



St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter



T: 4637 1500 F: 4637 1511
Email: stpaticskathedral@twb.catholic.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



2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7 December 2025

First reading: Isaiah 11:1-10 He judges the poor with justice.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 71:1-2,7-8,12-13,17 Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9 Christ, the hope of all people.

**ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God. ALLELUIA!**

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12 Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

Christ Born in Us: *The Heart of Advent Is Conversion*

“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.” (Matt 3.2)

Every year, the Church gives us four precious weeks to prepare our hearts to welcome Christ at Christmas. Advent is a spiritual journey—a time of waiting and opening our lives to the Lord who desires to come to us. We prepare not only our homes, but our hearts and our families.

Angelus Silesius, a 17th-century German priest, physician, and mystic, reminds us: **“Christ could be born a thousand times in Bethlehem—But all in vain, until He is born in me.”** This is the heart of Advent: **allowing Christ to be born within us.**

At this time of year, many of us become busy with plans, celebrations, and preparations—shopping, decorating, gatherings. These can be joyful, yet we risk forgetting the true meaning of this season.

Let us accept the challenge of Angelus Silesius and ask ourselves:

In all my plans for Christmas, am I also planning to make it meaningful?

Am I preparing a place for Christ to be born in me?

On this Second Sunday of Advent, may the voice of St John the Baptist echo once again in our hearts. **He calls us to repent—to true conversion. Conversion is more than feeling sorry; it is a change of heart and mind, a new direction and new commitment.** Repentance is a daily experience that renews our Baptism and aligns our lives with the values of the Gospel.

So how do we live this week practically?

1. Let us draw close to God in prayer. Conversion begins by spending time with God—in prayer, silence, and stillness—allowing Him to guide and strengthen us to live according to His will and to do good.

2. Produce the fruit of repentance. St John says: **“If you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit.” True repentance is shown in our actions in concrete, daily ways:** love, kindness, forgiveness, generosity, patience, and humility. These fruits show that our hearts are turning toward God.

This is what makes Christmas truly meaningful: **Christ born in us, alive in us, shining through us.** May this Advent season lead us to deeper conversion, richer prayer, and a joyful celebration of the birth of our Lord.

God bless you in this holy journey

Fr. Francis Kritsada Sukkaphat

✚ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Margaret Rosenthal, Michael Calcutt, Patricia Mullins, Evelyn Rose.

✚ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially:** Patricia Ryan, Sue Saide.

✚ **For all those who are ill in our community:** Mark Betts, Sue O'Brien, Kathy Bermingham, Carole Symons, Elizabeth Soutar(age 2), Patrick Eldridge, Donna Vallely, Patrick Ryan, Rajender Vellore, Evandro Andrade, Antonietta Del Riccio, Gerard George, Amelene Creggy, Mary Boland, 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, Dorothy Marsh, Teresita Pamulaklakin, Madeline Gray.

Ministry Volunteer Sheets are available on the Neil St table. Please give some thought to how you may contribute to the life of your parish.

THANK YOU! goes to the staff of St Patrick's for their setting up, cooking and packing up of the volunteers BBQ last Tuesday. Celia, Anthony, John, Cate, Michelle, Colleen and Mary – very much appreciated by everyone!

Catholic Leader is now available on the table – **Catholics attending Mass on the rise!**

CHRISTMAS Mass Roster – If you are available over Christmas to help with any of the ministries, please consider putting your name down on the roster provided near the collection box at the Neil Street entrance. It is a busy time with many people absent, so please give this serious consideration if you are able to help. Thank you, Fr. Michael

Second Rite of Reconciliation will be held at St Patrick's Cathedral **16th December** at 5.30pm and St Thomas More's on the same day at 9am.

Christmas Appeal St Vincent De Paul, St Pat's Conference Christmas appeal has commenced and will continue to run until **December 14**. Once again, we are relying on your generosity to assist us with the needs of our companions during this Holy time. Due to the varying dietary needs of each family, we are requesting supermarket gift cards if possible, we ask that you place them in an envelope clearly marked SVDP Christmas placing them on the collection plate. We thank you once again for your generosity.

Unit for Rent One bedroom unit for rent, single person only, reasonable fortnightly rent. Applications are to be made in writing to the Secretary, Board of Management, St Patrick's Cathedral, PO Box 7062, Toowoomba 4350 or may be dropped in at the Parish Office. For more information please phone the parish office 46371500.

Financial Report - If you would like to read the financial report for the parish it is now available on the table.

St Patrick's Cathedral Christmas Mass times

Tuesday 16th December	5.30pm	2nd Rite Reconciliation	Thursday 1st January 2026
	6pm	Christmas Mass - Children	9am
Wednesday 24th December	8.30pm	Christmas Vigil Mass	NO 7am
	12am	Midnight Mass	
Thursday 25th December	7am	Christmas Mass	
	9am	Christmas Mass	N.B. No 5.30pm Mass

Fr Brian Redondo commences holiday leave from now until 8th January 2026.

Sunday 7 December 2nd Sunday of Advent [SPC - St Patrick's & STM - St Thomas More's]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am [Priest ann. in green] Rev Fr Justin King	11am Baptism Landon Daniel Adams 12pm Baptism Selene James & Santino Joseph Andrews 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 8 December The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	5.30pm Mass SPC 9.00am Mass STM	9.30am Rosary Group in Parish Centre
Tuesday 9 December	9am Mass SPC	5.30pm Liturgy meeting in the Presbytery
Wednesday 10 December	7am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 11 December	7am Mass SPC Rev Fr Joseph Callaghan Rev Fr James Byrne	7.30am – 8.30am Adoration 6-7pm Choir Practice
Friday 12 December	7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 13 December St Lucy	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at St Patrick's 8-9am Reconciliation SPC
Sunday 14 December 3rd Sunday of Advent	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Live Stream 9am	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

Planned Giving: Thank you for your donations. Loose \$3129 Planned Giving \$736 Donation Point \$1680 Money Counters this weekend: Jabour Hanna, Michelle Betros, Mick Cuskelly
Money Counters next weekend: Sandra & Peter Daly, Jan-Nell & Errol Chase

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.