



St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter



T: 4637 1500 F: 4637 1511
Email: admin@stpats.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 Pastor: Fr. Brian Redondo
Safeguarding Officer: Clinton Shearer (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.



MARY OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS FEAST DAY 1 September 2024

First reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8 You may add nothing to the word which I speak to you – keep the commands of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Second Reading: James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27 Be doers of the word.

Alleluia, alleluia! The father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 You forget the commandments of God and hold on to human tradition.

Mary of the Southern Cross – Patron of the Toowoomba Diocese

When the Toowoomba Diocese was established in 1929, 95 years ago, there was no Patron Saint decided or officially recognised. It wasn't until 14th November, 1998 Pope John Paul II issued a Papal Bull confirming Mary's place to watch over our Diocese. 25 years ago the first Mass, 1st September, 1999 celebrated the introduction of Mary of the Southern Cross. This feast exists nowhere else in the world. This first day of Spring is significant because it commemorates the date in 1929 when Bishop Byrne took official possession of the Diocese as Toowoomba's first Bishop. This date also creates an Octave with the feast of the Nativity of Mary.



This beautiful painting was the result of a competition to find a suitable image to portray our Patron. Painted by Jan Williamson it adorns our Cathedral and many of the churches throughout our Diocese. The artist has taken into consideration the amazing way women have helped forged our nation from the times of the early pioneers to the modern day. Mary is depicted as a rural woman standing in a field of wheat or similar produce. The infant is dressed in a romper suit melding it into a modern scene.

Mary is dressed simply in a red ochre coloured dress, belying the colour that is seen so often in rural Australia. Her simplicity and strength is shown in her serene look and her strong arms that hint at the physical rigours of life. Her face brings together the images of our migrant and indigenous past whilst looking to the future and whatever it may hold in the shadow of the cross that brings the hope of resurrection and new life, through the ups and downs of a life lived in faith. Maybe the two crosses – the shadow and the stars aptly symbolise both these truths.

There are many images of Mary that adorn our churches and our homes, but this one is unique to our vast Diocese. It reminds me that we are still *pioneering* the church throughout the Diocese and as we reflect on the dwindling numbers of both priests and congregations we are challenged to have faith in the Holy Spirit and the unfolding plan around us. Just as those early days of our history, at times, left us with no notion of what the future holds, we too sometimes feel that way. So it is that same Spirit that encourages us to trust, to be open to the many and varied ways of moving into the next phase of the life of the Toowoomba Diocese. This may mean embracing and working with priests from other nations more and more, entering into working in a truly Synodal way, living and adjusting to smaller communities of faith, working in a more deeply ecumenical way and being flexible and adaptable to people's needs. *What it does mean though, is not giving up, but rather bringing our hopes and dreams to a God that wants us to truly enter into the hope of **walking in the Spirit** always.*

Blessings to all, Fr. Michael

✚ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Stella McHugh.

✚ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Dr James Madden, Ted Gill.

✚ **For all those who are ill in our community:** Vicky Coccozza, Jibran Mardini, Richard Stritzel, Rita Irwin, Kate Gibbs, Christine 'Saus' Barron, Alyshia Morris, William Garrahy, Bev Smith, Louise O'Connor, Sheryl Grunke, Noel Roshan Francis, Therese Odri, Kath Smith, Freddy Nield, Ray Frelek, Blake Cusato, Braxton, Greg Coddington, Jamal Abraham, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Teresita Pamulaklakin, Madeline Gray.

Carnival of Flowers Volunteers Needed: If you are able to spare an hour or two to welcome visitors to the Cathedral as they enjoy the flower displays, please email your name and phone number and preferred times to admin@stpats.org.au The Cathedral will be open to the public Friday 13th – Monday 16th between the hours of 9am – 5pm daily.

Greenery Needed for Carnival of Flowers displays: If you are able to help supply greenery please call Sue Bauer 0427 932 165 as we have specific requirements for this. **Carnival of Flowers Volunteers Needed:** If you are able to spare an hour or two to welcome visitors to the Cathedral as they enjoy the flower displays, please email your name and phone number and preferred times to admin@stpats.org.au

In November and December we are hoping to have a couple of sessions involving **Spirituality and Art**. These will be advertised closer to the date. We are seeking anyone who has some empty jars that they would like to donate to help with this initiative. They just need to be big enough to hold paint brushes. Please drop them off to the parish office if you are able to be of assistance.



ORGAN RECITAL at St Pat's
A concert of spectacular organ music on Monday 23 September at 10am, featuring Dr Steven Nisbet OAM. Free admission. Flyers available Neil St entrance.

Upcoming Morning Teas: Everyone is invited to stay to enjoy a cuppa – whether you are only passing through or from another parish, you are very welcome to stay and partake in our hospitality. There will be a morning tea following the 9am Mass after the celebration of our Diocesan Feast Day – Mary of the Southern Cross on 1st September and another hosted by the Choir on the 15th September.

Bus Trip Marian Valley: Date: Saturday 7 September **Depart:** 7.30am Neil St **Cost:** \$50. **RSVP:** Theresa 0434 528 904

SVDP: In a world brimming with choices, your decision to embrace compassion stands as an inspiration. Your Contribution goes beyond monetary value; it embodies a spirit community that defines us. Your support will allow us to continue our "good works" to the people in our community who need it the most. People like you truly make a difference in the world and we are incredibly grateful.



Sunday 1 September 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time [SPC – St Patrick's] [STM – St Thomas More's]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am MARY OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS FEAST DAY (Patron of the Diocese)	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 2 September	5.30pm Mass SPC 9.00am Mass STM Most Rev Edward Kelly DD	9.30am Rosary Making in Parish Conference Room Fr Brian away on holidays until 13 th September
Tuesday 3 September Saint Gregory the Great	9am Mass SPC	NO CHOIR PRACTICE
Wednesday 4 September Saint Augustine	7am Mass SPC Fr Sydney Kattie	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 5 September The Passion of Saint John the Baptist	7am Mass SPC	7.30am-8.30am Adoration at St Patrick's
Friday 6 September	7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM	9am Ladies Friendship Group in Parish Conf. Room 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 7 September	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at St. Patrick's 8am – 9am Reconciliation SPC 11am Baptism Isla Maeve Bryant 3pm Wedding Kylie Morrison & Damien Steinhardt 4.30pm Baptism Alex Frank Bertolotti
Sunday 8 September 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Live Stream 9am	11am Baptism Leila Christina Vernon 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

Planned Giving: Thank you for your donations. Loose \$2012 Planned Giving \$1116 Donation Point \$1520 Money Counters this weekend: Kevin and Judy Lindores, Jim Harris

Money Counters next weekend: Jabour Hanna, Michelle Betros, 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.