

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

Pastoral Associate – Music: Pamela Duane – cathedralmusic@twb.catholic.org.au

Safeguarding Officer: Clinton Shearer (profstandards@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



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

1 March 2026

First reading: Genesis 12:1-4 The call of Abraham, the father of God's People.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, Let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8-10 God has saved us, and called us to be Holy.

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9 His face shone like the sun.

Thank You for a Year of Blessings in Toowoomba

One year has passed so quickly. At the age of 50, I never imagined I would come to work or practice learning a language abroad, **but life is always about learning — especially discovering God's will in each day and in every event of life. It has been a blessing in every way.**

When I arrived in Toowoomba, everything was new. Over the past year, I have become familiar with the people and the work of the Church. It has begun to feel like home. At the same time, I have seen both the blessings and the challenges in the faith community and in the Diocese of Toowoomba.

This year has also been special for me personally. I am now in my 50's, and in a few years I will celebrate 25 years of being a priest. Being here at this time of my life has given me a chance to reflect, grow, and renew my vocation. **I thank God for my time here.** This year has been a blessing. I have seen your strong faith, your dedication, and your loving service. I have also seen people who seek God and those who suffer, needing a shepherd who understands and guides them. I will always keep these special experiences and memories in my heart.

I sincerely thank the Diocese of Toowoomba, Bishop Ken Howell, Fr.s Michael and Brian, and all the parishioners for welcoming me, supporting me, and praying for me. St. Patrick's Cathedral is truly the heart of the Diocese and a center of faith for the people. I am grateful to have been part of life and ministry here, and I will carry you in my heart and prayers as I continue my mission.

I will now return to Thailand to continue my work at **the Pattaya Orphanage**, which celebrated its 50th anniversary last year. The orphanage cares for 120 children and also runs a kindergarten for about 50 children with hearing difficulties and autism. Please pray for the children and for my work there.

(To learn more, please visit: <https://www.thepattayaorphanage.org>)

As we journey through Lent, preparing for Easter, we remember that our faith is our life and hope. Though I will not celebrate Easter here, I am sure the risen Christ is always with us. Challenges, like the cross, lead to joy and new life.



**May God bless you,
and let us continue to
pray for one another.
With gratitude,
and welcome to Thailand.**

Fr. Francis Kritsada

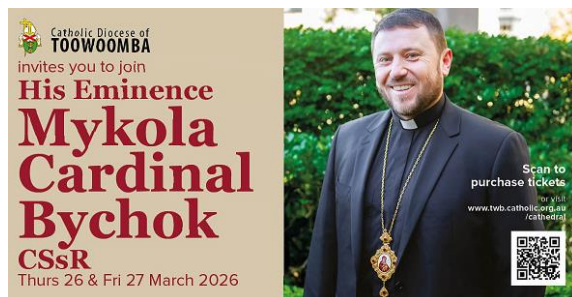
✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Barry Baxter, Antonietta Del Riccio, Pat Richards.

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially:** Rodney Reis, Elizabeth (Betty) Eiser, Catherine Rogers, Peter Saide, Stephen Elam, Daniel Gainey.

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community:** Austin Amalemba, Janet Brady, Jane Kennedy, Brenden Canning, Ted Philippa, Justin O'Donnell, Mark Betts, Kathy Bermingham, Carole Symons, Elizabeth Soutar, Patrick Eldridge, Donna Valley, Evandro Andrade, Mary Boland, Claire Seymour, Sharon Keats, Bernard Bartetzko, Jibrán Mardini, Richard Stritzel, Rita Irwin, Kate Gibbs, Christine 'Saus' Barron, Alyshia Morris, William Garrahy, Bev Smith, Sheryl Grunke, Noel Francis, Therese Odri, Freddy Nield, Ray Frelek, Blake Cusato, Braxton, Greg Coddington, Jamal Abraham, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Dorothy Marsh, Teresita Pamulaklakin, Madeline Gray.

