



St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter



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 Pastor: Fr. Nathan Webb.
Safeguarding Officer: Ann Marie Pawsey (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.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 11 December 2022

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10 God himself will come and save us.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, come and save us.

Second Reading: James 5:7-10 You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11 Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

Wise Women Also Came: Jan L Richardson

(from *Night Visions: Searching for Shadows of Advent and Christmas*, 1998: United Church Press)

Wise women also came.

The fire burned in their wombs long before they saw the flaming star in the sky. They walked in shadows, trusting the path would open under the light of the moon.

Wise women also came,
seeking no directions, no permission from any king.
They came by their own authority, their own desire, their own longing.
They came in quiet, spreading no rumours,
sparkling no fears to innocents' slaughter,
to their sister Rachel's inconsolable lamentations.

Wise women also came,
and they brought useful gifts: water for labour's washing, fire for warm illumination, a blanket for swaddling.

Wise women also came,
at least three of them, holding Mary in the labour,
crying out with her in the birth pangs, breathing
ancient blessings into her ear.

Wise women also came,
and they went, as wise women always do,
home a different way.

*In this and every season may we see them,
the wise ones who come bearing your gifts to us.
They cloak themselves in garb that rarely draws attention,
but they are there at the edge of the shadows,
in the margin of our days, on the threshold of our awareness,
offering what we most need.*

*Give us eyes to see them now, before they have left
to go home some other way,
before we glimpse their departing shadows
edged in gold and smell their spiced perfume
lingering behind them in the air.*



Currently I am completing a book titled, "Gulliver's Wife" by Lauren Chater. The story involves Lemuel, Mary's husband who has returned from sea, and is telling an extraordinary story of little people in a town of Lilliput. Mary is a midwife and struggles with the gossip about her husband and the effect that has on her role within the community. This is obviously a totally fictional story, but one that invites an imaginative mind to place Mary in the era of Gulliver's Travels' writing and the patriarchal world that existed. It is sometimes good to ask ourselves, "Who exists in the shadows of the story?" In thinking about those others involved can help us create the world of the time in our own minds.

Just because women are not mentioned by the writers of the gospel stories of Jesus' birth does not mean there were none present. There is a possibility of midwifery existing in the time, the possibility of local women, upon hearing of the coming birth to offer help, there is the possibility of family travelling with Mary and Joseph.

Absence of proof, proves nothing.

Let us be aware and acknowledge those wise women who came to the assistance of Mary, Joseph and ultimately Jesus, and were witnesses to something amazing and life changing.

This poem appeared recently in the Sychar Solidarity, which is the newsletter for "Sychar House of Prayer and Spirituality". If you would like to receive the newsletter, or wish to know more about the programs/retreats available, please contact Sr. Elaine Morzone via emorzone@twb.catholic.edu.au or 4613 0933.

God Bless your Advent reflections, Fr. Michael

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Pam Lawley. 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:** Jorg Fischer, Fr Joseph Callaghan [1989], Fr James Byrne [2020].

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially:** Greg Coddington, Gloria Hayes, Gayle Christoffel, Lisle Stephenson, Stanley Poon, Ken McIntosh, Pat Murray, Jamal Abraham, Pam Cavalachini, Madelaine Morris, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Rodolfo Umipig, Bev Smith (Boodle), Addison McEwan, Daniel Ligon, Rohitha Jayamanna, Ray Frelek, Madeline Gray, Maria Brown, Christine [Faus] Barron, Greta Berge, Matt Vlietstra, Dr Peter Reiter, Elijah Rolls, Hayden Smith, Rita Blacker, 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 – 1st Rite available every Saturday morning between 8am and 9am.

VOLUNTEERS DINNER All those who have volunteered (and partners) at St Patrick's are invited to come to a simple Christmas dinner and entertainment, so we can say thank you. Even if you only volunteered once, you are very welcome. We will celebrate at the Cathedral Centre on **Monday, 12th December** commencing at 6pm. Please advise our parish office (4637 1500 or admin@stpats.org.au) if you are able to attend. God Bless.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023 – Please email the office, or call in to collect the program and registration form of the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion. admin@stpats.org.au or 4637 1500.

CHRISTMAS MASSES: Eve – 6pm, 8.30pm and Midnight. Day – 7am, 9am, NO 5.30PM.

Rosters – Please find blank rosters for volunteers for the Christmas Masses on the table at the Neil St entrance.

Christmas Hamper Appeal. St Patrick's conference of St Vincent de Paul will be giving Christmas hampers to assist needy people in our area. We are seeking the generous support of parishioners to donate non-perishable items such as canned hams, Christmas cakes and puddings, drinks etc to fill the hampers. There will be collection boxes at the front of the church from Saturday 26 November until Sunday 11 December.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND: APPEAL FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE UKRAINE

The Australian Bishops are promoting and encouraging people to give to assist the people of Ukraine during these cold winter months. All donations raised during this appeal will support the work of Mudra Sprava (Wise Action), a Patriarchal Charitable Foundation in Ukraine. They focus on 3 areas – Evacuation of people from frontline territories; Food packages and shelter for internally displaced people.

Exciting News for St. Saviours Primary School! Today I received the following funding news regarding St Saviours for next year – “Today I have been formally informed by the Queensland Catholic Education Commission that St Saviour's Primary has been awarded \$3.3 million from the Australian Government Capital Grants Program. This is fantastic news and follows the successful application and presentation by Ms Madonna Sleba earlier this year. This funding will be used to build four new classrooms (including a new learning support room), refurbishing the library and the construction of a disability lift. It is anticipated that the process to engage a suitable company to begin construction will commence early in next year. Looking forward to 2023, Mr. Sam Hannant, Acting Principal.”

Sunday 11 December [SPC – St. Patrick's] [STM – St. Thomas More's]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass 9am Live Streaming	11am Baptism Winifred Louise and Mirabel Rose Power 12pm Baptism Lara Rose Dove 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 12 December	9am Mass STM 5.30pm Mass SPC	
Tuesday 13 December <i>Saint Lucy</i>	9am SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	5.30pm Choir practice in the Cathedral
Wednesday 14 December <i>Saint John of the Cross</i>	7am Mass SPC	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 15 December	7am Mass SPC	7.30am – 8.30am Adoration at St. Patrick's
Friday 16 December	7am Mass SPC 9am Mass STM	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 17 December	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at St. Pat's 8.00am – 9.00am Reconciliation 10am Baptism of Mya Ricaurte Perez
Sunday 18 December	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass 9am Live Streaming	11am Baptism of Ryan and Eden Grace Jackson 12pm Baptism of Everleigh Grace O'Brien 1pm Baptism of Mabel Mammoottil 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

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

Planned Giving: \$1118 Loose: \$1868, PayPoint: \$520. 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. Thank you.