



St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter



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Office hours: 9am-4pm Mon-Thu 9am-3pm on Friday

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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



CHRISTMAS 2025

Greetings to all who gather in St Patrick's for Christmas Mass. Once again, we arrive at this blessed time of Christmas. Sadly, we come to these days of happiness with a heavy darkness over our nation following the Bondi shootings and the death of so many innocent people. We are left bewildered as to why such hatred should be rained down upon the Jewish people seeking to celebrate one of their religious festivals. We say, loudly and with the strongest conviction, that we will not tolerate antisemitism as it erodes the right to freedom of religion and its practice. More so, it undermines the basic rights of people to be able to live in our Country without persecution. To know that everyone's dignity is respected and that we should be able to live safely, with our basic human rights protected. To all who are suffering at this time of joy, we stand with you and share your pain. As people of prayer, we assure you that we are praying for you, especially when we gather for Christmas services. May our gracious God ease the burden of those suffering in any way. So, what does the celebration of Christmas say to us this year in the light of this tragedy? What do we recall at a time like this? We always recognise Christmas as a season of hope. However, we ask, where is there hope when so much is wrong with our world? Hope is more than feeling optimistic. I believe it wells up inside of us because of our relations with the Almighty. Our friendship with God mirrors something of the hope we have in our families and friends. Those relationships bring comfort, encouragement, and the assurance that we are loved and not alone. Our relationship with God brings these gifts and so much more. For us, hope springs up from inside of us when we realise that there is always another way of looking at the realities of life, especially the difficult, painful and challenging times. The Babe of Bethlehem, God with us, assures us that nothing will ever stop the love of God being poured into our hearts. This is our hope and it is what we share with all who suffer at this confronting time. Hope springs eternal, and it was made possible by Jesus who is in truth, the hope of humanity. This Christmas we recognise the affection we have for the Jewish people, because our Christian traditions have been born from the lived faith experiences of Judaism. For this we are thankful as we offer our respect, prayers, and the hope that the fullness of peace will eventually dwell in our land. I take this opportunity to thank the Cathedral community for your support of the mission of the Parish this year. To Fathers Michael, Brian and Francis, thank you for your dedication and faith filled service. To all our staff members and volunteers, thank you for your ongoing commitment. I greet each one of you and your loved ones with the peace that was born in a stable, that created a new light that will forever blaze upon the face of the earth, dispelling all darkness. This is Jesus Christ, our hope!

Bishop Ken Howell

I received a card from my sister, Beth a number of years ago, but I think it captures something of the hope we hold at Christmas time – ***“THIS CHRISTMAS, mend a quarrel. Seek out a forgotten friend. Write a love letter. Share some treasure. Give a soft answer. Encourage youth. Keep a promise. Find the time. Forgive an enemy. Listen. Apologise if you were wrong. Think first of someone else. Be kind and gentle. Laugh a little. Laugh a little more. Express your gratitude. Gladden the heart of a child. Take pleasure in the beauty and wonder of the earth. Speak your love. Speak it again. Speak it still once more. Merry Christmas!!***

Let's celebrate the birth of the one who truly shows us how to live the best life.

Fr. Michael and St Sasha



Bishop Ken, Frs Michael, Francis and Brian and all the staff – Melissa, Cate, Celia, Anthony, John N, John S, Michelle, Col and Colleen (and St Sasha) - wish you every blessing over this Christmas and New Year time. Thank you to all who contribute to the community that is St Pat's. We greatly appreciate you and all each of you do for St Pat's parish!



A Season of Joy and Meaning

I believe we all love the Christmas season. It would not be an exaggeration to say that it is the happiest time of the year. There are many activities and celebrations, but at the heart of it all is this simple and profound truth: **the Christ Child is the most precious gift for our lives.** When I worked at the orphanage in Pattaya, the children looked forward to this season every year. Together, we prepared many things to make this time joyful and meaningful for them. And sometimes we come to realize that our own happiness is found in seeing these children happy—seeing their smiles and knowing that their lives are filled with joy and hope. In this season of grace and happiness, **wherever we go and whatever we do, let us carry the Spirit of Christmas with us—sharing love, kindness, and understanding with everyone around us.** Let us live each day and use the time God has given us with meaning and purpose.

Let us give thanks to God for sending His Son to be born for us—to share in our joys and our sufferings, to guide us

toward peace, and to lead us to true life. **“Merry Christmas. May the Lord bless you and your families in the coming year.”** *Fr. Francis Kritsada Sukekphat*



†Audio/Visual operators
†Cleaners and those who helped prepare beforehand

†Readers
†Money Collectors
†Eucharistic Ministers

On behalf of everyone at St Patrick’s, we say thank you to all who have given of their talents to celebrate the birth of Christ. There are many areas people are involved in that sometimes go unnoticed, so thank you! Have a wonderful Christmas and a joyfilled New Year.

†Readers
†Money Collectors
†Eucharistic Ministers

†Our talented musicians and singers
† setting up of the crib

†Altar Servers
†Welcomers at the door

...and each of you who came to celebrate Christ’s birth!

Wednesday 24 December [SPC – St Patrick’s] [STM – St Thomas More’s]	6pm Family Mass (Live Stream) 8.30pm Vigil Mass Midnight Mass (Live Stream) 5.30pm & 8pm Mass STM	CHRISTMAS EVE Parish Office closes at 4pm NO BINGO
Thursday 25 December The Nativity of the Lord	7am Christmas Mass 9am Christmas Mass (Live Stream) NO 5.30pm Mass 8.30am Mass STM	CHRISTMAS DAY
Friday 26 December St Stephen	7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM	BOXING DAY 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 27 December St John	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at SPC 8am – 9am Reconciliation
Sunday 28 December The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	7am Mass SPC 9am Mass SPC (Live Stream) 5.30pm Mass SPC	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 29 December	5.30pm Mass SPC 9am Mass STM	No Rosary Group – Back 5 January 2026 - 9.30am
Tuesday 30 December	9am Mass SPC	
Wednesday 31 December	7am Mass SPC 5.30pm STM Fr Edward Murray	NO BINGO
Thursday 1 January Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother Of God	9am Mass – SPC NO 7am Mass Fr Thomas Concannon	NO ADORATION
Friday 2 January St’s Basil & Gregory	7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM	Parish Office Reopens 9-3pm No Friendship Group – Back 9 January 2026 - 9am 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 3 January	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at SPC 8am – 9am Reconciliation
Sunday 4 January The Epiphany of the Lord	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Live Stream 9am	Priest Retreat 4th – 9th January 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre