



# 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. Nathan Webb & Fr. Brian Redondo  
Safeguarding Officer: Ann Marie Pawsey (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.



## First Sunday in Lent

## 18 February, 2024

**First reading:** Leviticus 19:1-2 Judge your neighbor justly.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

**Second Reading:** 1 Peter 3:18-22 The water of the flood is a type of baptism which saves you now.

**Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

**No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

**Gospel:** He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

### “Another” ‘Sign of the Times’

A key phrase in the writing and teaching of our Church leaders over the past 60 years is “the signs of the times”. We’re called to read, listen to observe and respond to “the signs of the times”. Sometimes that involves - as, for instance, our growing awareness of poverty, lack of basic health care in much of our world - a new awareness of inequality across all countries and within them, calls us to share our resources, our gifts, our talents over more generously.

Ever more clearly we see and read about war and violence, cruelty, torture... not only in other countries but within our own society and families; responding to that ‘Sign’ takes all of us into deep, often uncomfortable, areas of our own lives and our national response as Australian Christians.

There are other challenging signs for us to see, talk about and respond to. I’m inviting you to consider and talk about a quite different “Sign” that features in all our media outlets and consumes the attention and energy of many Australians.

We Australians are often ‘classified’ by other nations as “Sports Mad”. I’m sure that not every person who reads this newsletter front page is a devoted follower of rugby league, union, soccer, Australian rules, basketball hockey cricket .....team sports in general. However, I also think that print coverage, television coverage, news of success and highlighting of scandalous failures... penetrate our minds and lives sufficiently to make connections with what I’m inviting you to consider this first weekend of Lent 2024. Just as we as individuals and as communities within society have some valuable things to teach and inspire our “world”, so our world out there has much to teach and inspire in us whom God has called to faith and Christ like living. I’m listing just a few more obvious things

- Clubs are actively recruiting new players, from very young girls and boys to seasoned players to improve their team “list”, to build in the present and for the future the best possible playing group.
- Clubs are promoting membership “deals” – spelling out the “advantages” to the general public of being in the club, supporting the club, contributing to the club.
- Every member or prospective member of the club is being invited to “get fit” – physically, mentally, psychologically, “spiritually” in a very real sense. A whole host of training options and requirements are being promoted, aimed at individual fitness and team awareness and “culture”.
- Every club offers some regular “sessions/ programs to enable members and potential members opportunities to clarify personally and through conversations with others: “where do I fit into the team, how/where can I best contribute to the team’s life and mission?”.
- Team members aren’t confined to those who “take the field”. So many others are active supporters, vital in their own way, sharing the teams vision, spirit, successes and failures.... much like praying.
- There’s a basic understanding that if I’m going to play for this team I need to get fit, maintain that fitness, develop a lifestyle that helps me stay fit, ideally improve my personal fitness. There’s an obvious parallel in the way I respond to God’s invitation to be a Christian.
- And there’s a lot to be learnt and embraced by not only observing but embracing the enthusiasm, excitement, disappointments passion.... the SPIRIT engendered and lived out in so many sporting teams.

**May our yearly major training, recruitment, formation session called LENT re-energise our personal and community lives with similar passion.**

Welcome to Lent 2024

Hal Ranger

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** June Ramsay, Mary Clark.

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Juanita Umipig, Peter Saide, Shane Rice, Alvina Denison, Fr John Bergin [2000].

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially:** Rita Irwin, Norbert Grulich, Alyshia Morris, William Garrahy, Gabrielle Saide, Bev Smith, Louise O'Connor, Sheryl Grunke, Noel Roshan Francis, Kate Gibbs, Therese Odri, Kath Smith, Freddy Nield, Ray Frelek, Bob O'Sullivan, Blake Cusato, Greg Coddington, Stanley Poon, Jamal Abraham, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Teresita Pamulaklakin, Madeline Gray, Braxton Rayner.

