

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 Gibal peoples.*



TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD 6th August, 2023

First reading: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 His robe was white as snow.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 1:16-19 We heard this ourselves, spoken from heaven.

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia alleluia! This is my Son, my beloved, in whom is all my delight:
Listen to him. Alleluia!**

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9 His face shone like the sun.

Remembering Fr. Brian Sparksman DCL composed by life long friend , Gabrielle Saide.

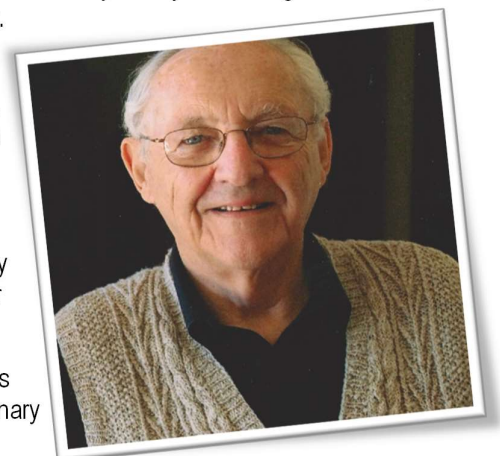
I first met Fr Brian in 1971 when his first appointment was to Holy Name Parish. I was an active member of the Legion of Mary at the Cathedral and Fr Brian was the Spiritual Director of the Holy Name Praesidium. I soon learnt that he wanted to move the Church along after the Vatican Council and that appealed to me. I had a real thirst for renewal as I had left school in 1964 just as some English was being introduced into our celebration of Mass. I hungered to know more about Vatican II.

A man of great faith, Fr Brian loved the Scriptures and the Prayer of the Church. Whilst at Holy Name the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults commenced in the parish, the first in the diocese. Fr Brian promoted this process with great enthusiasm. During his time at Holy Name, Fr Brian was a regular visitor to our home and became a family friend. Fr Brian made numerous friends at Holy Name, including the Sarquis family who "adopted" him after his parents and brother Charles went to their eternal reward. In 1977 Fr Brian went to study Canon Law at the Catholic University of America in Washington DC. He was awarded his Doctorate in 1980 for a thesis entitled *Music in the Western Church*. Whilst studying in Washington he made many more friends, including Bishop Brian Finnigan.

In 1981 he was appointed Director of the Marriage Tribunal and went back to live at Holy Name. He was appointed Diocesan Chancellor in 1988 and fulfilled that role with great integrity until 2014. He was a great mentor to many people who were going through difficult times including some priest friends. As Diocesan Archivist, I worked under Fr Brian in the Marian Centre from 2002. Together with the other staff morning tea was a *must* and no excuse was needed for cake, conviviality and great conversation on church matters and many other topics. Fr Brian will be remembered for his great love and thirst for Christian Unity and was the driving force behind the Ecumenical and Interfaith Movement in this diocese. Fr Brian loved a party and always celebrated in style. His significant birthdays and jubilees began with Mass, followed by fine food and wine at various locations in the country between here and Warwick.

A victim of polio whilst at Downlands College in 1951 but recovering to the extent where he could walk with a caliper, Fr Brian never let this disability stop him from doing anything in life. He was stoic and determined. Travel was in his blood and travel he did, overseas and within Australia. He organized many of these trips with the assistance of Mrs Millicent Smith. He travelled to England and Ireland with cousins to pursue his love of family history and co-authored family history books. Fr Brian's forebears worked on Glengallon Homestead. In later years he joined the Glengallon Historical Society and put his love of history to work by helping in their Archives every Monday. His love of his home parish church at Deuchar never wavered.

Fr Brian's love of classical music led him to many of the great opera houses and concert halls overseas and in Australia. He was gifted with a beautiful singing voice and whilst at the seminary studied voice at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music. When chaplain at Lourdes Home from March 1994 he made many friends amongst the staff, two of whom took him shopping every Christmas to buy presents for his family, staff and friends. His Christmas card list was a force to be reckoned with. I have found it difficult to encapsulate in a few words the priest and friend I have known for over 50 years. This is the Brian I knew and had the fortune to know and work with in many aspects of church life.



May he rest in eternal peace with the God he loved.

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Christina Margaret Woodward, Fr Brian Sparksman DCL, May perpetual light shine upon them.

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Jozef (Joe) Dawidowicz, Fr Peter Schultz [2019], Fr Mark Cosgrove [1947], Fr John Ryan [2001], Fr Patrick Kelly [1986].

