



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. Nathan Webb.

Safeguarding Officer: Ann Marie Pawsey (safeguarding@stpats.org.au)

St Patrick's, in communion with St Saviour's Primary School - Madonna Sleba (4637 1700)

St Saviour's College - Sharon Collins (4637 1600)

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



Bishop Robert, Frs Michael, Nathan, and Hal wish you every blessing over this Christmas and New Year time. We look forward to walking in faith with you in 2023. Keep safe and well!

Memories of Christmas' past always come to mind at this time of the year. I remember as a child that it was the only time we had ham on the bone (which lasted till the end of January – manifested in many different ways!). The only time we had soft drink and the only time water fights (40°C + in Roma) were allowed that included Mum and Dad! The compulsory attempt at playing cricket in the afternoon or Finska in later years. As the years have gone past the saying, “It’s Christmas everyday” became more and more true, maybe not the water fights, but the food and drink certainly. These days all those special treats at Christmas time are available every day of the year. Can we have Christmas every day? What the hell, WHY NOT?

In fact let's do it! – let's be joyful every day, let's be forgiving every day, let's have understanding every day, let's take time to think before we speak, let's show the love that we have for one another.

LET'S CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS **EVERY DAY** OF THE YEAR!

Why not eh? Dare you!

Blessings on this day and New Year, Fr. Michael



Christmas Greeting

“Happy Christmas” might seem almost worn of its use or significance. As early as October, these very words have been plastered on houses, shopfronts, and even passed our lips. If they were my own birthday wishes, they would have lost all positive sense to me, no matter how kind the sentiment behind the platitude.

And yet, I offer these very words to you today: Happy Christmas!

Not everyone has the opportunity for a happy Christmas, and many find their circumstances compromised.

So, as old or worn as the words might get, the sentiment remains strong and undimmed. I hope and pray that you and yours will have a happy and a holy Christmas. And I hope and pray that somewhere in the midst of it all we will each take the opportunity to go beyond ourselves; I hope we can each spend some time in the back stable of our own hearts and also that we might reach out to the weak or lonely in our very midst.

Through the jingle of bells, I hope that you will hear and speak the Word of God whose coming into the world we celebrate.

In peace and with blessings, NPW

GOD
ROCK
SAVIOR
MESSIAH
IMMANUEL
HOLY • CHILD
MIGHTY • GOD
LORD • OF • ALL
LAMB • OF • GOD
CHRIST • OF • GOD
KING • OF • KINGS
THE • WORD • OF • GOD
ALPHA • AND • OMEGA
PRINCE • OF • PEACE
LIGHT • OF • THE • WORLD
HEAD • OF • THE • CHURCH
SON • OF • THE • HIGHEST
EVERLASTING • FATHER
RESURRECTION • AND • LIFE
JESUS

NB. The Parish Office will be closed from 26th December and reopens on 3rd January. Thank you.

✚ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Wayne Jensen, Barry Walsh. May perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. We hold in our hearts all those who have died in the Ukraine conflict.

✚ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Morrie & Hazel Betros, Ray Power, Jessie Roach, Chahira Coorey.

✚ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially:** Greg Coddington, Gloria Hayes, Gayle Christoffel, Lisle Stephenson, Stanley Poon, Ken McIntosh, Pat Murray, Jamal Abraham, Pam Cavalachini, Madelaine Morris, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Rodolfo Umipig, Bev Smith (Boodle), Addison McEwan, Daniel Ligon, Rohitha Jayamanna, Ray Frelek, Madeline Gray, Maria Brown, Christine [Faus] Barron, Greta Berge, Matt Vlietstra, Dr Peter Reiter, Elijah Rolls, Hayden Smith, Rita Blacker, Tina Hobson, Bev Boundy, Joanne Essey [Sydney], Braxton Rayner, Kate Gibbs, Max Shearer, Saturnino Bustamante, Hannah Marie Marasigan, Stephanie Shine, Andrew Supple, Mary-Ann Hine, Kathy Allan, Patricia McCracken, Reggie James, Teresita Pamulaklakin.

RECONCILIATION – 1st Rite available every Saturday morning between 8am and 9am.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023 – Please email the office, or call in to collect the program and registration form of the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion. admin@stpats.org.au or 4637 1500.

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION. In Australia, the reception of Holy Communion takes the following form: the communicant bows as the person in front of them receives the Eucharist, the communicant presents for Holy Communion which the minister places in their hand; the communicant then steps immediately to the side and reverently receives the Eucharist before returning to their seat. NB: Those receiving communion on the tongue are asked to join the end of the communion in line with public health measures.

Priest Retreat: This year the priests of the Diocese will be travelling to Lismore to spend time in prayerful reflection and fraternal friendship. The retreat will be led by the Bishop of Lismore – Bishop Gregory Homeming OCD. Please keep the priests in your prayers during this time – 8th January to the 13th. God Bless. During this time the usual Masses will be available at St Patrick's Cathedral due to the generous presence of Fr. Michael Cooney, who will remain here for hospital ministry.



Adoration will recommence on Thursday, 19th January – 7.30am – 8.30am.

Christmas Collection: As has been the tradition in the Diocese, the Christmas loose collection is divided between causes. Some of the money collected is given to assist the good works of the St Vincent De Paul Society, and half of the total is given to a worthy cause within Australia or beyond. This year this part of the collection will be given to assist the ongoing health care of one of the First Nation communities in the Northern Territory. A need has been identified for the supply of mattresses to assist particularly in recovery following operations within the community. Many First Nation people return home to sleep on the floor, but with access to mattresses the recovery time is decreased and the reliance on continuing pain relief is reduced. The community that we will assist is made up of about 250 people to the East of Uluru. We thank you for your generous support of this identified need within their community.

Sunday 25 December [SPC – St. Patrick's] [STM – St. Thomas More's]	7am, 9am.	THERE IS NO 5.30PM MASS CHRISTMAS DAY
Monday 26 December Saint Stephen	9am Mass STM 5.30pm Mass SPC	
Tuesday 27 December Saint John	9am SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	
Wednesday 28 December The Holy Innocents	7am Mass SPC	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 29 December Fifth Day with the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord	7am Mass SPC	NO ADORATION UNTIL 19 JANUARY 2023
Friday 30 December The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	7am Mass SPC 9am Mass STM	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 31 December Seventh Day with the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at St. Pat's 8.00am – 9.00am Reconciliation
Sunday 1 January Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God	7am, 9am 9am Live Streaming	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

Thank you for your generous giving to assist the works of St. Patrick's.
Planned Giving: \$923 Loose: \$2029, PayPoint: \$700. Pat Power and Leo McMahon.

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. Thank you.