Come and enjoy a great night out to celebrate the Feast Day of St Patrick! Tickets will include a meal and live Irish Band, and plenty of dancing! Taking place in the Cathedral Centre with doors opening at 6.30pm (Band from 7.30pm) on the 16<sup>th</sup> March, and @ \$50 a ticket a fun night out is guaranteed. Book and pay using this QR code or via <https://www.trybooking.com/1170674>



Embark on a transformative Lenten journey with **Pietà**, a resource from Woollongong diocese, that guides you through the daily readings and prayers. A fellowship gathering on Thursday mornings at St Thomas More's presbytery, 9:30am, starting on Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup> February, continuing to the 21<sup>st</sup> March.

**Altar Server Training (and refresher)** All ages, from first Eucharist and for as long as you can walk; junior altar servers to aspiring Acolytes. Come along and learn (or deepen) the spirituality and practice of altar serving. Email [nathan@stpats.org.au](mailto:nathan@stpats.org.au) for details. Sessions will be held \* 4pm Saturday 24 February - St Pat's Cathedral.

Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **for all future generations**.

**World Day of Prayer 2024**

Middle Ridge Uniting Church invite you to attend the 2024 World Day of Prayer service on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March at 10am. World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical service held on the first Friday in March each year in churches worldwide. Join in to pray for peace in the world. The 2024 service has been prepared by Christian women in Palestine with the theme **"I beg you... bear with one another in Love"**.



**From the Diocesan Office of Safeguarding and Standards** (Executive Officer – Fr. Peter Dorfield)

"On the 13 February in the Toowoomba Chronicle there was a report that a man has made a civil legal claim in the Supreme Court (Qld) against the Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba for historical sexual abuse. The claimant alleges that, as a student, he was sexually abused on a number of occasions in the late 2000s by Fr James Byrne, then Parish Priest of Sacred Heart Parish in Toowoomba. As this matter is before the Court, it is inappropriate for the Diocese to comment on the specifics of the matter. The Diocese reiterates its commitment to supporting survivors of abuse and repairing the wrongs of the past. The civil lawsuit is now with lawyers representing the Diocese and a defence, to be filed with the Court within a month, is being prepared. Please be mindful that these are difficult times for all parties involved. We trust the processes of justice to serve truth and wise discernment."

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| <b>Sunday 18 Feb</b><br>[SPC – St Patrick's]<br>[STM – St Thomas More's]<br><b>First Sunday of Lent</b> | 7am, 9am, 5.30pm.<br><b>Live Stream 9am</b>        | 11.00am Baptism Lettie Renee Matthews and Aubrey Elise Maher<br>12.00pm Baptism Olivia Wade<br>4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre |
| <b>Monday 19 Feb</b>  | 5.30pm Mass SPC<br>9.00am Mass STM                 | 9am Rosary Making, Parish Centre<br>6.15pm Veritas meeting, Social Justice room Cathedral Centre                                    |
| <b>Tuesday 20 Feb</b>   | 9am Mass SPC<br>5.30pm Mass STM                    | 5pm Choir Practice<br>5.30pm Parish Finance Committee meeting in Office Staff Room  |
| <b>Wednesday 21 Feb</b>   | 7am Mass SPC<br>9.30am Mass STM<br>5.30pm Mass SPC | 6pm Parish Council Meeting in Parish House<br>7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre  |
| <b>Thursday 22 Feb</b><br>The Chair of Saint Peter  | 7am Mass SPC                                       | 7.30am – 8.30am Adoration at SPC  |
| <b>Friday 23 Feb</b>  | 7am Mass SPC<br>9.30am Mass STM                    | 9am Ladies Friendship Group, Parish Centre<br>7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre  |
| <b>Saturday 24 Feb</b>  | 7am Mass SPC<br>6pm Mass SPC                       | 6.30am Rosary at SPC  |
| <b>Sunday 25 Feb</b><br><b>Second Sunday of Lent</b>  | 7am, 9am, 5.30pm<br><b>Live Stream 9am</b>         | 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre  |

**Planned Giving:** Thank you for your donations. Loose \$2293 Planned Giving \$1032 Donation Point \$860  
Money Counters this weekend: Sandra and Peter Daly with 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.