



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
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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.



Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 15 September 2024

First reading: Isaiah 50:5-9 I gave my body to those who struck me.

Responsorial Psalm: I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

Second Reading: James 2:14-18 Faith without good works is dead.

**Alleluia, alleluia! My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world.
Alleluia!**

Gospel: Mark 8:27-35 You are the Christ... the son of Man was destined to suffer much.

Who do you say I am?

When I was in Grade 12 in 1986 I spent a week of my holidays in Brisbane with my sister Jill. Being a country boy I was excited to be in Brisbane on my own during the day, so I decided to take the boat along the Brisbane River to Lone Pine Sanctuary. When I was on the boat I got talking to two lovely, older ladies, mother and daughter – Flo and Fay. We then spent time walking around Lone Pine together. As the day meandered along I discovered Flo was from Murwillumbah and her daughter Fay lived in Sydney. They often travelled together on holidays as Fay was not married and Flo was a widow. They invited me to visit them the next day at the top floor of the Crest Hotel. Pretty prestigious for this country boy, so I jumped at the opportunity. This friendship lasted until both Flo and Fay passed away. For more than 25 years we corresponded back and forth sharing the events in our lives, and catching up from time to time. One of the significant moments within this friendship was when Flo confided in me that Fay was actually adopted and that she was seeking her natural parents. Fay had been asking this question, you see, wondering about who she really is. This was a difficult time for Flo, but Fay assured her that whatever happens Flo will always be the mother that has made who she is today. As time went on Fay did discover her birth mother, living in Brisbane at the time and when she made contact it was like a miracle! Fay's birth family had always known about Fay and the circumstances that convinced their mother to put her up for adoption. They had indeed been looking for *her* over those years. As laws changed and the different laws in different states changed they finally could be reunited. Fay got to spend a little time with her birth mother, now advanced in age, before she died. They continued to embrace Fay into their family until she passed away some years later.

This memory came back to me as I reflected on the gospel today. It can be a very precarious question to ask, "Who do you say I am?" It's like asking "Who am I really?" or "Do you really know me?"

Jesus asked this question quietly and gently, knowing that within the hearts of the disciples they would see the truth. As with Fay, it was asked from a place of true love. They would understand that the answer is not what others saw – king, messianic overlord or some other worldly power that would overthrow, through might the kingdoms of the world. Just as when Jesus asks of us "Who do you say I am?" He knows that we will reply from a place of faith and truth. We will reply knowing that Christ's presence is truly with us always bringing strength and hope, peace and love.

What insight do we receive when we reverse the question? What is the reply from Christ when we ask of him, "Who do **you** say I am?" Jesus will reply in the same gentle, loving and positive way. As with Christ, God is not seeking someone who loves worldly things, so I invite you this week to listen carefully as Jesus answers this question for you – "Who do **you** say I am?"

Walk gently, Fr. Michael.



✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Simon Doyle, Tahnee Searle.

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Bernie Reilly, Lakshmi (Nandu), Tony Carrigan, Joyce McLean.

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community:** Sharon Keats, Bernard Bartetzko, Vicky Cocozza, Jibran Mardini, Richard Stritzel, Rita Irwin, Kate Gibbs, Christine 'Saus' Barron, Alyshia Morris, William Garrahy, Bev Smith, Louise O'Connor, 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.

ORGAN RECITAL at St Pat's: A concert of spectacular organ music on Monday 23 September at 10am, featuring Dr Steven Nisbet OAM. Free admission. Flyers available Neil St entrance

Thank you to all those who have dropped off jars for the Art and Spirituality days later in the year. Much appreciated and there seems to be enough for us to use now, so thank you.

Priest Retirement Appeal. Each September the Diocese raises money to assist those priests in retirement or those who are ill at this time. The fund allows a priest a little independence from the cost of medical expenses and daily essentials. It contributes in a large way to the expense of the very experienced and valuable clergy nurse, Julie See. Julie spends time with retired priests, particularly assisting them with health advice, transport to medical appointments and companionship. Last year this appeal raised a good sum of \$24,000, however this falls well below the current ongoing costs, which includes the wage for the clergy nurse. Please consider giving to this worthy cause within our Diocese. You may use one of the envelopes provided on the information table, or simply mark a plain envelope with "Priests Retirement Fund" and place in into the collection box. Should you wish to donate via direct debit, here are the details – BSB: 084961. Account Number: 65309784. Please use reference "PRF Appeal + your name" On behalf of all the retired priests and those suffering illness at this time – **THANK YOU for your generosity.** Please keep the priests of the Diocese in your prayers, as they keep you in theirs.

REUNION: Last Year's Reunion of the St. Patrick's Cathedral Junior Choir from the 1970s, 1980s and early 1990s was such a fantastic success it is on again! The date is the 28th SEPTEMBER. If you know of anyone who was a member of the Junior Choir during those years, would you kindly let them know of this and ask them to make contact with either Shelley Schweikert on 0402 319 929 or Sr. Margaret on 0427 623 598 to find out the details.

The **Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver** are hosting the play, "**Rumors**", a comedy at the Repertory Theatre on **Tuesday October 1st**. Doors open at 7.00pm and patrons must be seated by 7.25pm. Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased by contacting Sisters on 07 4321818 or Helen on 0416055976. All proceeds go to the Missions.

Thank you to all those who took the time to come to visit the Cathedral during the Carnival of Flowers display - all the schools and community groups, all those who worked hard to create the space and those who volunteered to welcome visitors over this weekend. A more detailed thank you will be included in next week's bulletin.

Sunday 15 September 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time [SPC – St Patrick's] [STM – St Thomas More's]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am Followed by Morning Tea - 10am (hosted by Choir)	11am Baptism of Leila Christina Prince 4.00pm Exec. Meeting Parish Council in Presbytery 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre 9am – 5pm Carnival of Flowers Display
Monday 16 September Saints Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian	5.30pm Mass SPC 9.00am Mass STM Fr Francis Burke	9.30am Rosary Making in Parish Conference Room 9am – 5pm Carnival of Flowers Display
Tuesday 17 September	9am Mass SPC	5.30pm Parish Finance Meeting – Office Staff Room 5.30pm – 6.30pm CHOIR PRACTICE
Wednesday 18 September	7am Mass SPC Fr Michael Skehan	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 19 September	7am Mass SPC	7.30am-8.30am Adoration at St Patrick's 9.30am Mass at Yukana 6pm SPC Parish Council Meeting in Presbytery
Friday 20 September Saints Andrew Kim Tae-Gon, and Companions	7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM	9am Ladies Friendship Group in Parish Conf. Room 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 21 September Saint Matthew	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at St. Patrick's 8am – 9am Reconciliation SPC 10am Baptism Amateila Tonga 11am Baptism Ellery Snow Hovey 12pm Baptism Blaire Josephine McCarthy
Sunday 22 September 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Live Stream 9am	11am Baptism Lawson Gavin Warner 12pm Baptism William James McNeil 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

Planned Giving: Thank you for your donations. Loose \$2274 Planned Giving \$1157 Donation Point \$1220 Money Counters this weekend: Sandra and Peter Daly, Jan-Nell and Errol Chase
Money Counters next weekend: Pat Power, Leo and Maureen McMahon

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.