Invitation to an Historic Moment – Cardinal Bychok Visits Toowoomba

This March, the Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba warmly invites parishioners to join in welcoming **His Eminence Mykola Cardinal Bychok CSSR**, our Australian Cardinal, on his **first-ever visit to our Diocese**. Celebrate this special occasion at a **breakfast or dinner**, with proceeds supporting the **restoration of St Patrick's Cathedral's leadlight windows**. **Tickets now available** – book at: www.twb.catholic.org.au/cathedral or use the QR code on the posters in Cathedral.




Stations of the Cross reflection books are available for use while in the Cathedral. Please use them and return to the box for others to use. There are some suited to children and large print for those who need them.

CHANGE OF TIME FOR ADORATION – Please note that the time for adoration to pray for the Eucharistic Congress in 2028 will follow 5.30pm Mass this Sunday (1st March) [6.30pm – 7.30pm].

Ongoing work in the Cathedral – Thank you so far for your patience with the continued work in the Cathedral. As you would expect there is a lot more to do. At the end of this month the plasterer will return to continue the patch up work in the Cathedral. This will cause a lot of dust which is inevitable with the fine plaster begin cut away and then renewed with fresh material. You will have noticed he has completed the work on the western side and now will begin on the eastern side of the Cathedral. It would be wonderful if after Saturday Morning Mass, you might be available to help wipe down pews etc to remove the dust. *It would be greatly appreciated.* Please see Gabrielle after Mass to access rags etc

BISHOP KEN'S PASTORAL VISIT occurs over this weekend of the 28th Feb and 1st March. Diocesan Bishops are required to visit every parish at least every 5 years. The aim is for the Bishop to spend time meeting with those who assist the Parish Priest in the care of the parish such as the Parish Council, Finance Council and Liturgy Committee. In addition the Bishop celebrates Mass to meet the people of the parish. Bishop Ken will celebrate all the Masses over this weekend. There will be a morning tea following the 9am Mass, not only to meet with Bishop Ken, but also to farewell Fr. Francis after his year with us. We are grateful for Fr. Francis' gentle and pastoral presence in our parish. We will also welcome Fr. Lalu from India who is joining the Diocese to share his ministry and pastoral skills.

 **Celebrating 40 years of SPRED** St Theresa's Parish Sunday 22nd March @ 11am – Mass and Luncheon - RSVP for seating and catering Monday 2nd March – spred@twb.catholic.org.au or Ph 46 328 427.

Sunday 1 March 2nd Sunday in Lent [SPC - St Patrick's & STM - St Thomas More's]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am [Priest ann. in green]	After 9am Mass Morning tea to farewell Fr. Francis 8.15am Baptism Macy Ellen Haslem 11am Baptism Isabelle & Charlotte Walsh 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre 6.30 – 7.30pm Adoration for Eucharistic Congress
Monday 2 February	5.30pm Mass SPC 9.00am Mass STM	9.30am Rosary Group in Parish Centre 9.30am Mass at Brodrigg
Tuesday 3 February	9am Mass SPC Fr Dominic Burke	
Wednesday 4 February	7am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	6pm Parish Council Meeting in the Office staffroom 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 5 February	7am Mass SPC	7.30 – 8.30pm Adoration 2.30pm Wedding Hunter Macri & Ashleigh Heath 6-7pm Choir Practice
Friday 6 February	7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM Fr Hector Thomas Sheeran	9am Friendship Group in the Conference Room 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 7 February	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary in the Cathedral 8-9am Reconciliation 10.30am Baptism Connor Lee Jacobson 11.30am Baptism Isla Anne Currie
Sunday 8 March 3rd Sunday in Lent	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Live Stream 9am	International Women's Day 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

Planned Giving: Thank you for your donations. Loose \$4349 Planned Giving \$606 Donation Point \$1860

Money Counters this weekend: Pat Power, Leo & Maureen McMahon

Money Counters next weekend: Sam & Fina Ginardi – Wendy Heelan

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.