



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

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



4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

21 December 2025

First reading: Isaiah 7:10-14 The virgin will conceive.

Responsorial Psalm: Let the Lord enter; he is King of Glory

Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7 Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God

ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! A virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God-is-with-us. ALLELUIA!

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24 Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

A Jubilee Christmas: Christ Our Hope

Christmas is very near. On this Fourth and final Sunday of Advent, the Church invites us to deepen our spiritual preparation for the coming of Christ, Emmanuel—"God is with us."—who comes to dwell among us and to bless us abundantly.

Traditionally, we have the Advent wreath, and each Sunday we light a candle as a sign of our journey toward Christ. The first candle is **the candle of Hope**, the second **the candle of Peace**, the third—the pink candle—**the candle of Joy**, and today we light the final candle, **the candle of Love**. **The coming of Christ truly brings us hope, peace, joy, and love**. In turn, our lives are called to shine with these same gifts, bringing light to the people around us—especially to those who need them most.

On this fourth Sunday, just a few days before Christmas, **we are invited in a special way to live in love and practice love, focusing on our spiritual readiness to welcome the Lord, and to have quiet time for prayer and reflection**. In our families, let us not worry too much about decorations or outward preparations, **but rather prepare our homes and hearts to welcome Christ through prayer, forgiveness, kindness, and time together in faith**.

We are in the final weeks of the **Jubilee Year of Hope**, making this Christmas especially meaningful. **May this be a Christmas of Hope for our world, as Emmanuel—"God is with us"—brings true hope amid the confusion and struggles of life**. With Christ as our life and our hope, we can move forward with courage, trust, and peace, even in difficult times.

As we approach the end of the Jubilee Year of Hope, we recall the words of Pope Francis in *Spes Non Confundit*: **"Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us"** (Romans 5:5).

May this hope remain alive in our hearts as we welcome Christ at Christmas, and may the **Holy Spirit** fill us—and our world—with **hope, peace, joy, and love**.

God bless you, especially during this holy season of Advent!

Fr. Francis Kritsada Sukkaphat

2025 Diocesan Annual Christmas Collection Each year, half of our Christmas Collection goes towards a special need, often beyond our shores. This year the Diocesan Council of Priests have decided to support The Missionaries of St Francis de Sales' Parish of Our Lady of Mercy in Rioverde, Ecuador where many are suffering from extreme poverty. This area serves over 35,000 people across 45 rural villages in the Esmeraldas Province. Your generous support will ensure that this community, despite its many setbacks, can face the future with hope and resilience.

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Kate Hoad, John Sullivan, Agnes Doxey.

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially:** Jessie Roach, Ray Power, Chahira Coorey.

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community:** Mark Betts, Kathy Bermingham, Carole Symons, Elizabeth Soutar (age 2), Patrick Eldridge, Donna Vallely, Patrick Ryan, Rajender Vellore, Evandro Andrade, Antonietta Del Riccio, Mary Boland, Claire Seymour, Sharon Keats, Bernard Bartetzko, Vicky Coccozza, Jibrán Mardini, Richard Stritzel, Rita Irwin, Kate Gibbs, Christine 'Saus' Barron, Alyshia Morris, William Garrahy, Bev Smith, Sheryl Grunke, Noel Roshan Francis, Therese Odri, Freddy Nield, Ray Frelek, Blake Cusato, Braxton, Greg Coddington, Jamal Abraham, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Dorothy Marsh, Teresita Pamulaklakin, Madeline Gray.

Sacramental Program will commence early 2026. If you are interested please contact the Parish office for more details 46 371 500 or stpatrikscathedral@twb.catholic.org.au

Unit for Rent One bedroom unit for rent, single person only, reasonable fortnightly rent. Applications are to be made in writing to the Secretary, Board of Management, St Patrick's Cathedral, PO Box 7062, Toowoomba 4350 or may be dropped in at the Parish Office. For more information please phone the parish office 46371500.

Financial Report - If you would like to read the financial report for the parish it is now available on the table.

Re-plastering at St Pat's began last week. As you can see a number of pews have been removed to allow for the scissor lift to be put in place. We apologise for any inconvenience this causes, however you may even find a better seat!

The local St Vincent de Paul Conference wish to thank all those who have given so generously to our Christmas Appeal for 2025. Your kindness will bring joy to many families who are struggling at this time. Please keep them in your prayers as you celebrate your Christmas. We appreciate the thoughtfulness of St Patrick's Parish community.

Catholic Leader Christmas addition now available – Includes the QLD Bishops Christmas messages.

Parish Office Christmas Closure -

Closed Thursday 25th December–Thursday 1st January Inclusive.



Sunday 21 December 4th Sunday of Advent [SPC - St Patrick's & STM - St Thomas More's]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am [Priest ann. in green]	Baptism 12pm Juliette Eva Aston 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 22 December	5.30pm Mass SPC 9.00am Mass STM	9.30am Rosary Group in Parish Centre
Tuesday 23 December	9am Mass SPC	
Wednesday 24 December Christmas Eve	7am Mass SPC 6pm Children's Mass 8.30pm Vigil Mass 12.00am Midnight Mass 5.30pm & 8pm Mass STM	
Thursday 25 December The Nativity of the Lord	7am Christmas Mass 9am Christmas Mass NO 5.30pm Mass 8.30am Mass STM	Parish Office closed – Reopen 2nd January
Friday 26 December St Stephen	7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 27 December St John	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at St Patrick's 8–9am Reconciliation SPC
Sunday 28 December The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Live Stream 9am	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

Planned Giving: Thank you for your donations. Loose \$2863 Planned Giving \$956 Donation Point \$1830

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

Money Counters next weekend: Office Staff

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.