

T: 4637 1500 F: 4637 1511 Email: admin@stpats.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 Pastors: Fr. Nathan Webb & Fr. Brian Redondo Safeguarding Officer: Ann Marie Pawsey (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.





Fourth Sunday in Lent

10 March 2024

First reading: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16 The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.

Responsorial Psalm: Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10 When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: John 3:14-21 God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.

God's ways are mysterious. He throws his seeds far and wide watching expectantly for them to grow. Certainly the seed of a religious vocation that landed in the heart of a young girl living on a farm near Gayndah landed in very fertile soil and it has grown into a silver, a golden, a diamond – and now a sapphire flower. Sr Miriam Lorenz SSPC celebrated 65 years of Religious Consecration on 6th January this year - a milestone at which few arrive. For Sr Miriam, though, the grace of her vocation has been matched with the graces of a long life and most certainly a sharp intellect and wit.

Sr Miriam was born in Gayndah, Queensland, one of the seven children of John and Ellen Lorenz and grew up on a farm at Branch Creek, attending the local small State School.

Her parents and grandparents subscribed to our mission publication *Echo from Africa and other Continents*. Reading the stories of missionary life in the *Echo* motivated her to enter our Congregation in 1956 – the first Australian vocation. She made her First Profession in 1959 in Kew, Melbourne, where she also made her Final Profession. She served the Congregation in Melbourne, New Zealand, America and Canada before founding our house in Toowoomba in 1986. She went to Rome in 1995 when elected as First Counsellor, and served as the *Missions Secretary* for that six year term.

Sr Miriam has been editor of the *Echo* for over 55 years, a task she still fulfills. Methods of editorial work have changed over the years and Sr Miriam has kept pace with them. She now uses a laptop and Microsoft Word to "cut and paste" instead of scissors and glue!

While it is easy to write a short biography of someone's life, picking out a few important moments; it is never easy to describe the courage, dedication, perseverance and love for God which nourish their soul and form the foundation of their life. This is definitely true for Sr Miriam. All of her life she has walked in faith and love of her "dear Lord". May she continue for many years to be an example and inspiration to her fellow Sisters in religious life, to her family and all whom she meets.

Even though Sr Miriam's jubilee was in January, we decided to postpone the 'official' celebration when we heard that Mother Selin, the Mother General of our Congregation, planned to visit Toowoomba in March. Special thanks to Fr Michael for including the jubilee Mass at relatively short notice which was due to visa complications etc! We also thank Bishop Ken for being principal celebrant. Please see the notice inside for details and join us in our celebrations.

Sr Eileen, on behalf of Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver



- **†** We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently: Tito Gicomantonio, Mary Wagner [sister of Helena Manley].
- **†** We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Fr Joseph Skelly [1970], Fr Kevin Ryan [2011], Fr Bernard Kane [2011], Fr Derick Furness [2013], Fr Ronald Walton [1970].
- **† For all those who are ill in our community, especially**: Rita Irwin, Alyshia Morris, William Garrahy, Gabrielle Saide, Bev Smith, Louise O'Connor, Sheryl Grunke, Noel Roshan Francis, Kate Gibbs, Therese Odri, Kath Smith, Freddy Nield, Ray Frelek, Bob O'Sullivan, Blake Cusato, Greg Coddington, Stanley Poon, Jamal Abraham, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Teresita Pamulaklakin, Madeline Gray, Braxton Rayner.

Please find the Complete Easter Service Times on the GOLD sheets on the tables.

Catholic Leader for March now available. Take a copy as they are better in your home rather than in the Cathedral unread. You may wish to place a donation in the collection box if you are able.

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver invite you to celebrate the 65th Anniversary of Religious Consecration of Sr Miriam Lorenz S.S.P.C. A Jubilee Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Ken Howell and Fr Michael O'Brien at 11.30am Saturday March 16 2024, at St Patrick's Cathedral. Please join us afterwards at our convent: 71 Margaret Street, for light refreshments and also to meet Mother Selin, our Mother General. For catering purposes, please RSVP by Friday March 8. Telephone 4632 1818.

Parish Council membership. Thank you to all those who showed an interest in being part of the St Patrick's Parish Council. With our Parish Strategic Plan and Vision in place we hope to move forward with many initiatives driven by our desire to BELIEVE, BELONG AND BECOME into the future. We welcome our Parish Council members – Rex Miguel, Angela Travers, Anna Rees, Clinton Shearer, Hughie Boyce, Mark Betts, Pamela Hanrick, Sandra O'Kelly, Patrick Eldridge and Frs Nathan, Brian and myself. We look forward to listening and responding to the needs of the parish community. Should you have anything to talk about, please approach one of the councilors or the priests. God's blessings, Fr. Michael.

EASTER ROSTERS – If you are available for any ministry over Easter, please fill in the details required on the sheet located on the Neil St Entrance table. Thank you. As you would be aware we need extra helpers for the multitude of services over Easter. Please consider volunteering!



Planned Giving: Thank you for your donations. Loose \$2356 Planned Giving \$1310 Donation Point \$820

Money Counters this weekend: Jim Harris with Kevin and Judy Lindores.

Money Counters next weekend: Jabour Hanna, Michelle Betros and Mick Cuskelly.

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.