



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. 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.



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5 February 2023

First reading: Isaiah 58:7-10 Your light will shine like dawn.

Responsorial Psalm: A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 I came to you to proclaim Christ crucified.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! **I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!**

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16 You are the light of the world.



Last Sunday I celebrated 24 years of ordained ministry. Half of the time served by most of the priests of our Diocese. Even after those years the memories of my ordination and first Mass are very vivid in my mind. The amazing number of locals and visitors that made the trek out to Roma to celebrate still leaves me feeling humble and strengthened, as I wander back through the photos from that time. When I look at the faces of those who attended, and think of those who were unable to be there it gives me pause for thought as I remember the effect on my choice for priesthood.

Starting with this treasured photo of my parents embrace. It has a power beyond words now as both are with the eternal God. Every funeral I celebrate takes me back to their farewells. I guess that is only natural. It's at those times I often think of the wonder of them as parents, as faith educators, as teachers, as vision-setters, as moulders of character, and simply as ones who showed me love.

Makes me remember all those who played a part in my journey throughout not only the last 24 years, but my life's journey thus far. Whether it be Mary Wyatt who never missed a weekday Mass or Viley Ashelford who taught me how to play Canasta after school, or Bert Gimbert who would wait for me to visit him at the Westhaven Nursing home on my way home from school. These were the people who help me map my journey through life – the signposts that affirmed and directed me.

I have no doubt I would be less if these people, and many more were not part of my journey. I am sure you have many heavenly and earthly "angels" that you thank God for too. Today's gospel invites us to remember.

The gospel today uses three images – salt, a city and a lamp. They all are invitations to remember! Salt is used for different purposes. It is a spice and it preserves. Who are the people in your life that have added some "flavor" to your living? Those wonderful people who make you happy to be alive! They give you that excited feeling of being loved and filled with joy. Like the salt they are the ones to preserve! To keep! To nurture! Let them know how much they mean to you!

"A city on a hill top cannot be hidden" It is a symbol of strength, for you can see your enemy coming from some distance and prepare for war. However the fact that it cannot be hidden also makes it vulnerable, as everyone knows where it is located, and can observe all that comes and goes. So in our own way our vulnerability can be part of our strength because it is often the pathway to growth. We need people who we trust to walk with us on that trek. Who are those people for you? Those we trust and help us understand ourselves better so we can become stronger and more fully the depth of person we can be.

Finally the light of God's presence that shines through us. People affirm us in many ways, but some do it by telling us the truth and they are the ones who really know us. They are the ones who want us to grow and develop and even change. To be ourselves without constraining us or controlling us. They are the ones who simply let God work through us and they give glory to God for us in their lives. Take a moment to be in touch, prayerfully with your loved ones who surround you always.

God never lets us walk alone.

God's blessings on your journey, Fr. Michael

Welcome back Fr. Nathan, after his time in Canada visiting his sister, Sr. Nancy.



✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Dr Kevin Coorey, Julia Tutty (Mother of David, Director of Diocesan Social Justice Office) May perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace.

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Antony Joseph Baby, Jacqueline Hoddle, Leigh Kennedy, Beryl Corder, Betty Roll, Fr Raymond White [2000].

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially:** Mark Murphy, Greg Coddington, Gloria Hayes, Gayle Christoffel, Stanley Poon, 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.

LENTE REFLECTION GROUPS: There will be the opportunity to be part of a Lenten Reflection Group each week during Lent, beginning Tuesday, 21st February, following 9.00am Mass. If you would like to be part of this group, please let the office know on 4637 1500 or admin@stpats.org.au to ensure your copy of the program.

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.

CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS: Attached to the bulletin this weekend is an invitation for you to be more involved than maybe you are presently. **WE NEED YOUR ASSISTANCE!** We want you to be involved in the life of the parish. We earnestly implore you to give this opportunity some consideration. Know that, even if you do not feel fully equipped to take on a particular ministry, we will offer assistance and training, and trusting in God your gifts will shine. Do not be afraid to give a ministry a go! I thank you for taking the time to give this some consideration. *God Bless, Fr. Michael*

Word of God Sunday: Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter, Moto proprio "Aperuit illis", published on 30th September 2019 on Feast of St Jerome, establishes that the "the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God". Recalling the importance given by the Second Vatican Council to rediscovering Sacred Scripture for the life of the Church, Pope Francis says he wrote this Apostolic Letter in response to requests from the faithful around the world to celebrate the Sunday of the Word of God. The Pope invites local communities to find ways to "mark this Sunday with a certain solemnity". He suggests that the sacred text be enthroned "in order to focus the attention of the assembly on the normative value of God's Word". The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God on the first Sunday in February

St Pat's is hosting this year's WORLD DAY OF PRAYER on Friday 3rd March.

The focus this year is on TAIWAN 'I have heard about your faith' and has been prepared by the women of Taiwan.

Bus Trip, Marion Valley Saturday 11 February, feast LOL. Bus departs 7.30am from Neil Street outside St Patrick's Cathedral. Cost \$40. For bookings please contact Theresa 0434 528 904.

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver are hosting "Mother and Son" at the Repertory Theatre on Tuesday February 21, 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. Tickets \$25 include supper. Raffle tickets will be sold on the night. Tickets can be purchased from The Sisters on 07 46321818 or Helen on 0416055976. All proceeds go to The Missions.

Sunday 5 February [SPC – St. Patrick's] [STM – St. Thomas More's]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am	11.00am Hallie Louise Deschamp 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 6 February Saint Paul Miki and Companions Waitangi Day	9am Mass STM 5.30pm Mass SPC	10am Rosary making group in Parish Centre
Tuesday 7 February	9am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	5.30pm Choir Practice in the Cathedral
Wednesday 8 February	7am Mass SPC	9am SSPS Mass for the year's start – ALL WELCOME 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 9 February	7am Mass SPC	Adoration SPC 7.30am – 8.30am
Friday 10 February Saint Scholastica	7am Mass SPC 9am Mass STM	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 11 February	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at St. Pat's 8.00am – 9.00am Reconciliation
Sunday 12 February	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. 9am Live Streaming	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

Planned Giving: Thank you for your generous donations. Planned Giving \$896 Loose \$1895 Donation Point \$670 Money Counters this weekend: Wendy Heelan with Sam and Fina Ginardi.

Money Counters next weekend: Jabour Hanna, Mick Cuskelly with Craig or Amanda Hogan.

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.