



# 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. Tom Duncan and Fr. Nandana Saparamadu**

St Patrick's, in communion with St Saviour's Primary School - Madonna Sleba (4637 1555)  
St Saviour's College - Sharon Collins (4637 1600)

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



## Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year A] Sunday 16 August 2020

**First Reading:** Isaiah 56:1, 6-7 – I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.

**Responsorial Psalm:** O God, let all the nations praise you!. [Psalm 66]

**Second Reading:** Romans 11:13-15, 29-32 – The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

**Gospel Acclamation: ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! *Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom, and healed all who were sick.* ALLELUIA!**

**Gospel:** Matthew 15:21-28 – Woman, you have great faith.

***“Man’s unhappiness springs from one thing alone, his incapacity to stay quietly in one room.” – Blaise Pascal***

As many have heard already, for the last two weeks I’ve found myself having to live like a hermit in quarantine after returning from a short break in Sydney. Aside from the inconvenience of having to postpone everything in my diary and be unavailable for a further couple of weeks, I must say, this was a welcome opportunity. I received two extra weeks to spend exclusively with the Lord in prayer and reading! Perhaps there are many parents out there wishing they could do the same! And yet, I suspect there are many out there who couldn’t think of anything worse than being shut away alone in a room for two weeks. Whatever the case, despite the fact that I could see the positive side, I must admit it wasn’t easy. It’s tough to stay focused and motivated when alone for an extended period. I noticed at times a tendency in myself to look for distractions and compensations such as television or YouTube, to avoid Jesus and to waste the precious time I was given.

Why is this? Why is it that, even in those who love solitude, there can be an inner impulse to avoid the Real and to seek a cheaper version of reality? Why is it, furthermore, that so many people deeply fear the prospect of silence and solitude? Blaise Pascal, the well-known 17<sup>th</sup> century philosopher and scientist, often noted this human foible and remarked that humanity’s unhappiness springs precisely from this inability to simply sit quietly in a room without distraction. For if we were content and courageous enough to be reconciled with ourselves and our God in the present moment, there would perhaps be no need to seek destructive diversions such as war, drunkenness, drugs, gambling and the like. Pascal wasn’t suggesting we should all quit our day jobs and just stare at the wall. What he meant was, many evils spring from the inner restlessness that can only really be remedied by parting the curtain of the silence of the present moment and facing the Real. Therein lies not only our truest selves but also the Lord our God, who is the fullness of life and our only true rest. Perhaps, these musings of the philosopher are all the more pertinent to us today, as each of us face the very real prospect of increased physical isolation in our COVID riddled world. Let us pray for the courage to seek to be still, to listen to the silence, to face all that lies therein, and to reject the distractions that stop us from truly living.

I wish you all peace in the coming week, and look forward to reconnecting after my short confinement!

**Fr Tom**

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Alan Padget, Emily Thornton, Bill Tyers, Margaret Roche, Africana Quijano and those who have died from Covid-19 in Australia and beyond. *May perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace.*

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:**  
Helen Betros Jabour, Peter Byrnes.

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially** Loan Smith, Maria Brown, Mary Twidale, Kim Ireland, Christine [Faus] Barron, Greta Berge, Matt Vlietstra, Jo Tuite, Dr Peter Reiter, Elijah Rolls, Hayden Smith, Patricia Whyte (nee Stark), Margaret Walker, Rita Blacker, Kristina Dawidowicz, Nora Machin, Mary Allen, George Pardon, Tina Hobson, Bev Boundy, Roslyn Pardon [nee Kearney], Joanne Essey [Sydney], Braxton Rayner, Kate Gibbs, Max Shearer, Saturnino Bustamante, Hannah Marie Marasigan, Stephanie Shine, Andrew Supple, Mary-Ann Hine, Kathy Allan, John Morgan, Patricia McCracken, Reggie James, Teresita Pamulaklakin, and all those in our nursing homes and hospitals, and those suffering the effects of Covid-19.

