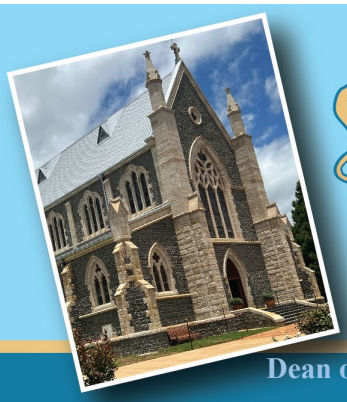

St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter

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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 and Fr BJ Perrett
Pastoral Associate – Music: Pamela Duane – cathedralmusic@twb.catholic.org.au
Safeguarding Officer: Clinton Shearer – professionalstandards@twb.catholic.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

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 19 July 2026

First reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19 In the place of sin, you give repentance.
Responsorial Psalm: Lord, you are good and forgiving.
Second Reading: Romans 8:26-27 The spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.
Alleluia, Alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
You have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!
Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43 Let them grow together until the harvest.

Life is full of Irony!

Before you roll your eyes heavenward, I assure you I will not be starting every homily or bulletin with, "during my recent visit to Ireland", with the exception of this bulletin. As you would imagine I had a wonderful time visiting all those lovely places in Ireland and meeting the wonderful and welcoming people of that nation. However there was quite an upset when we were in Belfast which I'm sure many of you saw on the news. We were wandering around Belfast when we came to the old goal and thought we might see about the tour. When we approached the person in charge we were told that the place was closed due to the "attempted decapitation" yesterday that happened just down the road and people are now worried about what will happen next. So we went into a nearby Tesco store to buy some food and was told that everyone will be closing at 4pm due to the strong possibility of rioting this evening. So we grabbed what we needed and headed back to the motel. That evening Belfast city was like a ghost town. The buses had also stopped service at 5pm. We watched the riot unfold on the TV that night. We were amazed to see that where the riot was taking place was exactly where we had walked that afternoon, being able to identify the streets due to the helicopter coverage. They managed to burn out a double length bus, several cars and a person's flat. This was all in the name of opposition to immigration. The man who attempted this heinous act was in fact an immigrant who had been granted asylum in Northern Ireland. The man being attacked would have surely died had it not been for some courageous bystanders and a hurling bat. The following night there was more rioting but much more controlled by the police with their water cannon and riot vehicles. Even the requests from the victims families for peace went unanswered. We stayed in the motel both nights and headed off to the Giant's Causeway and then onto Galway two days later, happy to leave Belfast behind us! When we spoke to some in Galway about the troubles, they spoke of Belfast being a powder keg just waiting for an excuse to explode into something like this. This sad situation gave them a reason to continue the age old response to difficult times. They also spoke of the irony of using immigration as an excuse to riot. The irony being that many Irish over hundreds of years have sought asylum in almost every continent in the world and found places that have welcomed and supported them. Evenly they also acknowledge the complexity of the immigration question, but they also know the need for immigrants to keep the economy alive and the filling of certain jobs in society. Sometimes it's easier to look at everyone else and not ourselves.

When I read the gospel today I was also thinking about the irony that is present in the parables. We sometimes might be tempted to think they apply to others and not ourselves. This is ironic because they are, essentially about each one of us on a deep personal level and the change Jesus hoped to bring. Let's take a moment to ask ourselves some straight questions during our prayer life this week using these parables as a starting point.

The Wheat and the Weeds: When we reflect on our life journey with all its ups and downs, how is our "paddock" looking? Does there at times seem to be more weeds than wheat? What do we need to do to nurture the growth of our "wheat" – the good that we do, the kindness we share, the love we enrich others lives with? Do we need more prayer, action, thoughtfulness? The "weeds" will not go away in this life, but the "wheat" can be stronger and healthier!
The Mustard Seed: How are we growing in our spiritual life? From the moment we were the size of a Mustard Seed, as we all were once, we have been called to grow and be a gift to those around us, so how life giving have we become?
The Yeast and the Flour: Following on from the Mustard Seed, the interesting part of this parable is the difference in the quantity needed of flour and yeast. The yeast is a tiny amount that makes all the difference to the dough and eventually the bread. This parable reminds us that we don't need to be outrageous always in our faith, rather seizing the right moment and speaking genuinely can be a reality check (a leaven) for everyone.

May your week reveal God's love for you, Fr. Michael

✞ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Janet Brady, Don McKechnie, Norma Calcutt, Geraldlyn Mathiasen, Eileen Hanna.

✞ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially:** Joan Norris, Ellen & Athol Plunkett, Catherine Coffey, Joan Norris, Kevin O'Brien.

✞ **For all those who are ill in our community:** Anette Schaefer, Kate Gibbs, Katherine Manktelow, Therese Odri, Austin Amalemba, Brenden Canning, Ted Philippa, Justin O'Donnell, Kathy Bermingham, Carole Symons, Elizabeth Soutar, Patrick Eldridge, Donna Vallely, John Gurney.

