



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. Nathan Webb.

Safeguarding Officer: Ann Marie Pawsey (safeguarding@stpats.org.au)

St Patrick's, in communion with St Saviour's Primary School - Madonna Sleba (4637 1700)

St Saviour's College - Sharon Collins (4637 1600)

We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Owners of this place, the Jarowair and Giabal peoples.



33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

19 November 2023

First reading: Proverbs 31:10-13 Give her a share in what she has worked for.

Responsorial Psalm: Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord:
my branches bear much fruit. **Alleluia!**

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30 Because you have been faithful over a few things, enter the joy of the Lord.

Long ago and far away, a nursing sister in Africa was visiting a remote village. She noticed a pile of rags under a bridge and when she saw them move, she knew from experience that it was more likely to be a 'some one' in those rags and not a 'some thing'. She went over and, sure enough, it was a man - who was a leper. She offered him a little food she had with her and asked him if he would like to come with her to the mission hospital for medicine and care.

The man was angry and bitter about his condition, but was touched by the sister's kindness. "Why are you doing this?" he asked. "Because God loves you," said the sister. "God does not love me" shouted the leper. "If he loved me, why did he give me leprosy? Why did he let my family drive me away from home? Why did he make me an outcast from my tribe... why, why?" The sister paused for a while, understanding his anger and loneliness, then replied that she did not know why he had become sick - but she did know that God loved him because he had sent her to take him to the hospital and look after him. She convinced the leper to go to the hospital, but could not convince him of God's love.

Time went on and the sisters at the hospital looked after the man well, but the disease had progressed too far and he grew weaker and close to death. One day, he called the sister who had found him under the bridge and asked: "Sister, will you do me a favour?" "Certainly," she replied. "Sister, before I die, I would like to kiss the hand of God?"

The sister explained: "But you can't do that *before* you die. You see..." then she realised what he meant. Very gently, she put her hand in his, and he lifted it to his lips.



When I was a Novice in our Congregation, the Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver, I read the above story - it is a true one - in our mission publication *Echo from Africa and other Continents*. It has embedded itself into my heart and I always get goose bumps when I tell it because, for me, it really epitomizes MISSION.

MISSION - a word which conjures up many images in our minds, but which ultimately has only one purpose: to make God's love visible and tangible. That was Christ's mission: He became incarnate, flesh and blood, so that God's love could be seen and touched - *and touch* - to bring healing and comfort to bodies and souls. As Christians, followers of Christ, it is our mission also.

We can not all go to distant lands and physically be the hands of God like that sister, but we certainly can support those hands with our prayers and by offering our sacrifices and sufferings to help make their work more fruitful. We can provide those hands with the medicine, bandages, food... whatever they need to comfort weary and lonely hearts.

After all Masses this weekend, we sisters - with a few helpers! - will be at the doors of the Cathedral to offer every family a copy of the 2024 Almanac/Calendar edition of our mission publication *Echo*. Containing news of missionaries all over the world, the *Echo* gives you the opportunity of getting to know their work a little better and thus sharing a little more intimately in their lives - and the joys and rewards of their harvests. Please, take a copy on your way out, and please, keep missionaries in your prayers. Thank you!
Sr Eileen SSPC.

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Lorraine Fraser, Sister Dymphna Callaghan SSJ, Rebecca Osbourne.

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Angela Klimkowicz, James Bastable, Stephen and Radcliffe families, Deana Stone, Fr John Dowd [1978], Fr William McCormack [1989].

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially:** Louise O'Connor, Joan Robinson, Sheryl Grunke, Noel Roshan Francis, Kate Gibbs, Therese Odri, Kath Smith, Mary Vandersee, Freddy Nield, Bev Smith, Ray Frelek, Bob O'Sullivan, Blake Cusato, Greg Coddington, Stanley Poon, Jamal Abraham, Madelaine Morris, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Rodolfo Umipig, Madeline Gray, Braxton Rayner. *Please be aware we have taken off anybody who has been on for an extended period of time, if you would like them added back on please contact the office.*

2024 Columban calendars are now available for purchase \$10 each from St Pat's office.

Some dates for your calendar.....please RSVP to the parish office where needed

11.00am, 23rd November - Anointing Mass followed by lunch in the Cathedral Centre;

6.00pm, 12th December - Volunteers Thank you dinner and entertainment in the Cathedral Centre.

9.00am (SPC) and 5.30pm (STM) 21st December – 2nd Rite of Reconciliation

RCIA: If you or someone you know is interested in learning about the Catholic faith or journeying into communion with the Church, please email <life@stpats.org.au> or reach out through our socials @stpats.toowoomba. Our RCIA team and adult formation team would be delighted to accompany such a journey of discovery.

St Vincent de Paul Society has reinstated the Bushfire Appeal to help those who have lost their homes and livelihoods in the blaze. The funds raised will help our Members and Volunteers as they continue to support fire-impacted companions with their long-term recovery. More information and a donation link for the Appeal is available at qld.vinnies.org.au/bushfire2023

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver are holding a Christmas Cent Sale in St Patrick's Cathedral Centre on Saturday November 25, 1.00pm for a 1.30pm start. Cost \$10 includes afternoon tea and 2 free sheets of tickets. There are many excellent prizes with all proceeds going to the Missions. Contact the sisters on 07 46321818.



Christmas Hamper Appeal: St Patrick's conference of St Vincent de Paul will be giving Christmas hampers to assist needy people in our area. We are seeking the generous support of parishioners to donate non-perishable items such as canned hams, Christmas cakes and puddings, drinks etc to fill the hampers. There will be collection boxes at the front of the church from Saturday 11th November until Sunday 10th December.

The Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver are visiting our Parish this weekend. They wish to invite us 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.

Thank you to John Smith for the time he has been spending on the repainting and repair of our Christmas Nativity statues. They look great and will look lovely and fresh inside our crib this year!

Sunday 19 November [SPC – St Patrick's] [STM – St Thomas More's]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 20 November	9am Mass STM 5.30pm Mass SPC	9.30am Rosary Making in Parish Centre 5.30pm Parish Finance Meeting
Tuesday 21 November <i>The Presentation of Mary</i>	9am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	5.30pm Choir Practice in the Cathedral
Wednesday 22 November <i>Saint Cecilia</i>	7am Mass SPC	6pm Meeting of SVdP in Parish Centre 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 23 November	7am Mass SPC 11am Anointing Mass	7.30am – 8.30am Adoration at SPC Lunch in Cathedral Centre following 11am Mass
Friday 24 November <i>Saints Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions</i>	7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM	9.30am Friday Friendship Group in Parish Centre 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 25 November	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	8am – 9am Reconciliation 6.30am Rosary at SPC
Sunday 26 November	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Live Stream 9am	11am Baptism of Millie Mabel Baills 12pm Baptism of Brian Al Masri 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

Planned Giving: Thank you for your generous donations. Loose \$2206 Planned Giving \$915 Donation Point \$710 Money Counters this weekend: Kevin and Judy Lindores with Jim Harris.
Money Counters next weekend: Jabour Hanna, Michelle Betros and Mick Cuskelly.

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.