The **PIPE ORGAN RESTORATION** continues to go well and after speaking to Simon, the Organ specialist, he hopes to have the restored pipe organ operational again around the 25<sup>th</sup> of August. It will be lovely to hear the beautiful sounds of the pipes filling the Cathedral once more. Vicky, our organist is getting very excited!!

**We congratulate and keep in our prayers the following candidates who will receive First Communion** over the next two weeks: Abigail Allan, Ayla Allen, Chelsea Baker, Erik Bernard, Noah Betros, Scarlett Bishop, Sophia Bumatay, Luca Chalvien, Camilla Chalvien, Patrick Chappel, Mason Collins, Juel Condon, Keesha Dass, Kyara Flanigan, Lillian Geddes, Cleo Gordon, Jonah Greenaway, Elijah Grundon, Charlotte Grundon, Nicholas Hack, Francesca Hack, Azariah Hart, Flynn Hogan, Charles Hunkin, Avalon Jackson, Angelo Jamin, Ariana Jeffrey, Nechesa Lonczar, Zac Luder, Mackenzie Lyons, Erika McCarthy, Aston McHugh, Ashley McKenzie, Elaia Ong, Evie Phillips, Callan Politch, Thomas Prust, Pacita Quiroga, Huntah Robinson, Ellie Scheikowski, Amelia Taylor, Jacob Taylor, Sianna Thomas, Taylor Wann, Erin Ward, Lucy Warner, Margaret Wolbers, Riley Wood.

**DON'T FORGET:** Please feel welcome to park in the TCSO carpark on the western side of the Cathedral, and make your way using the path beside the bell tower.

**The Blue Room:** The Blue Room, as a place of community and private prayer, has re-opened. Not completely, but within clear safety guidelines. Alongside that very welcome good news, the "Blue Room", situated on the southern side of the Parish Centre, opposite the entrance to the toilets, will also open as a place of hospitality and friendship. Mondays through to Fridays, from 10am to 3pm, the welcome mat is out providing opportunities for reconnecting with people over a cup of tea or coffee, browsing through books and magazines, sharing stories and experiences of Life.

**Dispensation from the obligation** of Sunday Mass has been granted during this difficult and worrying time. You are strongly encouraged though to spend some time in prayer, either privately or as a family at these times.

<b>Sunday 16 Aug</b>	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass <b>9am - Live stream available</b>	11am Baptism of Isla Rogers [FM] 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
<b>Monday 17 Aug</b>	<b>5.30pm Mass SPC (New Time)</b> 9am Mass STM	<b>ADORATION 4.30pm – 5.30pm</b>
<b>Tuesday 18 Aug</b>	7am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	
<b>Wed 19 Aug</b>	7am Mass SPC	<b>ADORATION 7.30am – 8.30am</b> 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
<b>Thurs 20 Aug</b>	7am Mass SPC	6pm SVdP meeting in Parish Centre
<b>Friday 21 Aug</b>	7am Mass SPC 9am Mass STM	<b>ADORATION 7.30am – 8.30am</b> 6pm Celebration of First Eucharist 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
<b>Saturday 22 Aug</b>	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	
<b>Sunday 23 Aug</b>	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass <b>9am - Live stream available</b>	11am Baptism of Camilla Flemming [TD] 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Planned Giving \$1527; Loose \$719; PayPoint \$260 : Jabour Hanna, Kate Gilloway, Craig/Amanda Hogan		

**Planned Giving Envelopes:** This coming financial year's envelopes are now available near the confessionals. Thank you for your generosity at this time.

**Planned Giving:** Anyone concerned about their giving, there are options you may wish to consider. Please contact Celia at the Parish Office to discuss these options or you may simply like to do a bank transfer into St Patrick's Cathedral, BSB 064-786, Account Number 51289 0100, reference envelope number. We understand the difficult financial burden that everyone is encountering at this time, so please do not feel obliged or pressured to give. Thank you.