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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. Nandana Saparamadu and 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.



TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 25 September 2022

First Reading: Amos 6:1, 4-7 You who give yourself to licentiousness and revelry will be exiled.

Responsorial Psalm: Praise the Lord, my soul! [Psalm 145]

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 6:11-16 Obey the commandments until the coming of the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31 The Story of the Rich Man and Lazarus.

What do you see in the mirror of story?

Every year for the last 28 years a group of devoted bibliophiles have conducted a competition in Goondiwindi for young writers. The "MacIntyre Young Writers Competition" seeks to encourage and promote writing and reading amongst our school aged students. From Year 1 to year 12, entries of story writing are received from the 4 schools in the town and 4 in the surrounding areas. Over the last number of years I have been privileged to be asked to judge the year 12 entries.

As I read through the entries, I am fascinated and exhilarated by the quality, imagination and abilities of these young teenagers, who obviously read many novels to produce the insights and story structure that they produce. The other area that often surprises me and leaves me a little breathless at times is their ability to reflect upon their own lives using the genre of story.

After having lived in Goondiwindi for 13 years, I will often recognize a name and recall their family and unique story of their lives in a rural setting. Sometimes that family and life experience is reflected in what they write. It is more then just interesting to read these stories. Hidden within the words these young writers open their souls, their very selves in what they understand about life – present, past and future. Knowing some of them personally, and knowing some of their journey gives me insight into their understanding of life. I catch a glimpse of their hopes, their dreams, their solutions to struggles, their joy and also their sadness and distress.

Stories hold up a mirror to our own lives. When we read a story we look into a mirror, for every story, whether we like the story or not, triggers for us a reaction to which we need to listen. It reflects back to us something of our inner self. This is why the gospel stories of Christ are ageless. Every story mirrors something slightly different for every generation, every stage of life, every circumstance, every moment of joy and struggle.

So when we read the gospel stories, and any story really, we should ask ourselves –

What is reflected back to me in this story?
What does God want me to see, or think, or do, or say?
What changes do I need to make in my life?
What do I glimpse in this story that the Holy Spirit is reaching out to me about?

I'm sure there are obvious meanings drawn from today's gospel, such as, Are we complacent like the rich man who is more wrapped up in his "fine linen and magnificent feasts"? Do we listen to those in need or do we ignore them? Who sits at our "gates" wanting our attention today?

This gospel highlights to me the need to be attentive to the "stories" that we read, and hear, and see each day. Some stories are not in books, but also mirror back to us something we need to learn. If we do not listen to the stories around us and what they reflect to us, we will be just like the rich man who walked through those gates every day, yet did not even see Lazarus, covered in sores, longing to be fed with scraps from the table.

- **†** We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently: Sr Marie Carroll MSS, Judith O'Brien, 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**: Dan Reilly, Fr Clarence Leahy [1996], Fr Neil O'Donoghue [1980].
- ₱ For all those who are ill in our community, especially: Pam Cavalachini, Madelaine Morris, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Rodolfo Umipig, Bev Smith (Boodle), Fr Raymond Sweeney, Addison McEwan, Daniel Ligon, Rohitha Jayamanna, Ray Frelek, Patsy Quinn, Brian Machin, Madeline Gray, Loan Smith, Maria Brown, Christine [Faus] Barron, Greta Berge, Matt Vlietstra, Dr Peter Reiter, Elijah Rolls, Hayden Smith, Margaret Walker, Rita Blacker, Nora Machin, Mary Allen, 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 McCraken, Reggie James, Teresita Pamulaklakin.

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

Police Remembrance Day is at St Patrick's Cathedral on the 29th September at 10.00am. This moving service invites us to take time to remember the contribution the Police Force makes to the safety and peace in our lives. We also take time to remember those officers who have died in the last 12 months. Everyone is very welcome to attend.

CARNIVAL OF FLOWERS DISPLAY 2022

I have no doubt that you join with me in congratulating all those involved in the beautiful displays this year in St Patrick's. These all take time to put together and to make them as wonderful as they were. So many people came through over the weekend and only had words of praise and thanks to everyone. Special thanks to our committee, Sue Bauer, Jess Tierney, Melissa Stevens, Hughie Boyce, and all those co-opted to assist in the setting up and production of the extra displays, especially John Neylon and Celia Waters. We acknowledge and thank the following groups for their displays – St Saviour's Primary and College, St Thomas More's Primary School, St Ursula's, St Mary's College, Ladies Friendship Group, Choir and Musicians, Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office, Toowoomba Archives, St Patrick's Liturgy Committee, Spred.

It is our hope that something similar (and a little bigger!) will occur next year too. Thank you to everyone.

Fr. Michael

Thank you to Bart and Jacinta McGovern who have kindly supplied our two holy water dispensers. Bart very kindly made the stand on which they are attached to match the end of our pews. They are activated by placing your hand underneath the dispenser to receive a spray of holy water. Thanks Bart and Jacinta.

SPRED FUNDRAISING EVENING AT THE REPERTORY THEATRE— "Blithe Spirit" a Noel Coward Comedy - Monday 24th October 2022. 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Tickets \$20.00 includes wine/juice and snack on arrival. OR \$25 includes 5 raffle tickets. Ph: 4632 8427 / **spred@twb.catholic.org.au** for tickets.

St Patrick's Conference of St Vincent de Paul would like to thank parishioners for their continued support through our Christmas and Winter Appeals as well as the poor box. If you would like to be involved in assisting those in need, contact Terry (0428582205). Please join us for morning tea after the 9:00 a.m. Mass on **Sunday October 2**nd.

Sunday 25 September [SPC - St. Patrick's] [STM - St. Thomas More's]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass 9am Live Streaming	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 26 September	9am Mass STM 5.30pm Mass SPC	10am Rosary making group
Tuesday 27 September Saint Vincent De Paul	9am SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	5.30 – 7pm Choir practice
Wednesday 28 September	7am Mass SPC	9.30am Anointing Mass at STM 6.000pm SVdP Meeting in Parish Centre 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 29 September Sts Michael, Gabriel and Raphael	7am Mass SPC	7.30am - 8.30am Adoration at St. Patrick's 10.00am Police Remembrance Day SPC
Friday 30 September Saint Jerome	7am Mass SPC 9am Mass STM	10am Friendship Group in Parish Office Boardroom 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 1 October Saint Therese of the Child Jesus	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at St. Pat's 8.00am - 9.00am Reconciliation
Sunday 2 October	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass 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: \$1167 Loose: \$1043, PayPoint: \$720. Sandra & Peter Daly, Jan-Nell & Errol Chase.

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.