Winter and Beyond Ars Cantorum Concert – Sunday 19th July 2pm 'warm the cockles of your heart' Conductor - Andrew Doecke, Accompanist - Pam Duane. Tickets $25 from the parish office or sold at the door. Enquiries 0439 355 089 or arstoowoomba@gmail.com

Educating Rita – Repertory Theatre 7.30pm **Monday 3rd August** {supporting St Peter Claver Sisters – 46321 818 or Helen on 0416055976} **Wednesday 5th August** {supporting SPRED 46 328 427} Please call either to purchase your tickets.

Broncos Legends Lunch – Friday 31st July - Tickets Available
All are invited to attend the Broncos Legends Lunch, featuring guests from the Brisbane Broncos, including CEO Dave Donaghy, Troy Thomson (General Manager – Football Operations) and a Broncos Legend, with Q&A hosted by Ben Dobbin. Guests will enjoy a two-course lunch and premium beverages while hearing insights from one of Australia's most iconic rugby league clubs. This event is proudly supporting the restoration of St Patrick's Cathedral. Tickets via -https://www.trybooking.com/DMZUP

Thank you Fr Peter Dorfield for filling in as the Administrator during my leave. He enjoyed returning to the Cathedral for a short stint! Thank you also to Frs Jim Cronin, Salvador Fernandes, BJ Perrett and Brian Redondo for taking care of the parish spiritually and pastorally. I have no doubt they valued being part of our community as much as you appreciated their presence with you. Every blessing, Fr. Michael

JESUS LIVES! is the celebratory words this weekend as we continue to walk with the young ones who receive Eucharist for the first time. We hold them in prayer, that they will find, as we do, the wonderful depth of strength and peace that only the blessed sacrament can bring to our lives – ***"a peace the world cannot give".*** We pray for Kyle Aya-ay, Athena and Jace Baluyut, Alfie Benenuti, Thomas Carey, Yzabella Corpuz, Mackenzie Child, Winifred Delahunty, Suzannah Dias, Mattea Farr, Kenneth Gladston, Linkyn and Harlow Harrison, Gidget Hogan-Buckingham, Elijah Koppin, Zavannah Madigan, Matthan Mallari, Lovielle Meneses, Elijah Menhinnitt, Mien Montesa, Andrea Ocampo, Gabriella Raccanello, Alfie Ruhle, Tilly Schneider, Lachlan and Samuel Scott, Bailey Skuse, Elora and Quinn Thies, Owen Thomas, Madeleine Venz, Harry Wade, Poppy Wann and Cailie Wheeler.

Closed for Maintenance – The Cathedral will be closed from 7pm Monday 27th July until 7am Wednesday 29th July due to further maintenance to the flooring around the doorways. Fr Michael will be celebrating 9.00am Mass on Tuesday morning 28th July in the Conference Room in the Parish Centre. If work is not complete Wednesday's 7am Mass will also be in the Conference Room. All are welcome.

Sunday 19 July **16th Sunday in Ordinary Time** **[SPC - St Patrick's &** **STM - St Thomas More's]**	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. **Live Stream 9am** **[Priest ann. in green]**	**Grandparents Day** 9am Celebration of First Eucharist 2pm Ars Cantorum Concert 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 20 July	5.30pm Mass SPC 9.00am Mass STM	9.30am Rosary Making Group in the Parish Centre 6pm Parish Council Meeting in Office Staff Room
Tuesday 21 July	9am Mass SPC	5.30pm Parish Finance Meeting in Office Staff Room
Wednesday 22 July **St Mary Magdalene**	7am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM **Fr Robert Flynn** **Fr Brian Sparksman**	4pm Practice for First Eucharist 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 23 July	7am Mass	7.30am-8.30am Adoration 10am Mass at Numylo Nursing Home 5.30pm Liturgy Meeting in Office Staff Room **NO CHOIR PRACTICE**
Friday 24 July	7am Mass 9.30am Mass STM	9am Friendship Group in the Parish Centre 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 25 July **St James**	7am Mass 6pm Mass **Fr John Bennett** **Fr Thomas Keegan**	6.30am Rosary in Cathedral 8-9am Reconciliation 10.30am Baptism Layney Marian Parry 11.30am Baptism Ally Lorraine & Thomas James King 12.30pm Baptism Frankie Marie Morris
Sunday 26 July **17th Sunday in Ordinary Time**	7am, 9am, 5.30pm **Live Stream 9am**	**Catholic Education Week** 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Collections
Collection for 12/07/2026 – Loose $2,859 Planned Giving $732 Donation Point $1,830
Money Counters this weekend: SPC Parish Staff
Money Counters next weekend: Sam & Fina Ginardi & Wendy Heelan
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.