



# 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 Pastors: Fr. Nandana Saparamadu and Fr. Nathan Webb.  
Safeguarding Officer: Ann Marie Pawsey ([safeguarding@stpats.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@stpats.org.au))



**St Patrick's, in communion with St Saviour's Primary School - Madonna Sleba (4637 1700)**  
**St Saviour's College - Sharon Collins (4637 1600)**

*We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Owners of this place, the Jarowair and Giabal peoples.*



## NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 7 August 2022

**First Reading:** Wisdom 18:6-9 Just as you struck our enemies, you made us glorious by calling us to you.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 32 Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

**Second Reading:** Hebrews 11: 1-2 We will look for the city designed and built by God.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! *Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming!* Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Luke 12:32-48 See that you are prepared.

It was an ordinary night as I made my way home after dinner. You know, extraordinary things sometimes happen on ordinary nights. As we passed Fibber's we thought we should have a quick night cap on the way. We started to talk with a group of people one of my friends knew. Talking loudly over the late night music we introduced ourselves. I was introduced to lady of about 50 years whose name I didn't catch, so she became *Pepper* for the night, seemed like as good a name as any other! We all had a great laugh. Pepper was not a well person, as she had to add water to her body via a syringe for hydration. Perhaps knowing I was a priest, perhaps not, we swapped phone numbers. In a couple of days I sent her a text to say that I was hoping all was going well for her. Pepper told me that she was back in hospital with her cancer and not doing too well. Toowoomba has sucked the life out of me, so I've left for good.

Three months later, 1.54am my mobile phone rings.

Are you awake?

Of course isn't everyone at this time of night, as I stumble out of bed.

Can we talk?

Yep.

That night Pepper told me a little about her life. She told me about her children. Three sets of twins. She told me about how one of them has a severe disability and the fears she has for her. She tells me about her husband committing suicide a couple of years ago. She tells me that all she hopes for is her daughter not to go into care when she dies. Her greatest hope is to take care of her daughter's future and to see her children grow. She tells me of her fear of dying, her fear of the darkness, and what is God thinking?

I do my best to listen and talk about a God that is with her in her struggles, her pain. That our human frailty out does any God who causes disease or suffering. I talk about trusting the people around her to find a way for her family. I talk about the love of her children for her and the gift she has been to them. Even in dying your spirit will live through them. I have nothing to take away her pain. I just offer assurances that death is not the end.

After a couple of hours talking, Pepper explains that the drugs are finally making her sleepy and drowsy.

Time to say goodbye.

Next day Pepper has decided to try a final operation to remove another tumor, and is hopeful this will give her more time with her children.

Since then, I have not heard from Pepper. I know so much about her, and in a way I know nothing.

Often she crosses my mind and I say a silent prayer for Pepper and her family, where ever she may be.

I never did find out her name, so perhaps I will never know, but I trust in prayer.

*"For where you treasure is, there will your heart be also.....stand ready, because you know not the hour"*

*We journey together in prayer and faith, Fr. Michael*



✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Doreen Ireland, Patricia Perry, Margaret Taylor, Jessie Richards and Noel Sandstrom. May perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. We hold in our hearts all those who have died in the Ukraine conflict.

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Kate Dorge, Majella Richmond, Jozef Dawidowicz, Kevin O'Shea, Jim and Eileen Ryan, Fr Mark Cosgrove [1947], Fr John Ryan [2001] and Fr Patrick Kelly [1986].

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially:** Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Rodolfo Umipig, Bev Smith (Boodle), Fr Raymond Sweeney, Addison McEwan, Daniel Ligon, Rohitha Jayamanna, Ray Frelek, Patsy Quinn, Brian Machin, Madeline Gray, Loan Smith, Maria Brown, Christine [Faus] Barron, Greta Berge, Matt Vlietstra, Dr Peter Reiter, Elijah Rolls, Hayden Smith, Margaret Walker, Rita Blacker, Nora Machin, Mary Allen, Tina Hobson, Bev Boundy, Joanne Essey [Sydney], Braxton Rayner, Kate Gibbs, Max Shearer, Saturnino Bustamante, Hannah Marie Marasigan, Stephanie Shine, Andrew Supple, Mary-Ann Hine, Kathy Allan, Patricia McCracken, Reggie James, Teresita Pamulaklakin.

**RECONCILIATION** – 1<sup>st</sup> Rite available every Saturday morning between 8am and 9am.

**Unit for Rent:** We have a one bedroom unit available for rent, which would suit an actively independent person. Rent is \$325 f/n. 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 to the Parish Office.

**SERVICE @ ST PAT'S** - *"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received"* – 1 Peter 4:10. You are invited to consider the call to put your gifts at the service of the parish community through liturgical ministry at St Pat's. This is not about locking yourself into a never-ending or onerous roster; it's about your gifts and responding to the invitation to serve through them. At present, there is a real and regular need for readers and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. Assistance with the sacristy cleaning on a less regular basis would also be welcome. For more information, please contact the parish office (admin@stpats.org.au; 4637 1500; or online), speak to one of the priests or current volunteers, or call Gabrielle Saide on 4632 4778 (a.h.). Training is given for each of these ministries. Also, the regularity and responsibilities of the roles can be adjusted to meet your circumstances and calling. *"Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen"* – 1 Peter 4:11-12.

**Jubilee** - Bishop Robert McGuckin and the Toowoomba Council of Priests cordially invite you to the Jubilee Celebration of Ordinations – **60 years:** Fr. Michael McClure, **50 years:** Fr. Peter Dorfield, Fr. Ray Johnson, Fr. John Peard, Fr. Michael Cooney, Fr. Ray Crowley, Fr. Rod MacGinley, Fr. Sean Lynskey CSSp and **25 years:** Fr. Shane Carr, MSC. Mass will be held here on Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2022 at 11am. **All are welcome to attend.**

**Plenary Council** – For up to date information regarding the decrees being sent to Rome for approval please access via [www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au) or call into our office for a copy.

