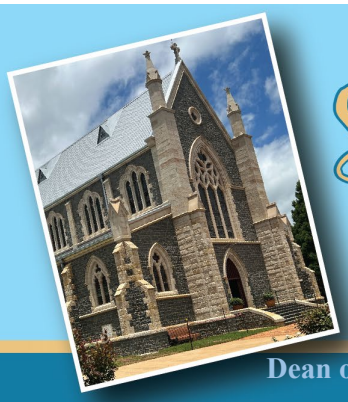

St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter

T: 4637 1500 F: 4637 1511
Email: stpatrickscathedral@twb.catholic.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 Pastors: Fr. Brian Redondo and Fr BJ Perrett
Pastoral Associate – Music: Pamela Duane – cathedralmusic@twb.catholic.org.au
Safeguarding Officer: Clinton Shearer – professionalstandards@twb.catholic.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

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time 18 October 2026

First reading: Isaiah 45:1,4-6 I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance
Responsorial Psalm: Give the Lord glory and honour glory and honour
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 We are mindful of your faith, hope and love.
Alleluia, Alleluia! Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!
Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's

In *The Fellowship of the Ring* (1954), Frodo says to Gandalf: "I wish it need not have happened in my time." And Gandalf replies "So do I, and so do all who live to see such times. But that is not for them to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us."

It can seem that the world is going – proverbially – to hell in a handbasket. Wars, crises, schisms, heresies, financial unrest, social instability, and so many other dark and terrible things. The screens with which we surround ourselves never cease reminding us of the awful state of the world and how collectively close we are to the precipice of social, religious, and financial collapse. Is life even worth living if the future is so bleak? Is there any solid ground amid the change which besets the world?

We are reminded this Sunday that God is master of time and Lord of history. Even the great powers of the world who work such evil and cause great distress (like Cyrus, king of Persia) are instruments in the hand of the Lord; the One who works all things for the good of those who love Him (cf. Rom 8:28).

Of course, the world and all her institutions will always be in flux because the world is ruled by the one who does not (and never will) know peace. We live in the dominion of the lord of the world, and the lord of the world does not know rest. He loathes the eternal horizon of God's boundless and creative Love because he has rejected that love! As the evil one never rests, so too do his minions and his dominion never rest.

At the end of the day, chaos, darkness, crises, unrest, and change are distractions. Distractions from the endless horizon of infinite peace offered by God to all His creatures who serve Him. So it is that the challenges of our time, serious as they are, are merely distractions. As distractions they must be treated accordingly, yet as serious challenges they must also find their proper place within our hierarchy of cares. As Gandalf says, may we decide "what to do with the time that is given us." And may we decide such that what St Paul said of the Thessalonians may be true also of us: "you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ."

God bless you this week, Fr BJ

Bishop Ken Howell D.D. cordially invites you to these significant events in our Diocese this coming week -

JUBILEE MASS: Frs John Quinlan, Peter Doohan and Brian Noonan
Wednesday 21st October at 11.00am in St Patrick's Cathedral, followed by refreshments in the Cathedral Centre.
All very welcome to enjoy both Mass and refreshments.
PLEASE RSVP TO PARISH OFFICE FOR CATERING PURPOSES: 4637 1500
OR stpatrickscathedral@twb.catholic.org.au

SYNOD OPENING MASS: Thursday 22nd October at 6pm in St Patrick's Cathedral.
Come and pray for the fruitfulness of our first Diocesan Synod.

✞ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Margaret Gibson.

✞ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially:** Cecily Gleeson, Sam Barletta (40 days), Kuriakose Mampallil, Jacintha Benny.

✞ **For all those who are ill in our community:** Claudia Sobey, Clive O'Kelly, Danny Fitzpatrick, Noel Cook, Mary Neylon, Anette Schaefer, Kate Gibbs, Katherine Manktelow, Therese Odri, Austin Amalemba, Brenden Canning, Ted Philippa, Justin O'Donnell, Kathy Bermingham, Carole Symons, Elizabeth Soutar, Patrick Eldridge, Donna Vallely, John Gurney.

