



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.



Second Sunday in Lent

25 February, 2024

First reading: Genesis 22:1-2 The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

Responsorial Psalm: I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

Second Reading: Romans 8:31-34 God did not spare his own Son.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10 This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

A PREFACE TO LENT

Before entering the Eucharistic Prayer proper, we hear the priest praying the *Preface*. This prayer is meant to set the tone and invite all those gathered into the great hymn of thanksgiving. Throughout the year, there are eight options from which a priest might choose. Each Sunday of Lent, however, has its own custom text; this is based on the gospel account read at the same Mass. On weekdays, there are a selection of Lenten options. I would like to present the first (default) options with some brief commentary.

The text begins "*It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks* – This is roughly how every Preface text starts. 'Eucharist' is often translated as 'thanksgiving', and thanksgiving is a constant of Christian life. *Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord* – Such describes Mass as a whole, but especially the anaphora (Eucharistic Prayer): We pray to the Father, through the Son, and with the Holy Spirit.

For by your gracious gift each year your faithful await the sacred paschal feasts – Time is a gift from God. Every day is not our own. *with the joy of minds made pure* – Fasting and almsgiving are not without reason. They help us let go of the noise which clutters our lives and the baggage we carry. *so that, more eagerly intent on prayer* – this could also be worded 'more eagerly intent on our relationship with you [God]. *and on the works of charity* – Lenten disciplines are meant to facilitate Christian love for neighbour; so, this could as easily be re-worded 'on the work of caring for others'. Paired with the previous line, we see the great(est) commandment of Christ to love God and love neighbour (Matt 22:35-40; Mk 12:28-34; Lk 10:27).

Then it turns toward Easter, continuing: *and participating in the mysteries by which they have been reborn* – Lent is not a time to forget the redemption that Christ has won for us; in fact, if we lose sight of Easter at any point during this forty days, there is a chance we might need to adjust our approach. *they may be led to the fullness of grace that you bestow on your sons and daughters* – 'they'; not 'I' or even 'we'. This prayer and all the prayers and practices of Lent are meant to make us better... but this is not about us being better for ourselves only; this is about being better with God and for each other.

The prayer concludes *with Angels and Archangels ... with all the hosts and Powers of heaven ... Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts."*

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Marjorie Collison.

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Joan Byrnes, Gerard Gabbett, Elizabeth (Betty) Eiser, Pat Murphy, Fr Michael Hayes [2000], Fr Michael Cronin [1992], Fr Henry MacFarlane [1946], Fr Brian O'Dwyer [2016], Fr Michael Sheehan [1947].

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially:** Rita Irwin, Norbert Grulich, Alyshia Morris, William Garrahy, Gabrielle Saide, Bev Smith, 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, Teresita Pamulaklakin, Madeline Gray, Braxton Rayner.

Faith Foundations: Throughout Lent, there is an opportunity to export foundations of faith in an informal study group after the 9am Sunday Mass at St Pat's. Tea and coffee available. Resource book *At Home With God's People* available for purchase or for loan during the sessions. A great opportunity to set aside a moment during Lent to deepen and broaden aspects of faith from prayer through scripture and the sacraments. (Contact life@stpats.org.au for details.)




Middle Ridge Uniting Church invite you to attend the **2024 World Day of Prayer** service on Friday 1st March at 10am. World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical service held on the first Friday in March each year in churches worldwide. Join in to pray for peace in the world. The 2024 service has been prepared by Christian women in Palestine with the theme **"I beg you... bear with one another in Love"**.



Ronita is 22. She lives with her husband and two children in a barangay (local district) in Quezon City, which is situated in Metro Manila in the Philippines. Ronita left school when she became pregnant as a teenager. This could have had a life-long impact on her ability to find work and provide for her family but, thankfully, she heard about the Alternative Learning System (ALS) program run by the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ), Caritas Australia's local partners in the Philippines. Through the FCJ, Ronita was able to re-enrol in her studies and continue learning in a safe and flexible environment – even with the arrival of her second child. After completing her ALS classes, Ronita went on to earn her Grade 12 Senior High School Diploma. With her new diploma, Ronita has now secured a job at a call centre and is looking to a brighter future for her whole family. "I have now graduated senior school and I am so proud of myself," she said. "I feel hopeful for the future... Now it's not impossible for me to achieve my dream... Thank you." **Please donate to Project Compassion.**

Book your tickets now for the Feast of St Patrick
March 16 2024

Celebrate with Fr O'Brien and Fr O'Webb
Dance the night away with Irish band McCarthy's Reel
Feast on a sumptuous 3 course meal
Tickets \$50 available from the office or
book and pay using the QR code or via <https://www.trybooking.com/1170674>
Guinness available at the bar, doors open from 6.30pm

Sunday 25 Feb [SPC – St Patrick's] [STM – St Thomas More's] Second Sunday of Lent	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 26 Feb	5.30pm Mass SPC 9.00am Mass STM	9.30am Rosary Making, Parish Centre (Admin Building)
Tuesday 27 Feb	9am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	5pm Choir Practice
Wednesday 28 Feb	7am Mass SPC	5pm Grounds Committee meeting (Office Main Entrance) 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 29 Feb	7am Mass SPC	7.30am – 8.30am Adoration at SPC 5.30pm Liturgy Meeting, Parish House
Friday 1 March	7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM	10am World day of Prayer, see above. 9am Ladies Friendship Group, Parish Centre (Admin Building) 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 2 March	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at SPC
Sunday 3 March Third Sunday of Lent	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Live Stream 9am	11am Baptism of Alexander Baurle 12pm Baptism of Ariella Grace Hall 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

Planned Giving: Thank you for your donations. Loose \$2192 Planned Giving \$1085 Donation Point \$980
Money Counters this weekend: Pat Power, 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.