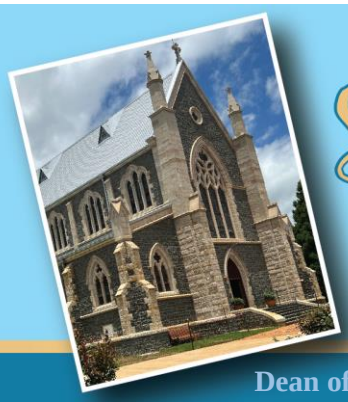


St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter

T: 4637 1500 F: 4637 1511
Email: stpatrickscathedral@twb.catholic.org.au
www.stpats.org.au
Office hours: 9am-4pm Mon-Thu 9am-3pm on Friday

Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral and Administrator: Fr. Michael O'Brien
Associate Pastor: Fr. Brian Redondo
Safeguarding Officer: Clinton Shearer (safeguarding@stpats.org.au)

St Patrick's, in communion with St Saviour's Primary School – Samuel Hannant (4637 1700)
St Saviour's College – Jessica Wade (4637 1600)

We Acknowledge and respect the Traditional Owners of this place, the Jarowair and Giabal Peoples

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD 11th January, 2026

First reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 Here is my servant, my chosen one in whom I am well pleased.
Responsorial Psalm: The Lord will bless his people with his peace.
Second Reading: Act 10:34-38 God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power.
ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. ALLELUIA!
Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17 When Jesus was baptised, the heavens were opened and the Spirit of God came upon him.

The Art of Being a God Parent

I believe baptism to be one of the most beautiful sacramental moments of life. Maybe not always for the child, as they are usually too young to comprehend what is happening, but for those present it can be a wonderful moment of grace. This is especially true for godparents. They have been especially asked because of the role they have played in the parents life, and the gift they will then be to the child. So what are some of the aspects of being a Godparent? It is a gift that maybe we take all too lightly at times. During the baptismal ceremony a candle is lit for the child from the Easter candle and the priest says:

"Parents and godparents, receive the light of Christ. This light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly. This child of yours has been enlightened by Christ. He/she is to walk always as a child of the light. May you keep the flame of faith alive in their heart. When the Lord comes, may he/she go out to meet Him with all the saints of the heavenly Kingdom."

What an awesome responsibility. So what can a godparent do to show the sincerity of the task they are undertaking? On the day, they can show a willingness to be open to whatever the day brings accepting the Spirit as it comes, be present to the moment that is, choosing to receive the grace of the sacrament, support the parents in this endeavor, and be prayerful by leaving behind any hassles of the day.

Recently I read a book about baptism and it commented on godparents taking the day seriously even when it came to choosing the present. Apart from the straight forward gifts of Bibles, medallions etc. they suggested some accompanying gifts that add to the sense of connectedness to God and all creation. Here are some of those suggestions: **Gifts of light –** A candle with the details of the baptism on it; **Gifts of water –** A small fountain gives soothing sounds for a baby or music of the sounds of the ocean; **Gifts of nature –** New life and a connection to creation can be found in flowers or by planting a tree, or bulb in the garden or giving a goldfish; **Gifts of words –** A specially written poem for the day, a baptism record book, or a book about this new life of baptism with a special message inside the cover from you; **Gifts of music –** Some modern or traditional religious music; **Gifts to hold –** Something for the crib or rocker, squeezable toys of biblical characters, giving some every anniversary builds up an atmosphere of God's presence in their room; **Gifts of memory –** photo frames to keep photos of the baptism, an album to keep cards and photos for when the child is older.

Baptism of Rory Eve Southern at St. George.

When was the last time you contacted your God child?

Do it today – they may need you!

God Bless,

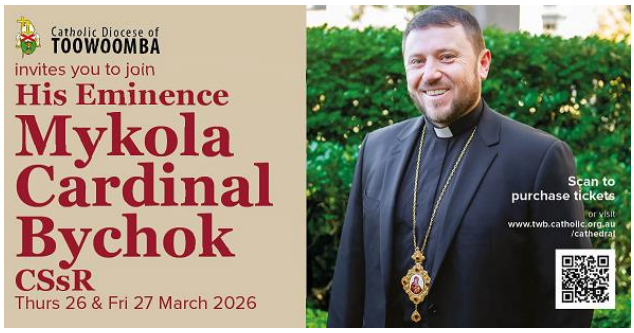
Father Michael

✞ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:**

✞ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially:**
Jan Klimkowicz, Cornelius Sullivan, Anthony Koop, Paul Sullivan, Paul Mahon, Lyla Saide.

