



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. 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.



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

11 February, 2024

First reading: Leviticus 13:1-2 As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.

Responsorial Psalm: I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31 Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! A great prophet has appeared among us;
God has visited his people. Alleluia!**

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45 The leprosy left him and he was cured.

Two of the constants in our household when I was growing up was the Columban Calendar in the kitchen and the Project Compassion box on the mantelpiece during Lent. Then there was the decision of what to give up for lent - lollies, chocolate, bacon and no meat on Fridays. All ways to change our usual habits so that we can focus on the journey that is ahead of us. Project Compassion was a strong part of remembering those throughout the world that do not have what we enjoy so freely. When we give something up we, in some small way connect ourselves with those who live with less. We know so much more about our Global Village these days and awareness is stronger than it used to be. Pope Francis speaks about the Lenten journey in his 2024 message by using the image that we are walking **“through the desert so God can lead us to Freedom”**. He says, *“Today, too, the cry of so many of our oppressed brothers and sisters rises to heaven. Let us ask ourselves: Do we hear that cry? Does it trouble us? Does it move us?”*

Pope Francis goes on to say, *“It is time to act, and in Lent, to act also means to pause. To pause in prayer, in order to receive the word of God, to pause like the Samaritan in the presence of a wounded brother or sister. Love of God and love of neighbour are one love. Not to have other gods is to pause in the presence of God beside the flesh of our neighbour. For this reason, prayer, almsgiving and fasting are not three unrelated acts, but a single movement of openness and self-emptying, in which we cast out the idols that weigh us down, the attachments that imprison us. Then the atrophied and isolated heart will revive. **Slow down, then, and pause!** The contemplative dimension of life that Lent helps us to rediscover will release new energies. In the presence of God, we become brothers and sisters, more sensitive to one another: in place of threats and enemies, we discover companions and fellow travellers. This is God’s dream, the promised land to which we journey once we have left our slavery behind.....I bless all of you on your Lenten journey.”* Pope Francis. Rome, Saint John Lateran.

A couple of years ago Pope Francis suggested the following for our Lenten fast -



- “Fast from hurting words and say kind words.*
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.*
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.*
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.*
- Fast from worries and trust in God.*
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.*
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.*
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.*
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.*
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.*
- Fast from words so you can be silent so you can listen.”*



If you wish to read the full Lenten message from Pope Francis you will find it on our website.

May God find you on your Lenten journey. Fr. Michael

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Peter McDonald (Sr Miriam's nephew), Jim Hannant, Albert Loveday, Janice Golden, Rodolfo Umipig Colin Lawton.

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Tony Allom, Dan Shine, Vince Shine, Tony Allom, Geoffrey Cowling, Margaret Morgan, Betty Roll, Carmel & Christine Stephens, Bishop James Byrne [1938].

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially:** Rita Irwin, Norbert Grulich, 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, Madeline Gray, Braxton Rayner.

Come and enjoy a great night out to celebrate the Feast Day of St Patrick! Tickets will include a meal and live Irish Band, and plenty of dancing! Taking place in the Cathedral Centre with doors opening at 6.30pm (Band from 7.30pm) on the 16th March, and @ \$50 a ticket a fun night out is guaranteed. Book and pay using this QR code or via <https://www.trybooking.com/1170674>



Embark on a transformative Lenten journey with **Pietà**, a resource from Woollongong diocese, that guides you through the daily readings and prayers. A fellowship gathering on starting Feb 13 Tuesday night in the St Thomas More's church foyer at 7pm or Thursday mornings at St Thomas More's presbytery, 9:30am, starting on Thursday the 15th February, continuing to the 21st March. \$5 for the cost of the reading material.

Sacraments and Symbols Seminar (St Thomas More's) For all those involved in liturgical ministries or wanting to enjoy a deeper experience of the Mass. This hour seminar will unpack the theology of sacramentality and the significance of numerous symbols used in our Eucharistic celebrations. Sessions will be held * 4:30pm Sat 9 March * 9:30am Sun 10 March.

Altar Server Training (and refresher) All ages, from first Eucharist and for as long as you can walk; junior altar servers to aspiring Acolytes. Come along and learn (or deepen) the spirituality and practice of altar serving. Email nathan@stpats.org.au for details. Sessions will be held * 4pm Saturday 17 February - Holy Name Parish * 4pm Saturday 24 February - St Pat's Cathedral.



Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **for all future generations**.

Project Compassion 2024 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations**. Donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and

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| Sunday 11 Feb [SPC - St Patrick's] [STM - St Thomas More's] | 7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am | 9am Launch of Project Compassion for 2024 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre 11am Baptism of Charlotte Cork and Hannah Mae Lax |
| Monday 12 Feb | 5.30pm Mass SPC 9.00am Mass STM | 9am Rosary Making, Parish Centre 6.15pm Veritas meeting, Social Justice room Cathedral Centre |
| Tuesday 13 Feb | 9am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM | NO CHOIR PRACTICE |
| Wednesday 14 Feb ASH WEDNESDAY | 7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM 5.30pm Mass SPC | 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre |
| Thursday 15 Feb | 7am Mass SPC | 7.30am - 8.30am Adoration at SPC |
| Friday 16 Feb | 7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM | 9am Ladies Friendship Group, Parish Centre 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre |
| Saturday 17 Feb | 7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC | 6.30am Rosary at SPC 11am Baptism of Benjamin and Levi Ghirardello |
| Sunday 18 Feb | 7am, 9am, 5.30pm Live Stream 9am | 11.00am Baptism Lettie Renee Matthews and Aubrey Elise Maher 12.00pm Baptism Olivia Wade 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre |

Planned Giving: Thank you for your donations. Loose \$2413 Planned Giving \$1345 Donation Point \$860 Money Counters this weekend: Jabour Hanna, Michelle Betros and Mick Cuskelly.
Money Counters next weekend: Sandra and Peter Daly with Jan-Nell and Errol Chase.

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.

envelopes available from your parish, caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.