



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.



Sixth Sunday of Easter 14 May 2023

First reading: Acts 8:5-8 They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:15-18 In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia alleluia! All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!**

Gospel: John 14:15-21 I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.

Some time ago, John O'Donohue, an Irish author found some fame with his book, *Anam Cara*. The word translates as "Soul Friend." One of his later books is titled, *Benedictus. A Book of Blessings*, which reflects on the lost art of offering blessings for life and those who fill our life. His starting point is, "Today, when we stand before crucial thresholds in our lives, we have no rituals to protect, encourage and guide us as we cross over into the unknown. For such crossings, we need to find new words....to attempt to reach into that tenuous territory of change." We, of course, as faith people have our rituals of prayers, liturgy and community to help find a path forward in our lives. John O'Donoghue offers a sense of giving ourselves freedom to step outside our well-worn practices to experience a fresh way of expression through calling on God who simply wants to bless us in life.

John says, "There is a quiet light that shines in every heart. Though it is always secretly there it draws no attention to itself. It is what illuminates our minds to see beauty, our desire to seek possibility and our heart to love life. This shy inner light is what enables us to recognize and receive our very presence here as blessing."

The basis of his approach invites us to see blessings in all things. Sometimes blessings are buried deep and we take time to discover them. Sometimes the joy bursts from us spontaneously. We are blessed with every day. We should welcome "the new day with a sense of creative expectation and open-mindedness" On the mornings that I celebrate Mass, I open the front doors of the Cathedral and ask a blessing on Toowoomba – "May God bless Toowoomba. May those who have had a difficult night find peace this day and those who face a difficult day, may they find joy." What if you did this as you walked out your front door each morning, asking God to bless your street, or Mrs Jones at No. 37 with her arthritis on this cold morning. "No day is ever the same, and no day stands still: each one moves through a different territory, awakening new beginnings". The blessings we can call upon each day are literally endless. This is the gift we celebrate at Easter and beyond – new life that never ends.

John concludes his final chapters by saying, "We have no idea of the effect we actually have on each other. This is where blessing can achieve so much.....Blessing has pure agency because it animates on the deepest threshold between being and becoming; it mines the territory of memory to awaken and draw forth possibilities we cannot even begin to imagine."

The middle of May marks five years since I arrived at St Patrick's to take up the role of Dean and Administrator. I take this opportunity to thank you for being the wonderful blessing you have been to me. Each of you have helped me in this journey – challenged and supported as we walked together – thank you. You have all been a blessing to me, and in some way I hope I have been a blessing to you.

May God continue to bless each of us on this path of faith together. Father Michael

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Judith Williams, Glenda Donnelly, Gayle Christoffel and Billy Ross. May perpetual light shine upon them.

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Pat and Peg O'Brien, Fr Garrett Murphy [1962], Fr Michael Herbert [1970], Msgr Thomas Nolan [1950], Msgr Edward Concannon [1987].

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially:** Bob Sullivan, Trevor Cavanagh, Martin Flannery, Blake Cusato, Bernadette Farrell, Greg Coddington, Stanley Poon, 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, Matt Vlietstra, Dr Peter Reiter, Elijah Rolls, Hayden Smith, Rita Blacker, Tina Hobson, Bev Boundy, Greta Berge, Braxton Rayner, Kate Gibbs, Max Shearer, Saturnino Bustamante, Hannah Marasigan, Stephanie Shine, Andrew Supple, Mary-Ann Hine, Kathy Allan, Patricia McCracken, Reggie James, Teresita Pamulaklakin.

COMMUNION FROM THE CUP - Now that the Cup has been reintroduced for Communion at all Sunday Masses, it is timely to remind everyone of the standard Communion protocols. In the first instance, the Host is taken on the hand and *consumed immediately*. If a person wishes to partake of the Cup, they move to the Communion Minister holding the cup. The person takes the Cup as it is offered, then returns the Cup to the minister, who will then wipe the rim thoroughly turning the Cup a quarter, before handing the Cup to the next communicant. PLEASE NOTE: Intinction is *not* permitted – that is, it is not appropriate to hold onto the Host and intinct (dip) it into the Cup.

BUS TRIP MARIAN VALLEY: Saturday 20th of May, bus departs from St Patrick's Cathedral Neil St. at 7.30am, cost is \$40. For bookings please contact Theresa on 0434 528 904. Please also note the Nationwide rosary will be held May 27th at 2pm in the Cathedral.

Catholic Leader May Edition NOW AVAILABLE. Please take a copy regardless of having money to pay for it. It's better in your home being read, then left in the Cathedral unread. Thanks.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity service will be at St Alban's Anglican Church on Wednesday 24th May at 6pm.



Last Thursday St Saviour's College celebrated their school Mass in honour of Catherine McAuley, especially commemorating 150 years since the Sisters of Mercy came to the Toowoomba Diocese.

Seven Sisters who have spent time at St Saviour's were present including a number who are celebrating 60 years since profession this year. We congratulate Sister Margaret Norris who celebrates that milestone!

May God continue to bless St Saviours – Primary and College - as they continue to hold up the charism and ideals of the Mercy Tradition and nurture spirited women for today's world.

Sunday 14 May [SPC – St. Patrick's] [STM – St. Thomas More's]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 15 May	9.30am Mass STM 5.30pm Mass SPC	New Mass time for St Thomas More's
Tuesday 16 May	9am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	5.30pm Choir Practice
Wednesday 17 May	7am Mass SPC	6pm SVdP Meeting in the Parish Centre 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 18 May	7am Mass SPC	SPC Adoration 7.30am – 8.30am
Friday 19 May	7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM	Please note new Mass time for St Thomas More's 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre 7pm Confirmation at SPC
Saturday 20 May	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	SPC 6.30am Rosary Reconciliation 8am – 9am
Sunday 21 May	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am	11am Baptism of Cooper James Thurgood 12pm Baptism Hugo Thomas Haydock 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

Planned Giving: Thank you for your generous donations. Planned Giving \$1031 Loose \$1881 Donation Point \$570 Money Counters this weekend: Pat Power with Leo and Maureen McMahon.

Money Counters next weekend: Sam and Fina Ginardi with Wendy Heelan.

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.