



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. Tom Duncan and Fr. Nandana Saparamadu

St Patrick's, in communion with St Saviour's Primary School - Madonna Sleba (4637 1555)
St Saviour's College - Sharon Collins (4637 1600)
We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Owners of this place, the Jarowair and Giabal peoples.



Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year A] Sunday 26 July 2020

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12 – You have asked for wisdom.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, I love your commands. [Psalm 118]

Second Reading: Romans 8:28-30 – He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

Gospel Acclamation: ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. ALLELUIA!

Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52 – He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

THE WORLD IS CLOSED FOR RENOVATIONS: *THE WORLD WILL BLOOM AGAIN*

We are not sure when the Grand re-opening will be, but we should be well prepared for this being mindful of the hours and days thrust on us with lockdown, social distancing, norms controlling gatherings, numbers, etc resulting from Covid-19 – a world-wide pandemic which has claimed the lives of thousands of human beings; infected many others, closed workplaces – put many more thousands out of work; disrupted so many aspects of our lives. This is a unique situation which came uninvited, strikes in sinister and secret forms, is not harnessed by any vaccine and its future is unknown. However, the tenacity, resilience and greatness of the human spirit have risen to the mammoth demands in trying to control the virus and meet the extraordinary crises at all levels. We must not forget that in today's reading Paul reminds us "all things work for good for those who love God". Currently, we are fortified by government support in trying to alleviate the financial deficit of fear and anxiety in the hearts of Fathers, Mothers, Children and the Whole Community; the Armed Forces have come in to complement the huge needs. People working with the sick have braved the challenges and risks to their own lives to bring care and hope to the victims of the virus. So many others in the community are volunteering their personal goodness/gifts to walk the mile and bear the load. Our Prime Minister has told us several times we are all Victorians, we are Australian. This is so affirming to a state badly smitten by the virus, revisited. The call for fortitude for the people is huge; while they might argue about a town split by the border, they are together in spirit. Those who eke out an escape from the state regulations risk the fine imposed at the border! The generosity of the volunteers who come with food and other practicalities of human comfort testify to their magnanimity in walking the walk of human need and make us proud to own: *I am, you are, we are Australian*. In the sustaining prayer of Alcoholics Anonymous, we have to accept the things we cannot change, have courage to change the things we can and to pray for wisdom to know the difference. These situations thrust on us, outside our control, test our faith's resilience and human endurance. Working from home, negotiating childcare have been enormous mountains to climb. All aspects of education – home schooling, juggling classroom requirements to meet personal safety, demands on teaching personnel, financial strain demand the qualities of Solomon's request in today's reading. He asked God for the wisdom of an understanding heart to judge people wisely and to distinguish right from wrong. In recent times male dominated industries like building and manufacturing have managed to survive, whereas female dominated industries like tourism and hospitality have been hit more. It will be interesting to see if Thursday's budget will help redress the gender imbalance from an economic angle! In daily living, the quiet goodness of people is palpable – phone call or email checking on a lonely neighbour; letter or a note to someone who does not have/own a computer; sharing a coffee in a visit... We are reminded by The Seekers that *There's a new world somewhere they call the Promised Land*. The challenge has been accepted by the Church – in this parish, our bishop and priests have responded by providing streaming Masses and extra Masses for small groups. We are grateful for these responses and look forward to other creative outcomes appropriate for these turbulent times. When the World renovations are complete and the Grand re-opening occurs may we be more sensitive and mindful that the revelation of God's message is all around us providing opportunities of awareness to realise in the words of *Les Misérables* - *To love another person is to see the face of God*. **Thank you to Mary Speering for her contribution to this week's bulletin.**





*Recently we welcomed Marnie Rae Challenor,
into the Catholic Community.
May the Holy Spirit invigorate her life with many blessings.*

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Kevin Dorge and those who have died from Covid-19 in Australia and beyond. *May perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace.*

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Bert Ranger, Martha Betros, Annie Brady, Danny Byrnes, Fr Joseph Portley [1971], Fr Robert Flynn [1980], Monsignor John Bennett [1999], Bishop Basil Roper [1964].

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially** Fr Tom Keegan, Maria Brown, Mary Twidale, Kim Ireland, Christine [Faus] Barron, Greta Berge, Matt Vlietstra, Jo Tuite, Dr Peter Reiter, Elijah Rolls, Hayden Smith, Rita Berry, Patricia Whyte (nee Stark), Margaret Walker, Rita Blacker, Kristina Dawidowicz, Nora Machin, Mary Allen, George Pardon, Tina Hobson, Bev Boundy, Roslyn Pardon [nee Kearney], Joanne Essey [Sydney], Braxton Rayner, Kate Gibbs, Max Shearer, Saturnino Bustamante, Hannah Marie Marasigan, Stephanie Shine,

Andrew Supple, Mary-Ann Hine, Kathy Allan, John Morgan, Patricia McCracken, Reggie James, Teresita Pamulaklakin, and all those in our nursing homes and hospitals, and those suffering the effects of Covid-19.

Congratulations to Fr Vince Carroll MSC who celebrated 55 years of Priestly ministry this week.

DON'T FORGET: Please feel welcome to park in the TCSO carpark on the western side of the Cathedral, and make your way using the path beside the bell tower.

The Blue Room: The Blue Room, as a place of community and private prayer, has re-opened. Not completely, but within clear safety guidelines. Alongside that very welcome good news, the "Blue Room", situated on the southern side of the Parish Centre, opposite the entrance to the toilets, will also open as a place of hospitality and friendship. Mondays through to Fridays, from 10am to 3pm, the welcome mat is out providing opportunities for reconnecting with people over a cup of tea or coffee, browsing through books and magazines, sharing stories and experiences of Life.

Sewing Machines Needed: A girls' boarding school in Timor Leste, run by the Sisters of Mercy, is in need of sewing machines in working order so the girls can be trained in sewing. If you have one you don't need, please contact Brendan Ryan on 0429 332 842.

"SMILE WITH THE CLERGY" is a book edited by Fr. Kerry Costigan and contains jokes and stories associated with God, the Church and the Clergy. If you would like a copy, at the purchase price of \$20, copies are available from the front office. Proceeds go to the Priests' Retirement Fund.

Australian Red Cross Lifeblood [Blood Bank]: Are you aware the Blood Bank is open now on Saturday, 8am to 2pm and Sunday 8am to 12noon? The Donor Centre is located in the Bernoth Centre and appointments can be made by phoning 131495 or www.lifeblood.com.au.

Sunday 26 July	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass 9am - Live stream available	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 27 July	5.30pm Mass SPC (New) 9am Mass STM	ADORATION 4.30pm - 5.30pm
Tuesday 28 July	7am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	
Wed 29 July	7am Mass SPC	ADORATION 7.30am - 8.30am 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thurs 30 July	7am Mass SPC	
Friday 31 July	7am Mass SPC 9am Mass STM	ADORATION 7.30am - 8.30am 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 01 Aug	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	11am Baptism of Archie Rosenthal [HR] 1pm Wedding of Richard Welch and Sarah Graham [Fr Ray Crowley]
Sunday 02 Aug	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass 9am - Live stream available	11am Baptism of Florence Cowling [FM] 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Planned Giving \$2284; Loose \$338; PayPoint \$220 : Pat Power, Leo and Maureen McMahon, Eileen Stephen		