✞ **For all those who are ill in our community:** Ted Philippa, Justin ODonnell, Mark Betts, Kathy Bermingham, Carole Symons, Elizabeth Soutar (age 2), Patrick Eldridge, Donna Vallely, Patrick Ryan, Rajender Vellore, Evandro Andrade, Antonietta Del Riccio, Mary Boland, Claire Seymour, Sharon Keats, Bernard Bartetzko, Vicky Cocozza, Jibran Mardini, Richard Stritzel, Rita Irwin, Kate Gibbs, Christine 'Saus' Barron, Alyshia Morris, William Garrahy, Bev Smith, Sheryl Grunke, Noel Roshan Francis, Therese Odri, Freddy Nield, Ray Frelek, Blake Cusato, Braxton, Greg Coddington, Jamal Abraham, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Dorothy Marsh, Teresita Pamulaklakin, Madeline Gray.

Unit for Rent One bedroom unit for rent, single person only, reasonable fortnightly rent. Applications are to be made in writing to the Secretary, Board of Management, St Patrick's Cathedral, PO Box 7062, Toowoomba 4350 or may be dropped in at the Parish Office. For more information please phone the parish office 46371500.



Invitation to an Historic Moment – Cardinal Bychok Visits Toowoomba

*This March, the Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba warmly invites parishioners to join in welcoming **His Eminence Mykola Cardinal Bychok CSsR**, our Australian Cardinal, on his **first-ever visit** to our Diocese. Celebrate this special occasion at a **breakfast** or **dinner**, with proceeds supporting the **restoration of St Patrick's Cathedral's leadlight windows**.*

***Tickets now available** – book at: www.twb.catholic.org.au/cathedral or use the QR code on the posters in Cathedral.*

Play for Purpose Every $10 ticket helps restore St Patrick's Cathedral's stained-glass windows—and gives you the chance to win a $300K First Prize Pack, including two luxury cars and $140K in gold bullion! Get you ticket by going to www.playforpurpose.com.au/catholic-diocese

Enrolment into the 2026 Sacramental Program is currently underway. If you wish your child to participate please contact the parish office on stpatrickscathedral@twb.catholic.org.au to receive an enrolment form and dates for the ceremonies, or simply call into the office.

Sunday 11 January **The Baptism of the Lord** **[SPC - St Patrick's &** **STM - St Thomas More's]**	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. **Live Stream 9am** **[Priest ann. in green]**	11am Baptism Arthur Stewart Betros & Tommy Ross Ryals 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 12 January	5.30pm Mass SPC 9.00am Mass STM	9.30am Rosary Group in Parish Centre
Tuesday 13 January	9am Mass SPC	
Wednesday 14 January	7am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 15 January	7am Mass SPC	7.30 – 8.30pm Adoration SPC
Friday 16 January	7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM	9am Friendship Group in the Conference Room 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 17 January **St Anthony**	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at St Patrick's 8–9am Reconciliation SPC 10.30am Baptism Riley Brett Moore 11.30am Baptism Jenson, Hudson, Boston & Harrison Lawson
Sunday 18 January **2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**	7am, 9am, 5.30pm **Live Stream 9am**	11am Baptism Emmaline, Quinn & Elora Thies 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

Planned Giving: *Thank you for your donations*. Loose $4437 Planned Giving $1126 Donation Point $2100
Money Counters this weekend: Jabour Hanna, Michelle Betros & Mick Cuskelly
Money Counters next weekend: Sandra & Peter Daly, Jan-Nell & Errol Chase

Planned Giving Options: Envelopes available from parish office. For direct debit/credit card please contact Celia at the Parish Office on 4637 1500. You may simply like to do a bank transfer: St Patrick's Cathedral, BSB 064-786, Account Number 100014072, reference envelope number or name in donating. Thank you.