



St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter



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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.



THE EPHIPHANY OF THE LORD 8 January 2023

First reading: Isaiah 60:1-6 The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3 The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12 We have come from the East to worship the king.

Are you the fourth wise "man"?

There is a story that goes with the feast of the Epiphany. It tells of a fourth wise man that was to travel with the three we hear of in today's gospel. His name was Artaban. He too saw the star and decided to follow it, taking with him a sapphire, a ruby, and a pearl as gifts for the new King. Time was short. His three friends, Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar were waiting for him at an agreed spot. However, on the way Artaban came across a traveller lying by the roadside stricken with fever. Though he knew that if he delayed to help the man he would miss his friends, nevertheless, he stopped and brought the man to an inn and had him taken care of. When he finally got to the agreed spot he found that his friends had indeed departed without him. So now he was on his own. He needed a camel and supplies to get him across the desert. Reluctantly he had to sell the sapphire to buy them. When at last he reached Bethlehem, once again he was too late. Joseph and Mary had taken the baby and fled into Egypt to escape from Herod's killers. Artaban was staying at a house where there was a year old boy. The mother feared for the life of her child. One evening soldiers came to the door. Artaban went out to meet them. With the ruby he bribed the captain not to enter. The captain took the ruby and left the child untouched. The mother was overjoyed. Artaban, however, was sad because he had only the pearl left as a gift for the King. During the long years that followed he searched in many places for the King, but all in vain. He always seemed to be too late. Some thirty years later he came to the holy city of Jerusalem. He was now old and weary and dispirited. A number of crucifixions were taking place the day he arrived. Artaban heard to his great surprise that Jesus was among those who were being executed. He hurried towards the hill of execution.

Perhaps with the pearl he could save his life. However, as he was on his way to Calvary he met a girl who was fleeing from a band of soldiers. The girl hurriedly told him her story. Her father had incurred large debts. As a result she was being sold into slavery. Artaban hesitated, but only for a moment. He took out his pearl, gave it to the soldiers, and the girl was allowed to go free. But now he had to face his Christ empty handed. Just then the sky began to turn dark. An earthquake shook the ground under his feet. Houses began to rock. Roof tiles began to fly. One of them struck Artaban on the head. Mortally wounded he struggled onwards. But he died before reaching the hill of execution.

He never quite succeeded in catching up with his King.



Yet, in a sense Artaban always had his King. Ever since he saw the star had he not carried him with him in his heart? The King had inspired in him deeds of love and generosity, and had lit up all his journeys with meaning and hope! They say that the person who is genuinely searching for God has already found God. In that sense Artaban certainly had found his God.

God Bless your week, Father Michael

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Val Robinson, Daphne Hill, Devassy (India), Gloria Wright and Ivelis Haro. 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:** Jan Klimkowicz, Lyla Saide and Fr William Hall [1995].

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

N.B. This week, except for Monday (9th) the Cathedral will be closed at 4.00pm (Tues – Thurs) and 3.00pm on Friday.

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.

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION. In Australia, the reception of Holy Communion takes the following form: the communicant bows as the person in front of them receives the Eucharist, the communicant presents for Holy Communion which the minister places in their hand; the communicant then steps immediately to the side and reverently receives the Eucharist before returning to their seat. NB: Those receiving communion on the tongue are asked to join the end of the communion in line with public health measures.

Priest Retreat: This year the priests of the Diocese will be travelling to Lismore to spend time in prayerful reflection and fraternal friendship. The retreat will be led by the Bishop of Lismore – Bishop Gregory Homeming OCD. Please keep the priests in your prayers during this time – 8th January to the 13th. God Bless. ***During this time the usual Masses will be available at St Patrick's Cathedral due to the generous presence of Fr. Michael Cooney, who will remain here for hospital ministry.***

Adoration will recommence on Thursday, 19th January – 7.30am – 8.30am.

Christmas Appeal: Thank you to all those were able to contribute to the loose collection over Christmas. As you know half of the collection goes to a Diocesan determined cause. This year it went to assist an indigenous community near Uluru in purchasing mattresses to assist with recovery from medical treatments. The collection this year which will go to that community is \$4209. \$2000 of the remaining money will go to St Vincent De Paul to assist them in their charitable works, with the remainder to be given in assistance to those in need who present themselves at St Patrick's Cathedral seeking help. Thank you for giving.

Christian Initiation: *Are you or anyone you know interested in exploring the Catholic tradition or considering St Pat's as your faith home? Have you been sitting in church next to your Catholic spouse for years and want to explore the faith? The process of Christian Initiation and exploration at St Pat's will be kicking off January 2023, usually completed at Easter. If you're interested in joining the journey please leave your details with the office and we will be in touch - admin@stpats.org.au or 4637 1500.*

Sunday 8 January [SPC – St. Patrick's] [STM – St. Thomas More's]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre Priests leave for retreat, returning 13th January.
Monday 9 January The Baptism of the Lord	5.30pm Mass SPC	NO MASSES MON-FRI AT ST THOMAS MORE'S Mass available at St Pats.
Tuesday 10 January	9am SPC	
Wednesday 11 January	7am Mass SPC	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 12 January	7am Mass SPC	NO ADORATION UNTIL 19 JANUARY 2023
Friday 13 January	7am Mass SPC	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 14 January	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at St. Pat's 8.00am – 9.00am Reconciliation 10am Baptism of Mia Mary Jensen
Sunday 15 January	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. 9am Live Streaming	11am Baptism of George Albert Winter 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

Planned Giving: Thank you for your kind giving over this Christmas time.

25/12 – Planned Giving \$1028 Loose (see above) Donation Point \$730.

01/01 – Planned Giving \$1290 Loose \$1918.05 Donation Point \$720.

Money Counters this weekend: Jabour Hana, 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.