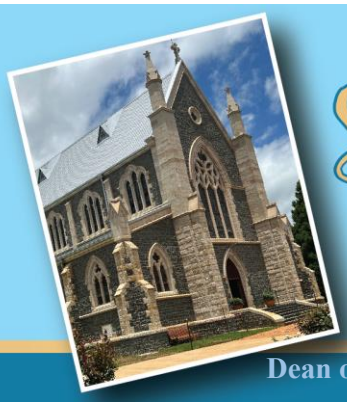

St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter

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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 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

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 26 July 2026

First reading: 1 Kings 3:5,7-12 You have asked for wisdom
Responsorial Psalm: Lord, I love your commands
Second Reading: Romans 8:28-30 He predestined us to become true images of his son.
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 13:44-52 He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Magnifica Humanitas – Magnificent Humanity

In May this year Pope Leo promulgated his first encyclical addressing some issues that face the world today. In particular he examines the impact that Artificial Intelligence (AI) is having, and will have upon our world. Here are some of the key teachings from the document for you to ponder and reflect upon –

Human Dignity, the Foundation for Building

"We must lovingly safeguard the grandeur of humanity bestowed upon us and revealed in its fullness in Christ, the splendour of which no machine can ever replace." Instead of being architects of a new Tower of Babel, an image conveying fallen humanity's tendency to seek its own glory apart from God, we should strive to be "builders of communion" with each other.

A Fully Human Approach to AI

People, including those who engineer various versions of AI possess only a limited understanding of their actual functioning. This reality demands our renewing "a twofold commitment: on the one hand, a deepening of scientific research; on the other, the exercise of moral and spiritual discernment". Important and sensitive decisions deserve to be authentic human decisions instead of actions delegated to an impersonal automaton.

Risks to Consider When Using AI

Among the risks that AI runs are its potential to "weaken personal creativity and judgement" in its users and to "place heavy demands on natural resources" via its operating systems. AI can be used by those with malicious intent, but "a subtler danger" exists within the realm of misinformation/disinformation. This is because "when AI systems present themselves as neutral and objective they end up reflecting and reinforcing the stereotypes or ideological bias of their designers and developers." Because of such bias, "we cannot consider AI to be morally neutral"

How Not to Use AI

AI should not be used to amplify those in power, nor should it undermine social justice and solidarity. Instead, it should be used equitably. AI-powered weapons, autonomous by nature, are less subject to human control. "This violates the principle that armed forces should be used only as a last resort in cases of legitimate self-defence. For this reason, the development and use of AI in warfare must be subject to the most rigorous ethical constraints, to guarantee respect for human dignity and the sanctity of life and to avoid a race to develop such arms."

How to Build a Civilisation of Love

We should strive to build up a civilisation of love in which we protect human life and the common good. "In order to build the civilisation of love, we must engage in dialogue for this is the primary means of coexistence between people and nations, and it is the alternative to open conflict….The spirituality that we neeed is a Eucharistic spirituality, that is, a spirituality of ecclesial unity in love." When we receive Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, we call it *communion*. In this we are united to Jesus and mystically to all the faithful: we become "one body" in Christ.

In Conclusion

The quality of a civilisation is measured not by the power of its means, but by the care it is able to offer by its ability to recognise the other as a face not merely as a function. The ability to care for one another is a fundamental dimension of our humanity, one that is learned and mastered through lived experience. Reading stories to a child, offering company to an elderly person and arranging a home so that it is welcoming are simple gestures often rooted in family life. They teach us to value care at a social level and train us to recognise others as persons worthy of attention.

For a full copy of the text put *Magnifica Humanitas* into any search engine. You can go to the Vatican site for the text, or you may order a copy from such places as St Paul's Bookshop, Brisbane.

Every Blessing, Fr. Michael

✞ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Pauline Hickey, Mick Wilson, Michael Peet.

✞ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially:** Val Murphy, Neil Gainey.

✞ **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.

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

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 Parish Centre Conference Room. If work is not complete Wednesday's 7am Mass will also be in the Conference Room.

VIGIL FOR THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION will be celebrated at St Patrick's on Friday, 14th August at 5.30pm. This Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Ken Howell. 7am Saturday morning will be as usual to celebrate the Holy Day of Obligation.

REMINDER – Please observe the one way direction through the Neil Street Cathedral entrance. This is for the safety of pedestrians so they can be sure vehicles are travelling in one direction and will not be unpredictably reversing. Parking is permitted **ONLY** in designated spaces. Note there are plenty of parks in the adjacent carpark of Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office, via Lawrence Street. Please **DO NOT** turn right when exiting onto James Street, not only is it dangerous but also illegal. *Thank you for your patience and care of those in our Cathedral Precinct.*

Sunday 26 July **17th Sunday in Ordinary Time** **[SPC - St Patrick's & STM - St Thomas More's]**	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. **Live Stream 9am** **[Priest ann. in green]**	**Catholic Education Week** 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre *[Bishop Ken will spend the week in Cunnamulla Roma, and Twba for TCSO Bishop Inservice Days]*
Monday 27 July	5.30pm Mass SPC 9.00am Mass STM	9.30am Rosary Making Group in the Parish Centre
Tuesday 28 July	9am Mass SPC **Fr Basil Roper**	**CHURCH CLOSED FOR RENOVATIONS** **9AM MASS IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM**
Wednesday 29 July **St's Martha, Mary & Lazarus**	7am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	9am St Saviours Primary Grandparents Day Mass 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 30 July	7am Mass	7.30am-8.30am Adoration 6pm Choir Practice
Friday 31 July **St Ignatius of Loyola**	7am Mass 9.30am Mass STM	9am Friendship Group in the Parish Centre 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 1 August **St Alphonsus Liguori**	7am Mass 6pm Mass	6.30am Rosary in Cathedral 8-9am Reconciliation 10.30am Baptism Harry John Edwards 11.30am Baptism Archie Cutter
Sunday 2 August **18th Sunday in Ordinary Time**	7am, 9am, 5.30pm **Live Stream 9am**	Vocations Awareness Week 11am Baptism Elspeth Sandy Wilkes 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Collections
Collection for 19/07/2026 – Loose $3,467 Planned Giving $750 Donation Point $2,190
Money Counters this weekend: Sam & Fina Ginardi & Wendy Heelan
Money Counters next weekend: Parish Office
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.