



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.



Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time 3 November 2024

First reading: Deuteronomy 6:2-6 Hear Israel, you shall love the Lord your God with all you heart

Responsorial Psalm: I love you, Lord my strength.

Second Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28 This one, because he remains for ever, has an eternal priesthood.

**Alleluia, alleluia All who love me will keep my words, and my father will love them,
and we will come to them Alleluia!**

Gospel: Mark 12:28-34 This is the first commandment, and the second is similar to it.

A few weeks ago I offered some ideas about the *words* we use in praying the Rosary, with a plea to dwell on the words of the 'Hail Mary', the 'Our Father' and the 'Glory be to the Father' – praying them thoughtfully, deliberately .. rather than rattling them off quickly – like a magic chant.

The second element in praying the Rosary is often reduced to a brief naming of an event / experience referred to in the Scriptures, this is sad to say the least!

Traditionally three sets of experiences drawn from our Christian Scriptures were proposed for our reflection and inspiration. They were bracketed together as **Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious Mysteries**. Our present Pope, Francis, has recommended another group of events / experiences that provide light and inspiration; Francis brackets them together as 'Light Giving' – Luminous events to be pondered and taken into our daily lives.

So there are now 20 different Mysteries for us to ponder and embrace, the 'New' one being the Baptism of Jesus by John; His presence enriching the marriage in Cana; His experiences in his home town of Nazareth; the event on the high mountains; the Last Supper.

The 'Mysteries' are not simply events / experiences beyond our human understanding (the way we use the word in ordinary talk – that's a mystery, the mysterious disappearance of so and so etc). The Greek word 'Mysterions' from which we get our English word is the word to describe events, experiences that contain profound truths. Rather than emphasising what is strange or new or hard to fathom about particular events / experiences we are invited to ponder, analyse, unpack profound insights contained within the ordinary events being named.

So some comments on the 'Joyful Mysteries'

a) A young woman in Nazareth 2000 years ago, Mary is visited by a messenger from God. Does she see some bodily form in front of her, does she just hear a voice? Anyway she is frightened, puzzled and needs re-assurance.

- Don't be afraid Mary, God is being gracious to you, the Lord is with you, and greatly blesses you.
- What a wonderful, affirming, greeting and message! Remember God is gracious to us, too! *WE* are God's beloved daughters and Sons also. Let us not be afraid either.
- The messenger spells out God's plan for Mary to become a mother, the mother of a very special child, Jesus, God's own son! Again God has a plan in creating each of us!
- How can all this happen is Mary's question and ours.
- God's power will take hold of you!
- And her answer; 'I am the Lord's Servant may it happen to me as God wishes.

Read thoughtfully Luke's Gospel 1/26-38, put yourself into the story and allow God to work in you.

b) Mary is told about the pregnancy of her older cousin Elizabeth – and in spite of / because of the news she has received from God she heads off to be with her, to care for her. There's no hint of selfishness, no hesitation ... Mary brings the unborn Jesus to Elizabeth and in response to Elizabeth's greeting of thanks (*and enables us to thank*) God ... 'My Soul glorifies the Lord'.

Then there's the poverty and cold weather surrounding the child's birth, the outsiders who visit and are welcomed. there's the presenting of the child to God – in the Temple, the centre of their Jewish faith. Then they lose him – but they find him again – as we will – in the Temple, the church community.

Rather than just around Christmas time we would do well to take up our New Testaments and carefully read the first two chapters of Matthew's Gospel and the first two chapters of Luke's Gospel.

Use your imagination, read between the lines, each time you pray the Joyful Mysteries focus on a particular / different event described in these Gospels and explore the experiences of your lives today.

Fr Hal Ranger

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

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Gretta Watson, Fred & Selina Betros.

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community:** Claire Seymour, John Evers, Sharon Keats, Bernard Bartetzko, Vicky Coccozza, Jibrán Mardini, Richard Stritzel, Rita Irwin, Kate Gibbs, Christine 'Saus' Barron, Alyshia Morris, William Garrahy, Bev Smith, Louise O'Connor, 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.

PLEASE NOTE: As you can see the only two surfaces not cleaned on the Cathedral is the Neil St and James St entrances. Access will be effected for **weekday Masses only** as follows:

- **Fri 1/11 – Thurs 7/11** - Entrance will only be available from Neil St as they clean the front entrance. Access will be via back carpark through the Marian garden walkway. While the cleaning of the front is occurring there will be **NO** parking in the Neil St driveway of the Cathedral. Times may vary due to weather.