**Priest Retirement Appeal** envelopes now available on the entrance table.

**Catholic Mission Appeal** will be on the weekend of 10/11 September. Envelopes will be available on that weekend.

**Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver** are hosting the play **"Pride and Prejudice"**, a romantic comedy by Jane Austin, on Monday August 22 to raise money for the missions. Doors open at 7.00pm with patrons to be seated by 7.25pm. Tickets are \$20 each and available now by contacting the Sisters on 46321818 or Helen on 0416055976.

<b>Sunday 7 August</b> [SPC – St. Patrick's] [STM – St. Thomas More's]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass <b>9am Live Streaming</b>	11am Baptism Hamish Tame 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
<b>Monday 8 August</b> <b>Saint Mary of the Cross</b>	9am Mass STM 5.30pm Mass SPC	10am Rosary making group in Parish Board Room 5.30pm Finance Committee meeting
<b>Tuesday 9 August</b>	9am SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	5.30 – 7pm Choir practice
<b>Wednesday 10 August</b> <b>Saint Lawrence</b>	7am Mass SPC	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre 5.30pm Grounds Committee Meeting
<b>Thursday 11 August</b> <b>Saint Clare</b>	7am Mass SPC	5.00pm Parish Liturgy Meeting <b>7.30am – 8.30am Adoration at St. Patrick's</b>
<b>Friday 12 August</b>	7am Mass SPC 9am Mass STM	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
<b>Saturday 13 August</b> <b>The Transfiguration of the Lord</b>	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at St. Pat's <b>8.00am – 9.00am Reconciliation</b>
<b>Sunday 14 August</b>	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass <b>9am Live Streaming</b>	11am Baptism of Violet MacKenzie 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

Thank you for your generous giving to assist the works of St. Patrick's.

Planned Giving: \$1152 Loose: \$1272 PayPoint: \$460. Helen Hoddle, Mick Cuskelly and Joanne Meacle.

**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. Thank you.

# Life @ St Pat's UPDATE

This is an exciting time for our Parish as we hear the voices of those who have contributed to our invitation to our **Life @ St Pat's** initiative. We appreciate and value your time spent reflecting on the life of our parish. Your feedback has prompted our action as a Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) to begin to build a Strategic Plan that will lead us into a renewed direction into the future. The 2023 – 2026 Strategic Plan will be shaped by the contributions you have already made.

Below we present to you the emerging ideas for a Strategic Plan. Three strategic pillars have been identified which will form the basis of this plan – **Belonging, Believing, Becoming**. Sitting beneath each of these pillars are priority areas that represent simple, overarching themes.

BELONGING	BELIEVING	BECOMING
St Patrick's values the inclusion of all, so each person's experience in this community is life-giving.  <i>through:</i>	St Patrick's gathers people through nurturing and deepening formation of faith.  <i>through:</i>	St Patrick's strives to fulfill its potential to bring the Good News to others, and to be the face of Christ for the wider community.  <i>through:</i>
1. Honoring our past; 2. Welcome and inclusion; 3. Contribution and participation; 4. Strengthening relationships.	1. Active participation; 2. Prayerful encounter; 3. Directed formation; 4. Spiritual development.	1. Celebrating diversity; 2. Community partnerships; 3. Service and outreach; 4. Renewal and improvement.

This plan will be further developed, fleshed out and will subsequently provide the plan for St Patrick's Cathedral Parish moving into the future. Our aim is to launch the Strategic Plan mid-November this year. From this, our PPC will develop Annual Action Plans each year that will direct our specific work and priorities, a year at a time.

This opens great opportunities to bring to life our parish mission and vision in tandem with the outcomes of the recent Plenary Council. We continue to strive to listen to the community and encourage and foster a culture of dialogue to bring about God's kingdom here on earth.

This is only the start of the conversation, and we hope to keep building a culture of encounter, co-responsibility, synodality (walking together), and dialogue. Let's keep the conversation going!

For this reason, the opportunity for your input into Life @ St Pat's is welcomed and your ongoing feedback may be communicated:

- Through a conversation with one of the cathedral team (a fellow parishioner, volunteer, member of the PPC, or one of the priests);
- by emailing <life@stpats.org.au>;
- sending a message through the social media platforms @cathedralofstpatricktwb;
- scan the QR Code here; or,
- phoning the parish office on 4637 1500 or 0432 301 500.



Below are word clouds of the top 100 words mentioned in your responses. There might not seem to be many ground-breaking or shocking appearances, but you might see some of the words you used in your own submissions. Beside each is a summary of themes that emerged when reading them all.

Over the years, whole generations have celebrated the sacraments and practiced their faith at St Pat's. There was a sense of hope and a desire to build relationship with others and help bring them into our great story.

There was no sense that this kind of growth would happen by accident, and we heard ideas for deliberate and direct formation and education to foster spiritual development in the parish.

A word cloud of religious and community-related terms. The words are arranged in a circular pattern, with 'church' and 'people' being the largest. Other prominent words include 'faith', 'group', 'parish', 'community', 'love', 'believe', 'more', 'church', 'group', 'parish', 'community', 'love', 'believe', 'more', 'church', 'group', 'parish', 'community', 'love', 'believe', 'more'.

Not sitting in isolation but as part of the broader community in South Toowoomba, there was a longing for connection with the broader community and peoples from different places and background.

[illegible]

***Get connected, have your say, and join the journey of Life @ St Pat's!***