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially:** Freddy Nield, Kathleen O'Rourke, Bev Smith, Christopher Blackford, Bob O'Sullivan, Blake Cusato, Greg Coddington, Stanley Poon, Jamal Abraham, Pam Cavalachini, Madelaine Morris, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Rodolfo Umipig, Addison McEwan, Daniel Ligon, Rohitha Jayamanna, Ray Frelek, Madeline Gray, Maria Brown, Greta Berge, Christine [Faus] Barron, Matt Vlietstra, Dr Peter Reiter, Elijah Rolls, Hayden Smith, Rita Blacker, Kate Gibbs, Tina Hobson, Braxton Rayner, Max Shearer, Saturnino Bustamante, Kathy Allan, Andrew Supple, Hannah Marasigan, Stephanie Shine, Mary-Ann Hine, Patricia McCracken, Reggie James, Teresita Pamulaklakin.

MINISTRIES AT MASS: There is a need for **Readers** to proclaim the scriptures and for **Communion Ministers** to assist with distribution of Holy Communion during weekend Masses. To enquire, please contact the parish office on 4637 1500. Training, both initial and ongoing, will be given for these ministries.

FUNERAL FOR FATHER BRIAN SPARKSMAN DCL will be held at St Patrick's Cathedral on Monday, 7th August at 10.00am. A Vigil will be celebrated at St Vincent's Care Services, previously Lourdes Home the evening before at 7.00pm. All are welcome to attend both services. There will be refreshments available at the Cathedral Centre following the interment at the Garden of Remembrance on Monday.

ANOINTING MASS will be celebrated at **St. Thomas More's** on Friday, 11th August at 9.30am. Everyone welcome!

Prelude to Peace Concert. Sunday 20 August, 2.30pm St Patrick's Cathedral. An enchanting afternoon listening to handbells, chimes and choirs in the magnificent acoustic of St Patrick Cathedral. Toowombells Handbell Choir, Fairholme College choirs and organist Eduarda van Klinken present a very special concert. \$25 (full) \$20 (concession) Students free. <https://www.trybooking.com/events/eventlist/eventListingURL?aid=188940>

PLEASE, PLEASE be aware of parking in the driveway of St Patrick's (Neil Street side). It becomes dangerous and difficult if cars try to squeeze into that driveway. If you are mobile, please have the courtesy to park either at the rear of the Cathedral or in the TCSO (via Lawrence St) carpark and walk across. The driveway parking is really for those who are elderly or have difficulty walking. I **urge** you to be considerate of your fellow parishioners. Fr. Michael.

TIME TO CONSIDER PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

The time has come to give some consideration regarding nominations for membership of the Parish Council. The current members, Rex Miguel, Sharon Collins, Anna Rees and Anne-Marie Pawsey have been instrumental in preparing and producing our Parish Strategic Vision and Plan. This is an opportune time for us to seek 5-6 new members to bring this vision to life. In the next couple of weeks you will be invited to nominate someone, or yourself to be a voice for the St Patrick's community. Take some time over this fortnight to look around, and search inwardly for those you believe would be suitable for this important parish role. You will be asked to nominate that person without asking them, as we will approach them on your behalf and answer any questions they have in relation to membership. Let us together continue to bring life to our community. Let us keep each other in prayer as we consider the pathway forward together. God Bless. *St Patrick's Parish Pastoral Council and the Priests of our Parish.*

Sunday 6 August [SPC – St Patrick's] [STM – St Thomas More's]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am	11am Baptism of Ava Postlethwaite and Delilah Gainey 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 7 August	9am Mass STM 5.30pm Mass SPC	9.30am Rosary bead making in Cathedral Board Room 10.00am Funeral of Fr. Brian Sparksman DCL
Tuesday 8 August Saint Mary MacKillop	9am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	5.30pm Choir practice
Wednesday 9 August	7am Mass SPC	6pm SVdP Meeting in Parish Centre 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 10 August Saints Laurence	7am Mass SPC	7.30am – 8.30am Adoration at SPC 5.30pm – Liturgy Committee meeting in the Presbytery SPC
Friday 11 August Saints Clare	7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM	9.30am – Anointing Mass at St Thomas More's . 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 12 August	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at SPC 8am – 9am Reconciliation 11am Baptism of Henry Robert Richardson 12pm Baptism of Darcy Walker-Raveneau, Tyler & Hannah Starkey
Sunday 13 August	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am	11am Baptism of Xander Julian Acquisto 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

Planned Giving: Thank you for your generous donations. Loose \$1999 Planned Giving \$1114 Donation Point \$720 Money Counters this weekend: Jim Harris with Kevin and Judy Lindores.

Money Counters next weekend: Jabour Hanna, Michell Betros and Mick Cuskelly.

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.