Reconciliation is offered in the 1st Rite on Saturday mornings from 8am to 9am. Please be aware the priests at the Cathedral may have many other commitments on Saturdays – Baptisms, Weddings and even some funerals. Please **do not** arrive after 9am due to these other calls on our priest's pastoral needs.

Urgent Sacristan's Duties: Volunteers to help with light cleaning duties in the Cathedral for **one hour each month** (preferably Friday). Two people working together is recommended. Please contact Parish Office 4637 1500 for more information.

2027 Sacramental Program Information packs for **St Pat's Sacramental program for 2027** are now available from the office. Please email stpartickscathedral@twb.catholic.org.au or phone 4637 1500. Enrolments close on Thursday 17th December 2026.

Melbourne Cup Fundraiser dignity project– St Anthony's Parish Centre 1st November 2pm
Contact the Social Justice Commission 07 4613 0895 ***or*** justice@twb.catholic.org.au ***or*** St Anthony's Parish Office on 0407 758 988 or 07 4636 1737 **RSVP by 27 October 2026.**

Catholic Leader for October now available on the tables, reflecting on the life of the universal church.
Latest **Horizons** issue now available on the tables, featuring news from around the Diocese.

Some future events to be mindful of……

SAVE THE DATE:

Month of November: Please bring a photo to place onto the banner commemorating our loved ones who have gone before us into eternal life. Come into the office or email a photo if you need assistance.

Thursday **26 November** Anointing Mass 11am - in the Cathedral Centre followed by lunch, RSVP to the office.

Tuesday **1 December** Volunteers BBQ 6pm – in the Cathedral grounds (weather permitting, with fire pit).

Thursday **10th December**– 78th Anniversary of the Declaration on Human Rights at 7pm Cathedral Centre.

2027 SAVE THE DATE - The Cathedral Cup Race Day: Saturday 15 May 2027, The Clive Berghofer Grande Atrium, Clifford Park, Toowoomba – More details to come

Sunday 18 October **29th Sunday in Ord. Time** **[SPC – St Patrick's & STM – St Thomas More's]**	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. **Live Stream 9am** **[Priest ann. In green]**	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 19 October	5.30pm Mass SPC 9.00am Mass STM	9.30am Rosary Group in the Parish Centre
Tuesday 20 October	9am Mass SPC **Fr Roger Burke**	
Wednesday 21 October	7am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	**9am St Saviour's Primary School Mass** **11am Jubilee Celebration Mass** **Followed by refreshments in the Cathedral Centre** 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 22 October	7am Mass	7.30am-8.30am Adoration **6pm OPENING SYNOD MASS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**
Friday 23 October	7am Mass 9.30am Mass STM	**SYNOD FORUM – Cathedral Centre – 9am - 4pm** 9am Friendship Group in the Parish Centre 4pm Wedding Nathan Garvey- Willett & Elisha Gaffney 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 24 October	7am Mass 6pm Mass	**SYNOD FORUM – Cathedral Centre – 8.15am - 1.30pm** 6.30am Rosary in Cathedral 8-9am Reconciliation 12.30pm Baptism Violet Kate Watt 2.30pm Wedding Anthony Murphy & Tayla Gillis
Sunday 25 October **30th Sunday in Ord. Time**	7am, 9am, 5.30pm **Live Stream 9am**	11am Baptism Addison Jade & William Robert Wright 12pm Baptism Cohan James Ries 1pm Baptism Marigold Janye Morsch 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Collections

Collection for 04/10/2026 – Loose $3202 Planned Giving $816 Donation Point $1640
Money Counters this weekend: Michelle Betros, Mick Cuskelly, Karen Holtham
Money Counters next weekend: Wendy Heelan, Jabour Hanna, Rod Slater
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.