



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. Nathan Webb & Fr. Brian Redondo
Safeguarding Officer: Ann Marie Pawsey (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.



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

21 January, 2024

First reading: Jonah 3:1-5 The Ninevites renounced their evil ways.

Responsorial Psalm: Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 The world as we know it is passing away.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia alleluia! **The kingdom of God is near:**

believe the Good News. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20 Repent, and believe the Good News.

And Jesus said, "FOLLOW ME"

As we returned from our Retreat for 2024, the Priests and Bishops were invited to reflect on the nature of our shared ministry throughout the Diocese, from Quilpie to Taroom. Bishop Tim Norton, Auxiliary Bishop of Brisbane, took us through a journey of reflection particularly in regards to our varied and great ethnic mix within our clergy and the people we serve.

Bishop Tim, himself no stranger to being a missionary in other countries shared with us his experience and understanding of our ethnicity that stands at the centre of all we do and the way we understand our lives. This is not a bad thing as long as it doesn't lead us to racism or exclusion of others. It is simply the view we have upon the world, sometimes without realising it as a result of where, how and with whom we have lived our lives.

Bishop Tim highlighted the fact that Australia is in a pretty unique position worldwide. We are one of the very few nations that have a significant mix of clergy from other countries. In just about every Diocese in Australia the mix is, or near to, 50% born locally and the other half from overseas. Some Diocese it is 95%. So we are at the point of needing to realise a positive and deeper appreciation of those who have joined Australian congregations from other international places. Bishop Tim, who is a member of the *Divine Word Missionaries* spent many years in Mexico and other places as a Missionary presence. He maintains that we, as people of God need to embrace our *Intercultural Community* in a deliberate way. This community needs to "be carefully created, intentionally nurtured and prudently cared for." How do we do this? Bishop Tim suggests, "to move from labelling to embracing; to grow in consciousness of our own ethnocentrism in attitudes; to understand and appreciate the history of others; to dream together of what mission can truly be; and to trust each other". If we are mindful of these areas then surely we are moving in the right direction.

As I read today's gospel and the invitation of Jesus to Simon, James, John and Andrew to "**Follow me**", I wonder at the depth of those two simple words and the amazing world it opens for those who chose to respond. Two simple words that hold a universe of questions – to where, with whom, for how long, why.....

Yet they responded having faith in the future that Jesus proclaimed. When they followed Jesus they would not have realised that their ministry would include people with whom they may not currently mix, yet they experienced what it meant to encounter an "intercultural community". They would go on to debate and reason with many differing points of view, but somehow they found the path together or otherwise we may not be gathering this day.

What a challenge that puts before us in our diverse and rich community and world. Let us hear the words, *Follow Me* resound in us as we look around with new eyes upon our neighbour.

Julia Baird in her book on Grace puts it this way – "*The world depends on us treating strangers not just like random lumps of flesh, but creatures of depth, with hearts and frailties. On us giving a stranger the benefit of the doubt, of refraining from flipping the bird, or a stinging rebuke or a glare, but because you never know the weight of the pack on that stranger's shoulders, or how much time they have left on earth. On us standing with the oppressed and abused, the vulnerable and ignored, and listening in silence and sympathy. On us allowing for the chest-expanding possibilities of forgiveness.....To walk alongside each other, despite everything. To sing, even.*"

Walking together. God Bless, Fr. Michael

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Marjorie Cusack, Iris and Leo Winkler.

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Mary Wyatt, Peter Saide, Shane Rice, Fr William Behm [2006].

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially:** Alyshia Morris, William Garrahy, Gabrielle Saide, Bev Smith, Albert Loveday, Louise O'Connor, Sheryl Grunke, Noel Roshan Francis, Kate Gibbs, Therese Odri, Kath Smith, Freddy Nield, Ray Frelek, Bob O'Sullivan, Blake Cusato, Greg Coddington, Stanley Poon, Jamal Abraham, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Rodolfo Umipig, Madeline Gray, Braxton Rayner.

Come and enjoy a great night out to celebrate the Feast Day of St Patrick! Tickets will include a meal and live Irish Band, and plenty of dancing! Taking place in the Cathedral Centre with doors opening at 6.30pm (Band from 7.30pm) on the 16th March, and @ \$50 a ticket a fun night out is guaranteed. Booking details to come!



BISHOP KEN HAS MADE THE FOLLOWING CLERGY APPOINTMENTS -

"Fr Hermi Rafada as Parish Priest of Sacred Heart Parish, Wilsonton from 10 February 2024, previously St. Mary's, Goondiwindi and **Fr Bony Abraham MGL** as Administrator St Mary's Parish, Goondiwindi, previously St Mary's, Warwick, from 10 February 2024. **Fr Roque Maguinsay**, previously at Sacred Heart, Wilsonton has been elected to the leadership Council of the PACEM Order and will soon return to the Philippines. He will resign his appointment to Sacred Heart at the end of January. We sincerely thank Fr Roque for his ministry in the Diocese for almost 12 years and wish him every blessing in his new role for the PACEM Order."

The World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian laywomen's initiative celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. The 2024 service for our area will be held at Middle Ridge Uniting Church, 264 Stenner Street, on Friday 1st March 2024 at 10am. Prior to this a planning meeting will be held at **Middle Ridge Uniting Church on Friday 2nd February at 10am.** Please RSVP to mruc@bigpond.com to let them know if you will attend the planning meeting.

St Patrick's Conference of St Vincent de Paul Report for 2023

The past year provided a challenge for our conference to be able to assist people in need due to the increase in living expenses. We conducted a total of 717 interviews during the year with people in need of food, clothing, furniture and accommodation. This was almost a 30% increase from the previous year. We are grateful to the generous support once again, from our parishioners for their donations to appeals and to the poor-box. The donations to the Christmas Hamper appeal were beyond our expectations and enabled us to help 32 families in our area. Thank you also to Frs Michael, Nathan and Brian for their support. St Vincent de Paul is a small active group so if you are interested in serving Christ in the poor please consider joining our conference. Contact Terry 0428582205.



Sunday 21 January [SPC – St Patrick's] [STM – St Thomas More's]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am	11am Celebration of Sto. Niño Mass 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 22 January	5.30pm Mass SPC 9.00am Mass STM	
Tuesday 23 January	9am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	11am Baptism Timothy Power NO CHOIR PRACTICE UNTIL 30/01
Wednesday 24 January Saint Francis De Sales	7am Mass SPC	5.30pm Grounds Committee Meeting in Presbytery 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 25 January The Conversion of Saint Paul	7am Mass SPC	7.30am – 8.30am Adoration at SPC
Friday 26 January Australia Day Holiday	7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 27 January	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at SPC 11am Baptism of Mila Rose Arneill
Sunday 28 January	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Live Stream 9am	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre



Planned Giving: Thank you for your donations. Loose \$2018 Planned Giving \$1558 Donation Point \$920 Money Counters this weekend: Pat Power with Leo and Maureen McMahon. Money Counters next weekend: Wendy Heelan with Sam and Fina Ginardi.

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.