



St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter



T: 4637 1500 F: 4637 1511
Email: admin@stpats.org.au
www.stpats.org.au

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.



Second Sunday of Easter 27 APRIL 2025

First reading: Acts 5:12-16 The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

Responsorial Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Second Reading: Revelation 1:9-13, 17-19 I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.

**ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;
happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! ALLELUIA!**

Gospel: John 20:19-31 After eight days Jesus came in and stood amongst them.

Peace be with you.....

The story of Thomas is one where you can almost touch the tension – the confusion – the worry and fear. Then Jesus appears and promises to take it all away with the gift of peace. But wait, there's a twist – Thomas wasn't present and therefore doubts the presence of Jesus. Finally Jesus returns to complete the story and to give them the strength to begin a journey of hope.

When I heard this story again this year, I asked myself, "What does this story offer to me?" How do I make it part of my journey into my post Easter experience, and this is what I found.

We hear **fear is destroyed by peace**. They were fearful of the enemies of Jesus, that they too would be killed because they walked with the one crucified. The stories of resurrection only fuelled those who wanted to squash any further dissension against the establishment. So Jesus comes amongst them to say the gift of peace is the only way forward. When we are fearful we are far from peace, however when we discover true, transforming peace in our lives we overcome our fears. When we are at peace with ourselves we have a new understanding of the "why" God created us. We can see our vocation in life more clearly. When we hold onto that we can be at peace with those around us. We remember that God directs our hearts and paths, not ourselves.

We hear **doubt is destroyed by love**. Even though they experienced the presence of Christ some would still have doubted whether it really happened or not. Was it just a dream? Thomas speaks for us, voicing the doubts we often have. Jesus could have left Thomas with his doubts, could have made him an example of what happens when we lack faith. But love brought Jesus back a second time. Jesus came to show that love removes all doubt. We know this in our own life journey don't we? When someone loves us deeply and fully, we no longer doubt ourselves or our direction or our faith. The power of love allows us the freedom to doubt no longer and to fully trust in others, and in God.

We hear **judgement is destroyed by community**. The disciples who had experienced the presence of Jesus could have easily ousted Thomas when he proclaimed that he would not believe until he touched Jesus with his own hands. They could have ejected him for his lack of faith judging him not worthy to be called a disciple. Yet they didn't. As a community together, walking similar but varied paths, they recognised a fellow traveller who had just not reached the same plateau of faith as they had. They didn't judge him, but rather accepted him and prayed for him to come to experience what they had. Our communities do the same walking together seeking strength without judgement knowing that we are at our best when we are forgiving, unified and gracious toward each other.

So we return to the offer that Jesus gives to us – "*peace be with you*".
What does your peace look like? Where do you find the peace that Jesus offers?
Is it in walking or reading, or praying, or when you are with family or friends,
or when you allow yourself some "me" time?

Jesus offers us peace every day – Do we *seek* to find it in our lives?

May peace find you this Easter time. Fr. Michael



✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Paul Byrnes, Leslie McKee, Ralph Hickey.

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially** Ven Le Clercq, Delia Clara Sanchez Campos de Lima, Noel Hannant, Pat O'Brien.

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community:** Sue Englart, Robert John Wilson, Gerard George, Amelene Creggy, Mary Boland, Michael Luce, 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, Kath Smith, Freddy Nield, Ray Frelek, Blake Cusato, Braxton, Greg Coddington, Jamal Abraham, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Teresita Pamulaklakin, Madeline Gray, Dorothy Marsh.



Bishop Ken Howell invites the Toowoomba community to the Diocesan Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of his Holiness Pope Francis which will be held on Monday, 28 April 2025, 10am at St Patrick's Cathedral. The Mass will also be livestreamed on Facebook and the diocese's website (twb.catholic.org.au)

Australian Catholic Bishops have issued a statement for reflection on the coming election on some of the key issues to keep in mind. They have highlighted that we are in the Jubilee year of HOPE and whomever we vote for should be seen in that light. For more information simply put the following into your preferred search engine - [acbc election statement](#)

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver are hosting a musical play at the Repertory Theatre on Wednesday May 7. "On the Wallaby" is humorous and heartbreaking, a tribute to those who survived the Great Depression; Doors open 7.00pm for a 7.25pm start. Tickets \$25 each and can be bought by ringing Helen on 0416055976 or The Sisters on 07 46321818.



As you may remember last year there was some difficulties in getting to Mass due to the Toowoomba Marathon held over the first May weekend. Please take note of the road disruptions and plan ahead your journey to Mass, allowing extra time. You will find the complete list if you



Scan this QR Code or go to toowoombamarathon.com.au

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| Sunday 27 April 2nd Sunday of Easter [SPC St Patrick's STM St Thomas More's] | 7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am | 11am Baptism of Ollie John Jeans 12pm Baptism of Pedro & Bruno Ryan 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre |
| Monday 28 April St Peter Chanel | 10am – Mass for Pope Francis 5.30pm Mass SPC - Cancelled 9.00am Mass STM - Cancelled Fr John Concannon Fr Reginald Prior | 9.30am Rosary Group – Conference Room |
| Tuesday 29 April St Catherine of Siena | 9am Mass SPC | 5.30pm Finance Meeting in Staff Room SPC |
| Wednesday 30 April | 7am Mass SPC | 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre |
| Thursday 1 May St Joseph the worker | 7am Mass SPC | 7.30am – 8.30am Adoration 6pm – 7pm Choir Practice in the Cathedral |
| Friday 2 May St Athanasius | 7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM | 9am Friendship Group 9.30am STM Anointing Mass and morning tea 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre |
| Saturday 3 May St Philip and James DON'T FORGET TO VOTE | 7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC Fr William Murphy | 6.30am Rosary at St Patrick's 8am – 9am Reconciliation SPC 10am Baptism of Aubree Leigh Tidyman 11am Baptism of Samuel O'Brien |
| Sunday 4 May 3rd Sunday of Easter | 7am, 9am, 5.30pm Live Stream 9am | 11am Baptism of Zali & Fletcher Munchow 12pm Baptism of Theodore White 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre |

Planned Giving: *Thank you for your donations.*

Easter Collection Loose \$5888 Planned Giving \$864 Donation Point \$2170

Good Friday \$3323 **Current Flood Appeal** \$4317

Money Counters this weekend: Sam and Fina Ginardi, Wendy Heelan

Money Counters next weekend: Parish 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.