa Grimsgard, Jeremy Ross, Teresa Galarza, Ange Beasley, Marie Anne Colman, Michael & Christine Hynes, Adrian Duffy, Kevin Anderson, Amy Frances Nugent, Josephine Cunningham.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Glenice Dickinson, Arline Nosovich, Helena John, Alice Fung Kwan Leung.

ANNIVERSARIES: Benedict Sullivan, Fr Peter Quin sj, Neal Ryan, Euphemia J. Keppel, Alma C. Paul, Edith Meaney, Therese Debelak, Percy Hanlon, Fr Vince Hurley sj, Juanito Duque.

Diary Dates November

- 2.30pm Choral Connection 25 concert—St Ignatius
- *Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe* 26
 - Nb. No 7am Mass—St Ignatius.

10am Mass of Thanksgiving for Fr Wrex's retirement & Welcome Jesuits-St Ignatius Followed by light lunch—Hall

Nb, 5pm Mass will not be livestreamed

5pm St Ignatius School Year 6 'Rite of Passage' - St Ignatius Church 28

Nb. No 5.30pm Mass

7.15pm SVdP meeting-Horstmann Room

30 Saint Andrew

December

1 9am Anointing Mass-Holy Spirit

11am St Ignatius School end-of-year Liturgy—St Ignatius

- Expect-a-cuppa (after all Masses) -2-
- 3 St Ignatius

1st Sunday Advent 3

Baptisms: 10.30am—St Ignatius

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS 34th week Ordinary (1)		
	<u>1st Reading</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Mon:	Daniel 1:1-6,8-20.	Luke 21:1-4.
Tues:	Daniel 2:31-45.	Luke 21:5-11.
Wed:	Daniel 3: 63-67.	Luke 21:12-19.
Thurs:	Romans 10:9-18.	Matthew 4:18-22.
Fri:	Daniel 7:2-14.	Luke 21:29-33.
Sat:	Daniel 7:15-27.	Luke 21:34-36.

PLEASE NOTE: PARISH OFFICE will be CLOSED on Mondays until further notice.

<u>Please note</u>: Any inclusions for the Parish newsletter should be marked to the attention of Parish Secretary & received, by email or note, at Parish Office no later than 12noon Thursdays. Thank you.

PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH COLLECTIONS: \$3,070.25, *Other: nil.

CONGRATULATIONS TO YEAR 6 GRADUATES. This Tuesday 28 November St Ignatius Primary School is celebrating the graduation of their Year 6 students with a 'Rite of Passage' liturgy, with their parents, at 5pm in St Ignatius Church. Congratulations to these 28 students who are completing their primary schooling at the end of the week. We wish each of them all the very best as they move on to high school in 2024.

WEEKDAY MASS (ST IGNATIUS) CANCELLED on Tuesday 28 November due to above.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL, TOOWONG will be selling Christmas Cards (packs of 5): \$2 per pack & 2024 Columban Calendars: \$10.00 each. Both are available now at both churches. Nb. Cash payment only (please place your payment into money-tin provided).

~ <u>Next meeting</u> will be held on **Tuesday 28 November**, 7.15pm in Horstmann Room.

ANOINTING MASS is celebrated on the **first Friday of the month** at 9am Mass at Holy Spirit Church; next one will be held on Friday 1 December. All are welcome.

ATTENTION READERS: 2024 'BREAK OPEN THE WORD' (YEAR B). Liturgical Year B commences next Sunday 3 December. Once again Fr Wrex is providing, free—of charge, a copy of Break Open The Word to (rostered) 'Readers' in gratitude and to assist them with their Ministry (one copy per household). 'Reader' volunteers should have received an email from parish office during the past week. Please collect your named envelope from the church where you are recorded as a Reader. Thank you.

<u>'OPEN DOOR' INITIATIVE</u>. This is a joint outreach by parishes of St Ignatius & St Thomas Anglican Toowong & is held on the first Friday each month, from 12noon to approx. 2pm, at St Thomas' Anglican Church, Jephson St, Toowong. Join us for a chat plus a cuppa and sandwich; bring a friend on Friday 1 December. For information please email notKummer2019@gmail.com

WORKS ON ST IGNATIUS CHURCH. Works are continuing (repairing surface of the church's front stairs and verandah area), which is expected to take until approx. mid—December. At this time the only access to St Ignatius Church will be by the side-entrance door. Temporary fencing has been installed preventing any access to stairs from both carparkside and front-side of church (and hall's front entrance).

NOVEMBER MASS ENVELOPES. Mass offerings for Deceased relatives and friends. Envelopes are available now at both churches from rotary stands (and included in TG envelope packs). Please place into collection basket at weekend Masses.

NOVEMBER MEMORIAL BOOK is located in front of the altar (both churches); you are invited to write the names of those whom you would like to be remembered at all Masses during the month of November.

EXPECT-A-CUPPA will be held after all Masses at St Ignatius Church and <u>AFTER—Mass Hospitality</u> following 8.30am Sunday Mass at Holy Spirit, next weekend **2—3 December.** Parishioners and visitors are welcome to stay after—Mass for a cuppa.

PARISH FACEBOOK PAGE. Search St-Ignatius-Parish-Toowong and click Like to follow.



Limited copies of **NOVEMBER edition** are available now, at both churches for 54 each (please place your payment in money-box provided).

PARISH WEBSITE, https://www.stignatiustoowong.org.au/, provides links to: *READ Parish's weekly Newsletter and a new page 'Sunday Liturgy' contains that Sundays Readings and Fr Wrex's latest homily; *VIEW Parish's YouTube, <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLghy4aXqqJRrUILiXPjoSA?view_as=subscriber</u>, to STREAM 5PM SUNDAY MASS from St Ignatius Church each Sunday (or watch previous MASS OR EVENT RECORDINGS).

ARCHDIOCESAN LINKS: *WATCH MASS live from St Stephen's Cathedral, Brisbane (8am Weekdays, 8am & 10am Sundays) go to http://archbne.org/bzw *View '2 MINUTE HOMILIES' for Sunday's Gospel (featuring clergy from parishes around Archdiocese of Brisbane).

