



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

Administrator/Priest Director STM: Fr. Michael O'Brien
Associate Pastors: Fr Hal Ranger & Fr. Thomas Duncan

St Patrick's, in communion with St Saviour's Primary School - Madonna Sleba (4637 1555)

St Saviour's College - Sharon Collins (4637 1600)

We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Owners of this place, the Jarowair and Giabal peoples.



6th SUNDAY OF EASTER [Year A]

Sunday 17th May, 2020

First Reading: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy [Psalm 65]

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:15-18 In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

**Gospel Acclamation: ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them ALLELUIA!**

Gospel: John 14:15-21 I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.

I HAVE RISEN AND I AM WITH YOU STILL ALLELUIA!! TOO WONDERFUL THIS KNOWLEDGE ALLELLIA!

"I Will Not Leave You Orphans...."

It's been a long time since I have seen the movie Gladiator, starring Russell Crowe as Maximus, but a particular image has always stayed in my mind. At the beginning of the movie there is a scene where Maximus discovers that his wife and child, Lucius have been brutally murdered, which sets him on a very different path in his life, as he was to become the new Emperor, but is betrayed and left destitute. So as the movie progresses, Maximus proves himself as a Gladiator and eventually gains reforms for the people in the final moments of his life. This final scene is what remains with me. As he passes from this world to the next we see a vision of his wife and son walking along a path, as Maximus walks through a field of wheat with his hand trailing touching the heads of grain. The scene is peaceful, quiet and gentle and in the distance he sees his beloved wife and son. As the scene fades, Lucius runs toward his father as his wife smiles with a great joy and happiness.

Last weekend the gospel spoke of "I am going now to prepare a place for you....so that where I am you may be too". Perhaps the most memorable and hopeful piece of scripture to be found. I have just finished a novel, fourth in a series of six, of the fantasy genre - "The Songs of the Scattered Sands" Series, where the author uses the following phrase to describe the passing from this life to the next - "When we will walk again together in the farther fields." In the Catechism we understand heaven to be where we see God, "face to face" and are united with Christ in eternity, and goes on to acknowledge that our understanding is limited, so at the moment we cannot comprehend what heaven really is like. "Scripture uses images such as life, light, peace, wedding feast, wine of the kingdom, the Father's house, the heavenly Jerusalem, paradise...and to be with God's friends" [no. 1027ff]

All of these concepts are just that. Nobody knows what heaven looks like. What it will be when we experience the love of God in all its fullness. I wonder if there is a purpose to that. The sort of "vagueness" of what heaven is like. Often when I think of death, I become a little afraid, a little sad and a little worried. However not having been given a defined concept of heaven from 2000 years ago, it allows me to open my heart to whatever idea of the next world that will bring me comfort. For I just wonder that with a slight outline with ideals as described above, we can "sketch" our own heaven. Why? Because it chases our fears away! It works to negate our rigid understanding to help us use God's love for us to entice our imagination – our God given gift of new life from within.

There is one thing I know for sure and that is we don't exist in heaven alone! As we heard last week, and we hear again this week – "I will not leave you orphans" – in this world or the next. This we know from today's gospel – "the Spirit is with you, the Spirit is in you". I finish with a passage from the book I mentioned earlier, Çeda, the main character farewells one of her most loyal and closest friends -

"Go well," Çeda said, "and I pray that the worst is forgotten. Let the pain and fear of this world go. Live your new life with those who've come to welcome you, and be prepared to welcome those who follow. This I hope, for one day I wish to embrace you once more."

Peace and blessing upon your week, Father Michael



✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Matthew Gleeson, Noel Hood, John Nolan, Robert Brosnan, and those who have died from Covid 19 in Australia and beyond. *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:** Fr. Michael Herbert (1970), Fr. Vincent Maher (1979), Fr. Patrick McMorrow (1999), Fr. Thomas Isaac (1992).

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially** Leona Parker, Helen Hoddle, Kim Ireland, Fr. Don Murray, Christine [Faus] Barron, Greta Berge, Matt Vlietstra, Jean Denison, Jo Tuite, Dr Peter Reiter, Elijah Rolls, Hayden Smith, Rita Berry, Juanita Umipig, Maria Brown, Patricia Whyte (nee Stark), Margaret Walker, Rita Blacker, Kristina Dawidowicz, Nora Machin, Mary Allen, George Pardon, Tina Hobson, Bev Boundy, Roslyn Pardon [nee Kearney], Joanne Essey [Sydney], Braxton Rayner, Kate Gibbs, Max Shearer, Saturnino Bustamante, Hannah Marie Marasigan, Stephanie Shine, Andrew Supple, Mary-Ann Hine, Kathy Allan, John Morgan, Patricia McCracken, Reggie James, Morgan O'Brien, Teresita Pamulaklakin, and all those suffering the effects of Covid-19.

