



# St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter



T: 4637 1500 F: 4637 1511  
Email: [admin@stpats.org.au](mailto:admin@stpats.org.au)  
[www.stpats.org.au](http://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 Pastors: Fr. Nathan Webb & Fr. Brian Redondo  
Safeguarding Officer: Ann Marie Pawsey ([safeguarding@stpats.org.au](mailto: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.



### Keeping Watch....

As many of you would know when I first came to the Cathedral 5 and a half years ago I had my little dog, Sister Rosie with me. Now I have Saint Sasha – Saint because Sister Sasha is just too hard to say after a couple of red wines! When Sr Rosie was a young dog she would walk ahead of me and every 10 seconds turn her head to make sure that I was still there. Just to know that I was watching over her and guiding her along the way. Christmas reminds me of this. It is a time we take a moment to look to see that Christ is with us along the way. Christ was born for the world, Yes, but also just for you, so that you will always know God's presence with you through the good and difficult times of life. So take a moment over Christmas to glance to the side and acknowledge the presence of Christ with you – for you – loving you and guiding you. Take a moment to thank him for the wonderful gift that a life shared with others is.

God bless your Christmas and New Year.

*Fr. Michael and Saint Sasha.*

The birth of a baby is always a time of celebration and hope. Every infant is a promise of a new and better future. There is wonder and dreaming, mystery and uncertainty, a commitment to accompany this new family member into the new life ahead. And in all manner of different ways each birthday of the baby becomes an opportunity to renew our relationship with the Baby – now a beloved presence in our daily lives, year by year. So we gather this weekend, to celebrate the birthday of a very special Baby, let's be mindful of all the circumstances of his birth, of the simple basic realities of the stable, the gentle, unassuming way in which God comes among us, concealing His power under the baby clothes and opening up a whole new gentle way of living a human life – His way! The new world that this child brings is already unfolding in our midst despite the opposition as people attempt to meet the challenges of life by violence and power with arrogance and dishonesty. Many people go out of their way to care for those in need in our world. They donate and collect clothing, furniture, food, medical supplies; they protest against injustice; they volunteer their time and energy to rebuild the lives of others, they give generously of themselves to redeem our broken world. There is HOPE and the promise of PEACE and FORGIVENESS – and those realities will come into being in so far that we move beyond greeting cards to action. I pray that our families, ourselves, our communities will spend every day of the year ahead living acting giving ourselves His Way.

*Love and my promise of prayer, Hal Ranger*



Bishop Ken, Frs Michael, Nathan, Brian, and Hal and all the staff at St Patrick's 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!

*(Absent from photo – Anthony King)*



**Christmas greeting**

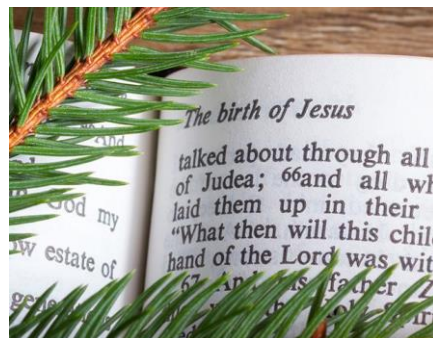
A third Christmas at St Pat’s has drawn me to reflect on God-with-us. Christmas 2021, I was welcomed as a guest; the experience of Joseph, Mary, and the babe in the manger was very real to me in terms of travellers finding a home. I get the sense my welcome was much warmer than theirs and my room a few stars up from a cave on hillside.

Nevertheless, to be welcome to the town of my family really struck a chord. This year brings a new approach. I feel that I have moved into the shoes of the welcomer, making a place for each of you as you are the face and hands of Christ (cf. Eph 4:1-13). So, it is with deep gratitude that my thanks go out to each one of you who have journeyed with me to seek Christ this past year.

Thank you to those who have been the face of Christ or pointed me toward Him.

I look forward to this coming year, and hope that the Lord will reveal Himself amongst us still. I wonder where and how God will reveal Himself anew this coming year.

Every blessing to you and yours this Christmas. – **NPW (Fr. Nathan Webb)**



**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**

**Hip hip hooray!** It’s my **fourth Aussie Christmas**, time flies faster than Santa’s sleigh! I remember myself growing up watching Home Alone and the famous kid in Town, Kevin McCallister. Well, I realise It’s not only Kevin spending Christmas alone now, but many migrants, students, refugees, and the homeless who call Australia home. Some are facing their first Christmas without loved ones, while others are preparing for their last. Amidst the joy, let’s spread kindness, generosity, love, and help for our mental well being. And if all else fails, at least avoid giving people a hard time – after all, It’s a season to be jolly, not grumpy!

**Fr Brian Redondo**

✚ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Heather Gaffney, Mervyn Cann, Ellen Spyropoulos, Marino Brisotto.

✚ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Eileen Veronica O’Keefe, Logan, Collins and Marin families, Stella Bradshaw, Ray Power, Jessie Roach, Magdalene Soosay Vincent Ferrer, Fr Thomas Concannon [1948].

✚ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially:** Gloria Collins, Gabrielle Saide, Albert Loveday, Bev Smith, Louise O’Connor, Joan Robinson, Kate Gibbs, Sheryl Grunke, Noel Francis, Therese Odri, Kath Smith, Ray Frelek, Freddy Nield, Bob O’Sullivan, Blake Cusato, Stanley Poon, Greg Coddington, Jamal Abraham, Rodolfo Umipig, Madelaine Morris, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Madeline Gray, Braxton Rayner.

**CHRISTMAS COLLECTION** this year will be divided in half with half going to St Patrick’s for charitable causes and the other half will go to aid the people effected by the recent bushfires in the Tara area. This will apply throughout the diocese.

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR MANY VOLUNTEERS OVER CHRISTMAS – WE CAN’T DO IT WITHOUT YOU! MANY BLESSINGS.**



<b>Sunday 24 December</b> [SPC – St Patrick’s] [STM – St Thomas More’s]	7am, 9am, <b>6.00pm, 8.30pm &amp; Midnight Live Stream 9am</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b> NO BINGO <b>and Live Stream Midnight</b>
<b>Monday 25 December</b>	7am & 9am SPC <b>Live Stream 9am</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> <b>NO 5.30PM MASS</b>
<b>Tuesday 26 December</b>	9am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	
<b>Wednesday 27 December</b>	7am Mass SPC	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
<b>Thursday 28 December</b>	7am Mass SPC	7.30am – 8.30am Adoration at SPC 10am Baptism of Willow Eloise Paige
<b>Friday 29 December</b>	7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
<b>Saturday 30 December</b>	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at SPC 8am – 9am Reconciliation 11am Baptism of Emmy Grace and James Bradley Burns 12pm Baptism of Maria Elizabeth Kells 1pm Baptism of Krystalea Ann Scovell and Abigail May Watt
<b>Sunday 31 December</b>	7am, 9am, 5.30pm <b>Live Stream 9am</b>	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

**Planned Giving:** Thank you for your generous donations. Loose \$2075 Planned Giving \$868 Donation Point \$710 Money Counters this weekend: nil required

Money Counters next weekend: Pat Power, Leo and Maureen Lunney

**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.