



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 Pastor: Fr. Brian Redondo
Safeguarding Officer: Clinton Shearer (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.



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD 12 January 2025

First reading: Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11 The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it.

Responsorial Psalm: Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7 He saved us through the water of rebirth and renewal in the Holy Spirit.

*Alleluia, alleluia! John said: He who is to come is mightier than I;
he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Alleluia!*

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22 When Jesus had been baptised and had been praying,
the heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit came upon him.

Feast of Sto. Niño (Holy Child of Jesus)

The **Feast of Sto. Niño**, or the Feast of the Holy Child, is a joyful celebration that honours the image of the Child Jesus, an important figure in Christianity representing **innocence, humility, and divine love**. It is truly a celebration for everyone, regardless of background or culture in Australia.

What is Sto. Niño?

The term *Sto. Niño* literally means "**Holy Child**." The devotion to the Holy Child Jesus **began in the Philippines over 500 years ago when the Spanish explorer Ferdinand Magellan** gifted a statue of the **Child Jesus to the local queen, Juana, in Cebu**. This simple yet powerful act sparked a lasting devotion.

Each year, millions of people gather at the **Basilica Minore del Sto. Niño** in Cebu to celebrate the feast with processions, prayers, and thanksgiving. The Feast of Sto. Niño has now spread worldwide, celebrated by Filipino communities and Christians everywhere, and has become a powerful reminder of the joy and purity of a child's heart in our relationship with God.

Celebrating Sto. Niño in Queensland

In Queensland, **St. Monica's Cathedral in Cairns** as well as Mareeba in the FNQ has been celebrating the Feast of Sto. Niño for many years, and as well as other communities have embraced this beautiful tradition. In **Brisbane, St. Stephen's Cathedral** will hold its first Sto. Niño celebration this year, while **St. Mark's Church Inala** celebrates its 10th year of honouring the Holy Child and other parishes in Brisbane Archdiocese to include Coorparoo, Gold Coast and Wynnum as well as **Townsville** and **Rockhampton** are also joining in the festivities.

In Toowoomba, the Feast of Sto. Niño will be celebrated for the second time. Last Year at St. Patrick's Cathedral and this year at **St. Thomas More Church toowoomba Saturday, 18th January, 10am**. The Mass will be conducted in **English**, making the celebration accessible to everyone, regardless of background to cater a culturally and linguistically diverse community.

As part of the celebration, there will also be a traditional dance the **Sinulog**, a colourful and joyful expression of devotion that is characteristic of the Sto. Niño celebrations in the Philippines.

The Meaning of "Viva Pit Señor!"

During the celebrations, you'll hear the chant "**Viva Pit Señor!**" which means "**Long live the Lord!**" This joyful expression is a way of praising the Holy Child and showing our devotion to Jesus, our King. It's a call for celebration, filled with gratitude and praise for God's love and protection.

So, whether you're new to the tradition or have participated in past celebrations, we invite **everyone** families, friends, and community members of all backgrounds to come and be part of this beautiful and festive occasion. Let's honour the Holy Child of Jesus and embrace the values of love, faith, and Hope that the Sto. Niño represents.

**Once again, on the 18th January (Saturday), 10 am at St. Thomas More Church.
Viva Pit Señor!**

Fr. Brian Redondo



✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Gregory Anthony Bassett.

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Anthony Koop, Paul James Sullivan, Jan Klimkowicz.

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community:** Clive O’Kelly, Win Southern, Claire Seymour, John Evers, Sharon Keats, Bernard Bartetzko, Vicky Coccozza, Jibrán Mardini, Richard Stritzel, Rita Irwin, Kate Gibbs, Christine ‘Saus’ Barron, Alyshia Morris, William Garrahy, Bev Smith, Sheryl Grunke, Noel Roshan Francis, Therese Odri, Kath Smith, Freddy Nield, Ray Frelek, Blake Cusato, Braxton, Greg Coddington, Jamal Abraham, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Teresita Pamulaklakin, Madeline Gray.

St Pat’s Sacramental program for 2025 begins on Wednesday 12 February. Enrolments are now overdue. Please email admin@stpats.org.au or phone 4637 1500 as soon as possible if you would like your child to participate.



Scan the Code to make a donation - Restoration Fund Fundraising: JOIN US TO PRESERVE THE PAST AND RESTORE FOR THE FUTURE A cathedral is never just a parish church; it belongs to everyone. St Patrick’s historical significance is not just for Catholics, it is a part of the story of Toowoomba and Queensland. Be a part of our restoration journey; donate today. Donations made through National Trust Queensland are tax-deductible; **Scroll down to select “St Patrick’s Cathedral Appeal, Toowoomba”** Please direct enquiries to the Fundraising Coordinator Ph: 46327589

Thank you! Fr. Vince Carroll for providing Mass to St Patrick’s Parish, and all of the Diocese while the Bishop and priests were on retreat during this week. We all appreciate your generosity.

Whilst on retreat Bishop Ken announced that Fr. Franco Filipetto will be going on long service leave between March and June this year. In his absence as Vicar General, Fr. Jim Cronin will fill the position. Bishop Ken also announced that Fr. Peter Dorfield will fill the role of Chancellor of the Diocese, previously fulfilled by Fr. Peter Schultz.

Sunday 12 January The Baptism of the Lord [SPC – St Patrick’s] [STM – St Thomas More’s]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am	11am Baptism Rafe Tayte Wilson 12pm Baptism Maria Amelia Deanon 1pm Baptism Mia Adalynn Gorton 2pm Baptism Eden Valkyrie Jensen 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 13 January	5.30pm Mass SPC 9.00am Mass STM	
Tuesday 14 January	9am Mass SPC	
Wednesday 15 January	7am Mass SPC	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 16 January	7am Mass SPC	7.30am – 8.30am Adoration
Friday 17 January St Anthony	7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 18 January	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at St. Patrick’s 8am – 9am Reconciliation SPC 11am Baptism Blake Augustus Freeman
Sunday 19 January 2nd in Ordinary Time	7am, 9am, 5.30pm NO Live Stream 9am due to computer works.	11am Baptism Maeve Mackenzie 12pm Baptism Evelyn Kathryn Kirby 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

Planned Giving: Thank you for your donations. Loose \$3793 Planned Giving \$1440 Donation Point \$1460 Money Counters this weekend: Sam & Fina Ginardi, Wendy Heelan

Money Counters next weekend: NOONE IS REQUIRED DUE TO OFFICE RENOVATIONS

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.

DUE TO REPAIRS AND NEW CARPET, THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM

MONDAY 13 JANUARY

AND REOPEN ON

TUESDAY 21 JANUARY

THE OFFICE STAFF WILL BE AVAILABLE VIA EMAIL AND PHONE.