Unit for Rent One bedroom unit for an elderly person at St Patrick's Community Village is available for rent. To register an expression of interest, please contact Celia Waters at the Parish Office on 07 46371500.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY – This year's theme is "They showed us unusual kindness" Acts 28:2.

The service this year was prepared by the Christian churches of Malta.

To access this service and a copy of the service booklet, please go to the St Pat's website – www.stpats.org.au

This service will be available on Wednesday 27th May.

Please use the booklet and light a candle so we can pray ecumenically at this time.

Mass in the Home: As from 15th May, the restrictions for visitors has risen to 5 at a time. With this in mind the priests here at St Patrick's would like to invite you to consider a home Mass. This would allow you to invite 4 others to your home as well. We are very keen to connect once again with you and feel this would be a beautiful way to gather once again. There is nothing extra needed, except a candle and small table! *We ask that you contact the front office here at St. Pat's on 4637 1500, or email admin@stpats.org.au leaving your name, contact number and preferred date and time for a Mass.* After we discuss availability, one of the priests will make contact to make arrangements. We are very much looking forward to begin reconnecting with each of you. God Bless our journey together.

RECONCILIATION: During this time of isolation we are aware that many have been unable to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation. As the restrictions continue to prevent Reconciliation happening easily, hopefully we will be able to commence to some degree in July when restrictions are eased again. However anyone feeling the need for Reconciliation please call St Patrick's front office on 4637 1500 to make arrangements to receive the sacrament.

PLANNED GIVING: Anyone concerned about their giving, there are options you may wish to consider. Please contact Celia at the Parish Office to discuss these options or you may simply like to do a bank transfer into St Patrick's Cathedral, BSB 064 786, Acc. No. 51289 0100, Ref PG (envelope number). We understand the difficult financial burden that everyone is encountering at this time, so do not feel obliged or pressured to give at this time. Thank you.

HYMNS FOR THIS SUNDAY'S LIVE STREAMING: (feel free to sing along!!)

Opening Hymn: Be Not Afraid

1. You shall cross the barren desert, but you shall not die of thirst.
You shall wander far in safety though you do not know the way.
You shall speak your words in foreign lands and all will understand.
You shall see the face of God and live.

Refrain: Be not afraid. I go before you always,
 Come follow me, and I will give you rest.

2. If you pass through raging waters in the sea, you shall not drown.
If you walk amid the burning flames, you shall not be harmed.
If you stand before the pow'r of hell and death is at your side,
know that I am with you through it all.

Psalm: (Sung) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Alleluia Verse (sung) All who love me will keep my words
 and my Father will love them and we will come to them.



Be dispensers of God's grace, not
controllers. Don't be the Holy
Spirit's customs agents.

— Pope Francis —

Reflection Hymn: A New Commandment

A new commandment I give unto you:
that you love one another as I have loved you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.
By this shall all know that you are my disciples:
if you have love one for another.
By this shall all know that you are my disciples:
if you have love one for another.

Recessional Hymn: I am the Light of the World

Refrain: 'I am the light of the world,' says the Lord,
 'They who follow me will have the light of life.'

1. 'Arise', says the Lord, 'Have no fear within you,
For in my presence there will be no darkness.
I am the light of the world.'
2. 'Listen to my words; they are from the one who sent me:
For you, my friends, are called to share God's glory.
You are the light of the world.'

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on
earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we
adore you, we glorify you, we give
you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God
almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, only begotten
Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of
the Father, you take away the sins
of the world, have mercy on us; you
take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer; you are seated
at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you
alone are the Lord, you alone are
the Most High, Jesus Christ, with
the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God
the Father.
AMEN.

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the
Father; through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven, and by the Holy
Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and
became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate, he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver
of life, who proceeds from the Father and the
Son, who with the Father and the Son is
adored and glorified, who has spoken through
the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic
Church. I confess one Baptism for the
forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the
resurrection of the dead and the life of the
world to come. Amen.