**REMEMBER THESE RESTRICTIONS ONLY APPLY DURING THE WEEK.
ACCESS AND PARKING ON WEEKENDS WILL BE AS IT HAS BEEN DURING THIS TIME.**

The **Mass for the Dead** will be on the 23 November 9.30am at the Drayton and Toowoomba Cemetery Chapel.

All Saints Day Procession for the Kids, dressed as their favourite Saint, during 9am Mass on Sunday 10 November.

Commissioning of the Knights of the Altar (first batch) during 9am Mass Sunday 24 November.

2025 Columban Art Calendar: \$10 - available for purchase from the Parish Office Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm, Friday 9am-3pm. **Australian Catholic Magazine:** Please feel free to take a copy home to read.

Pray and Paint information flyers are available from the tables.

Parish Secretary Position - St Theresa's Parish community is looking for a Parish secretary to work 10 hours per week. Days and hours are negotiable. Applications to: Fr Brian Noonan (brianjnoonan@bigpond.com) OR brian.noonan@sttheresas.org.au) Applications close: Wednesday 20 November 2024



SVDP: will not be collecting produce for hampers this year, due to the fact many have differing needs. Instead we are requesting donations of supermarket gift cards or cash donations which will be given to those in need. Donations of cash/cards are to be placed in an envelope marked **VINNIES**. Please leave these in the collection plate or box or alternatively St Pat's office. Donations will continue until 15/12/2024. Thank you for your generosity.

Our annual Anointing Mass with lunch will be held in the Cathedral Centre at 11.00am on Thursday, 28th November, 2024. Please pass this invitation onto anyone who you feel would like to attend. For catering purposes please let the office know on 4637 1500 or admin@stpats.org.au before Tuesday, 26th November.

Parking Alternatives – Please remember there are 3 parking opportunities over the weekend – Firstly our carpark at the rear of the Cathedral, secondly parking in the Toowoomba Catholic Schools carpark with access to the Cathedral via the path near the bell tower, and thirdly the designated carpark opposite the tennis courts on the corner of Lawrence and Neil, with a short walk to St Patrick's. **At all times please be aware of safety and the keeping clear driveways, entrances and exits for everyone. There are plenty of parks in all these areas, so there is no need for any double parking or parking on footpaths.**

HOLY SOULS MONTH, as you are aware is during the month of November and it provides an opportunity for us to remember our loved ones who have passed from this world to the next. As we did last year we invite you to bring a photo to place on our memory banner. If you don't have a photo a remembrance book will be below the banner. Please feel free to bring any photo into the parish office to make a copy of and then take a quiet moment to place them onto the banner, from the beginning of November. *May they rest in peace.*

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| Sunday 3 November 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time [SPC – St Patrick's] [STM – St Thomas More's] | 7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am | 11am Baptism Harlow Matilda Diedrich 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre |
| Monday 4 November Saint Charles Borromeo | 5.30pm Mass SPC 9.00am Mass STM | 9.30am Rosary Beads making in Parish Conference Room |
| Tuesday 5 November | 9am Mass SPC | 5.30pm – 6.30pm CHOIR PRACTICE |
| Wednesday 6 November | 7am Mass SPC | 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre |
| Thursday 7 November | 7am Mass SPC | Due to external works on the Cathedral, Adoration will be suspended until Advent – Thurs, 5/12. |
| Friday 8 November All Saints | 7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM | 9am Friendship Group in Parish Conf. Room – all welcome 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre |
| Saturday 9 November The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica | 7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC | 6.30am Rosary at St. Patrick's 8am – 9am Reconciliation SPC 2pm Wedding Scott Mills & Brianna Germaine |
| Sunday 10 November 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time | 7am, 9am, 5.30pm Live Stream 9am | 9am All Saints Day Procession 11am Baptism Victoria Joy Roberts 12pm Baptism Elle Patricia Parr 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre |

Planned Giving: Thank you for your donations. Loose \$2602 Planned Giving \$1232 Donation Point \$1190

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

Money Counters next weekend: Kevin and Judy Lindores, Jim Harris

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.