

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Thurgoona



"Do whatever He tells you" John 2:5

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

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~~ - **No Mass**

Thursday ~~5:30pm~~ Mass - **No Mass**

Holy Hour 4:30pm - As usual

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

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD - YEAR A

1/1/2023

First reading

Numbers 6:22-27

The Lord spoke to Moses and said, 'Say this to Aaron and his sons: "This is how you are to bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them:

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord let his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord uncover his face to you and bring you peace."

This is how they are to call down my name on the sons of Israel, and I will bless them.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 66(67):2-3,5,6,8

May God bless us in his mercy.

Second reading

Galatians 4:4-7

When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born a subject of the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law and to enable us to be adopted as sons. The proof that you are sons is that God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts: the Spirit that cries, 'Abba, Father', and it is this that makes you a son, you are not a slave any more; and if God has made you son, then he has made you heir.

Gospel Acclamation

Heb1:1-2

Alleluia, alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;
now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 2:16-21

The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told.

When the eighth day came and the child was to be circumcised, they gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.

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Prayers of the Faithfull:

For our sick, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Marie Fowles, Fr Reece Beltrame, Peter Tydeman, Ray Byrnes, Graeme Murphy, Greg Baker, Gwen Abikhair, Seamus Clancy and Jackson Davis.

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

For our recently departed, Greg Fraser, Leone Bouquet 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

Heb 13: 8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever.

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ANNIVERSARIES

Heather Parker, Fr Frank Young, Eileen Moran, Fr Jim Esler, Dr David Nelson, Terrance Charles Benson & Margaret Wighton.

PARISH NOTICES

Mass changes this week: There won't be any Masses this Wednesday and Thursday. Holy Hour will be at 4:30pm, Thursday as usual

Mobile Phones: Please mute your Mobile Phone or turn it off during Mass.

Readers: Sat: 6:00pm Mary Seidel Sun: 9:30am Jorgete Hudson

Next week: Sat: 6:00pm Denis Golden Sun: 9:30am Michael Sparshott

Cleaning Roster: Sat 7th Jan Mary & Ann Marie



PARISH COUNCIL

Sandy Zeromski (Sec)

Denis Golden

Maria Sparshott (Chair)

Denis Devcich

Mark Mannering

Simon Horsfall (Dep Chair)

Jodie Cunningham

Mary Seidel



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, The Have-a-Chat Ladies, 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, Accountant and Bookkeeper, 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.

LEE ATWATER: BR JULIAN MCDONALD CFC

Lee Atwater was the campaign manager for George H.W. Bush during his bid for the presidency. Atwater was a self-educated, street-wise man who had earned a reputation for being ruthless in dealing with rival politicians, and hard-as-nails in just about all his relationships. He knew well the tactics of political campaigning, so he set about brushing aside and pushing into oblivion anyone who stood in the way of the campaign of the man he supported. Atwater openly admitted that his main tactic was to identify an opponent's weakness and attack it relentlessly, irrespective of whether the weakness he identified was based in reality or invented by Atwater himself. He was probably the single, most influential person in getting George H.W. Bush into the White House in 1988. He once said to Bush during the campaign: "Your kinder, gentler approach is very nice, but it won't win votes." However, in March 1990 with George Bush well settled in Washington D.C., Atwater suffered a seizure at a fundraising breakfast in support of a US Senator. He was diagnosed with an aggressive brain cancer. And that changed his life so dramatically that he wrote letters of apology to political opponents whose reputations he had demolished. He found religion and converted to Catholicism, guided by a priest whom he



had met during his hospitalization. He even gave an interview to *Life* magazine in 1991 in which he said: “My illness helped me to see that what was missing in society is what was missing in me: a little heart, a lot of brotherhood.

The 1980s were about acquiring – acquiring wealth, power, prestige. I know. I acquired more wealth, power, and prestige than most. **But you can acquire all you want and still feel empty.** What power wouldn't I trade for a little more time with my family? What price wouldn't I pay for an evening with friends?

It took a deadly illness to put me eye to eye with that truth, but it is a truth that the country, caught up in its ruthless ambitions and moral decay, can learn on my dime. I don't know who will lead us through the '90s, but they must be made to speak to this spiritual vacuum at the heart of American society, this tumor of the soul.” He could have said those words about almost any country and government in the present, so called, “developed” world.

In recent months and years, Pope Francis has repeatedly stated that our world “is in desperate need of brotherhood”. It was through life-threatening illness that Lee Atwater grew into being the kind of man that he had not known before. It was by listening to his sickness that he blossomed into the man that he previously had not recognized. As the Augustinian priest and writer, Thomas a Kempis wrote centuries ago: “Sickness does not so much contribute to our frailty, but rather shows us who we really are” (*The Imitation of Christ*, circa 1427). In his sickness, Atwater discovered who he really was.

[Extract: catholicreligious.org.au/gospel-reflections/2019/1/17/do-whatever-he-tells-you](http://catholicreligious.org.au/gospel-reflections/2019/1/17/do-whatever-he-tells-you)

COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR



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2023

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