



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)

*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.



TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 14 August 2022

First Reading: Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10 You bore me to be a man of strife for the whole world.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 39: 2-4 Lord, come to my aid!

Second Reading: Hebrews 12:1-4 Let us bear patiently the struggle placed upon us.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! *My sheep listen to my voice,
says the Lord I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!*

Oh how I wish the earth was already blazing!

This conversation Jesus has with his disciples in some ways has an underlying sense of slight disappointment and the need of encouragement. It is like a “half time” talk by the coach, so that the players may lift their game in the second half. It recognises that there will be some very tough decisions to make when choosing to follow Christ. Even your family will not understand you. So, Jesus has to have this difficult conversation with his disciples, trying to lift their spirits and encourage them to make the hard decisions to further the mission of people knowing a loving and caring God. Sometimes we can relate to this situation. Sometimes we need to have hard and difficult conversations with those we love. Currently one of those difficult conversations happening in many families is talking about vaping. Our schools and young people who have finished school are being targeted and pressured to try vaping. Vaping is the alternative being offered in place of cigarette smoking.

The original idea was to assist people to “kick the habit” of smoking. E-cigarettes are roughly the size of a pen, with a width of about about 3 cms, often the size of a USB. A cartridge is inserted which contains a “flavour” and when the button is pressed the liquid is heated and the person inhales the heated vapour. They exhale a sweet, almost sickly smelling smoke. There is no continuously lit cigarette and there is no smell of tobacco, as in traditional cigarettes. This means they can be easily hidden and hard to detect. Schools are putting detectors in toilets to try to curb the practice on the premises. In Australia currently it is illegal to sell vapes containing nicotine. However, as “Four Corners” revealed a couple of weeks ago, there is a strong black market in nicotine vapes. These are easily obtained from overseas and are often “single use” vapes. The problem with these are that they are cheaply made and often contain more nicotine than a traditional cigarette would. This is because there is no current regulation of e-cigarettes in Australia.

The pro lobby in Australia would tell you that the tobacco companies are supporting the production of e-cigarettes because it is the healthier way to smoke, meaning that they don't contain all the harmful chemicals that are found in traditional cigarettes. However, if you are as cynical as I am, you may realise that the tobacco companies have simply found a new market and because it is modern and sleek, have cornered a new younger clientele. They have simply modernised smoking. The jury is out regarding long term effects of vaping, as it is still relatively new. In the “Four Corners” episode there was a 16 year old girl who was addicted to vaping, having begun at the age of 10. For the rest of her life she will crave nicotine, and I suspect it's even worse as she started so young.

So what has this got to do with the gospel? As I said at the beginning sometimes we need to have difficult conversations with those we love. Jesus wanting to have the world “blazing” with the Holy Spirit is a reference to not keeping things hidden away. It is much healthier and hopeful when issues are brought into the light. Parents, grandparents, Uncles, Aunties – now is the time to have a conversation with your loved child. To ask those questions – “Does vaping occur at your school? Have you been tempted? Do you understand the implications of addiction? What would you do if your friend was vaping?” There is a great saying that, “The standard that you walk past is the standard you uphold”. Addictions are hard to break, as they dominate our thinking and our actions – the addiction becomes central and everything else becomes secondary. ***Now is the time to offer our support, love and advice regarding this oncoming storm, which is vaping.***

God Bless your week, Fr. Michael

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Rosemary Rayner. 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:** Peter Byrnes, Joe Davidson

✠ **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 – 1st Rite available every Saturday morning between 8am and 9am.

Security Cameras – Please be aware, for your safety and protection there are a number of constantly recording cameras located around the Cathedral precinct including the Cathedral, Office areas and walkways. Thank you.

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, 12th 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 or call into our office for a copy.

Priest Retirement Appeal envelopes now available on the entrance table.

Latest edition of the Catholic Leader is now available. Please feel free to take one even if you don't have money with you. Featured this month is the recent ordinations and some commentary on the Plenary Council.

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.

Rosary Rally at St. Pat's Cathedral Monday 15th August feast of the Assumption, at 4:00pm concluding with Mass at 5:30pm.

Did you know you may make a donation or contribute towards planned giving simply by phoning the office with your card details? Please call 4637 1500 to speak with any of our helpful office staff.

STM Bereavement Mass: This coming Wednesday, 17 August, Mass will be celebrated at 9.30 am especially to remember those who have in the past year. All are welcome, especially those who have lost a loved one during the year.

Sunday 14 August [SPC – St. Patrick's] [STM – St. Thomas More's]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass 9am Live Streaming	11am Baptism of Violet MacKenzie 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 15 August The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9am Mass STM 5.30pm Mass SPC	10am Rosary making group in Parish Board Room
Tuesday 16 August	9am SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	5.30 – 7pm Choir practice
Wednesday 17 August Saint Lawrence	7am Mass SPC	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre 9.30am Bereavement Mass at STM 6pm Meeting of St Vincent de Paul Conference 11am – 3pm Council of Priests Meeting
Thursday 18 August Saint Clare	7am Mass SPC	5.00pm Parish Liturgy Meeting 7.30am – 8.30am Adoration at St. Patrick's
Friday 19 August	7am Mass SPC 9am Mass STM	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 20 August Saint Bernard	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at St. Pat's 8.00am – 9.00am Reconciliation
Sunday 21 August	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass 9am Live Streaming	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thank you for your generous giving to assist the works of St. Patrick's. Planned Giving: \$900 Loose: \$1525 PayPoint: \$640. Sandra and Peter Daly; 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. 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.

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