

# 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](mailto: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.



## Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time 17 November 2024

**First reading:** Daniel 12:1-3 When that time comes your own people will be spared.

**Responsorial Psalm: Keep me safe, O Lord; you are my hope.**

**Second Reading:** Hebrews 10:11-14, 18 By a single offering he has achieved the eternal perfection of those who are sanctified

**Alleluia, alleluia!! Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man. Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** Mark 12:24-32 He shall gather his elect from the four winds.

### *An Aptitude to Being Prepared*

Last week I had the honour to celebrate significant birthdays for three lovely ladies. Eileen Stephen celebrated 90 years of age, Kath Smith – 97 years and Maureen Pagan 100 years. All three ladies have a wonderful life story to tell with all life's ups and downs and surprises and challenges. When I was reflecting on the gospel this weekend I was thinking how these three have seen the power and terror of God exhibited in so many ways – floods, fires, droughts, earthquakes, wars, cyclones and so on. Yet we are still here. The coming of Christ in all His power has not happened. The second coming of course is part of our faith. We profess it every time we proclaim the Creed and we read it in scripture as we do today. So if Maureen has lived for a century and Christ has not returned what do we really reflect on today? We sometimes get caught up on the power of God that will come with all the ferociousness of a God separating the sheep from the goats.

So if Christ is not returning today, than he may be coming tomorrow.....and that is the point of today's gospel in many ways. So as we notice the changes in the seasons of the world, like the growth of the fig tree, so we should recognise the seasons of our own lives and hearts. As we approach Advent now is the time to examine our lives, to promise ourselves to be a little prepared for the coming of Christ.

I remember a friend of mine Lisa, who when she finished Uni got a job with Family Services working mainly with families by supporting them as a counselor. I recall her telling me that her workload was constant and large. At some stage she realised that because of the workload she was starting to deal with families in a way that was akin to them just being another number to be processed. In a moment of reflection she said to herself, *'I don't like the person I am becoming.'* So within a week she resigned and took a new job elsewhere and found a new beginning.

These weeks leading up to Advent are an opportunity for us to reflect on what needs to change in our lives if we are to be prepared for the time *"heaven and earth will pass away"*. Advent affords us the opportunity to reflect deeply on what the coming of Christ at Christmas (*a sort of second coming each year*) will mean to the way we relate to one another and to prayerfully return to our God. So on some level this gospel should invoke in us a need for change, a desire to make some small adjustment to our living so that God, and us can love ourselves a little more.

The other aspect of this gospel calls us to **HOPE** rather than despair if we think we are not measuring up. Thoughts of the second coming should bring us hope because it is a subtle reminder that God has not, and never has forgotten us. We hold onto *"his words which will never pass away"* because we know a God that has never left us. We move toward Advent confident that God will renew our lives to celebrate the second coming within our hearts, as Christ lifts us up to know God in his birth.


*God's Blessings on your journey, Fr. Michael*

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:**

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Angela 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, 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.

**PRAY AND PAINT** places still available! This is a unique opportunity to further your spiritual journey in a meditative way – uniting visual art with a reflective heart. There is no need to have any art experience! 2 talented artists will assist in the painting and drawing stage. Sr Di and Meryl Tracey will assist in the inner journey that will lead you to feel confident to express your interpretation in the art medium. All you will need to bring is a picture/photo taken from the internet or a book/bible to help guide your reflective process. Please use this QR code to register or call into the office. The cost is \$25 and the dates are 23/11 and/or 7/12. More information is available on the tables. Blessings.



**A Mass of Remembrance** will be held on the 23 November 9.30am at the Drayton and Toowoomba Cemetery Chapel.

**Commissioning of the Knights of the Altar** (Altar Servers – 1<sup>st</sup> group) during 9am Mass Sunday 24 November.

**2025 Columban Art Calendar: \$10** - available for purchase from the Parish Office Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm, Friday 9am-3pm. **Australian Catholic Magazine:** Please feel free to take a copy home to read.

**Advent Reflection Books** are now available from the information table. Please take one to help with your journey to Christmas. If you are able, feel free to make a donation in the collection box to help cover the cost. Thank you.

Information packs for **St Pat's Sacramental program for 2025** are now available for the office. Please email [admin@stpats.org.au](mailto:admin@stpats.org.au) or phone 4637 1500. Enrollments close on 20 December 2024.



**SVDP:** will not be collecting produce for hampers this year, due to the fact many have differing needs. Instead we are requesting donations of supermarket gift cards or cash donations which will be given to those in need. Donations of cash/cards are to be placed in an envelope marked **VINNIES**. Please leave these in the collection plate or box or alternatively St Pat's office. Donations will continue until 15/12/2024. Thank you for your generosity.

**Annual Anointing Mass with lunch:** Cathedral Centre 11.00am Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2024. For catering purposes please RSVP on 4637 1500 or [admin@stpats.org.au](mailto:admin@stpats.org.au) before Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> November.

**Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver** will be visiting 23/24 November to tell us about their role in the missionary Church. They invite you to accept copies of their family mission publication *Echo from Africa & other Continents* and to consider subscribing. Subscription is by donation, suggestion only: \$25.00 annually (10 copies). Thank you.

**Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver** are holding a Cent Sale in the Cathedral Centre, Saturday November 30. Doors open 1pm for a 1.30pm start. Afternoon tea will be served: \$10 includes 2 free sheets of tickets. Children aged 12 and under free. Many excellent prizes and the multidraw includes a ham, a homemade Christmas cake, a hamper, fruit and vegetable trays. All proceeds go to the Missions. Sisters can be contacted on 07 46321818.

If you **volunteer** for any role within the parish of St Patrick's you are invited to a thank you BBQ in the grounds on **10 December** from 6pm. Please bring a chair or picnic blanket to sit on. Wet weather venue will be the Cathedral Centre. For catering please RSVP to [admin@stpats.org.au](mailto:admin@stpats.org.au) or 4637 1500.

<b>Sunday 17 November</b> 33 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time [SPC – St Patrick's] [STM – St Thomas More's]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. <b>Live Stream 9am</b>	10am TCSO hosts morning tea in Cathedral grounds 1pm-4pm Altar Service practice 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
<b>Monday 18 November</b>	5.30pm Mass SPC 9.00am Mass STM <b>Fr Peter Murphy</b>	9.30am Rosary Beads making in Parish Conference Room
<b>Tuesday 19 November</b>	9am Mass SPC	
<b>Wednesday 20 November</b>	7am Mass SPC	Council of Priests Meeting in Warwick 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
<b>Thursday 21 November</b> The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	7am Mass SPC <b>Fr John Dowd</b>	9.30am Mass at Yukana <b>Due to external works on the Cathedral, Adoration will be suspended until Advent – Thurs, 5/12.</b>
<b>Friday 22 November</b> Saint Cecilia	7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM	9am Friendship Group in Parish Conf. Room 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
<b>Saturday 23 November</b>	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC <b>Fr William McCormack</b>	6.30am Rosary at St. Patrick's 8am – 9am Reconciliation SPC <b>10am – 1pm Pray &amp; Paint</b>
<b>Sunday 24 November</b> Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe	7am, 9am, 5.30pm <b>Live Stream 9am</b>	Altar servers commissioned into <i>Knights of the Altar</i> 11am Baptism of Adler Miles Murray 12pm Baptism of Landon James & Paisley Jade Swan 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

**Planned Giving:** Thank you for your donations. Loose \$3429 Planned Giving \$1013 Donation Point \$1490

Money Counters this weekend: Jabour Hanna, Michelle Betros, Mick Cuskelly

Money Counters next weekend: 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 or name in donating. Thank you.