



St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter



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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.



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year A Saturday 18 January/Sunday 19 January 2020

Readings this weekend:

First Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

Responsorial Psalm: Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will. [Psalm 39]

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 1:29-34 [Jesus is identified as the Lamb of God]

POWER OF BAPTISM

This week we revisit the baptism of Christ by John. It reminds us of the promise of Christ's presence to "take away the sins of the world". As we gather today the reading also reminds us of the POWER of baptism. It is through and by this power that we are drawn together as a community. We gather as believers that have genuine concern for each other and a deep desire to follow Christ in our daily lives. In The

Chronicle during the week was an article about Dexter Kruger, who lives in Roma and has just turned 110 years of age – Australia's oldest man. The ABC interviewed him during the week. When asked, "What's the best thing about turning 110?" He answered simply – "It's a year older than 109!" That simple statement reminds us that each year of our lives has great value and importance. Our baptism invites us to delve more deeply into what it means to be connected to a God that wants the best for us.

During this last year the priests at St Patrick's celebrated 121 baptisms, 19 weddings and 64 funerals. (Not all of these occurred at the Cathedral itself.) All of them tell us something of people's journey of life, full of potential and thanksgiving for the gift to family and friends. St Paul is fond of referring to those who follow Christ, as saints. Whenever he talks about believers he calls them saints – "...To the church in Corinth....called to be saints". Makes us think a little differently perhaps, if St Paul is willing to call us saints. To me it reminds us that our lives are shared with others along this journey to make a difference to the world around us and the world within us.

Great saints lived lives centered around the practice of spiritual depth that fashioned outward practice. This is the POWER of our baptism – to be the light that is shared whilst feeding the great flame within.

I remember a reflection that I saw on a funeral booklet once, titled "The Dash" by Linda Ellis. The other day someone gave me a copy, so I thought it was worth sharing to remind us of the gift that life is!

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend. He referred to the dates on the tombstone from the beginning (1934 – 1998) to the end.

He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke the following date with tears, but he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time that they spent alive on earth. And now only those who loved them know what that little line is worth. For it matters not, how much we own, the cars, the house, the cash.

What matters is how we live and how we spend our dash.

So, think about this long and hard.

Are there things you'd like to change?

For you never know how much time is left that can still be re-arranged.

If you could slow down enough to consider what's true and real and always try to understand the way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger and show appreciation more and love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile, remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.

So, when your eulogy is read, with your life's actions to rehash - would you be proud of the things they say about how you spent your dash?



Grace and Peace, Fr. Michael



✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:**
 Marlene Erbs, Sara Sullivan. *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 William Behn.

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially** Roger Taylor, Jo Tuite, Elijah Rolls, Brian Swords, Margaret Bidgood, Rodney O’Keeffe, Andrew Goode, Hayden Smith, Rita Berry, Juanita Umipig, Maria Brown, Patricia Whyte (nee Stark), Annie Makim, Margaret Walker, Rita Blacker, Kristina Dawidowicz, Nora Machin, Mary Allen, George Pardon, Leo Ryan, Tina Hobson, Michael Cuskelly, 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.

✠ **For all those recently baptised: Mia Lily Nosworthy** daughter of Brett and Megan.
May the gift of the Holy Spirit grow throughout their lives.

Reconciliation: 1st Rite available this Saturday, 9.00am – 10.00am at St Patrick’s Cathedral.

Holy Hour at the Cathedral: Each third Wednesday between 5pm and 6pm there will be adoration at St Patrick’s Cathedral. Consider some quiet time each month to reflect on life and faith. **Next time: 19/02/20.**

At church without any change for the plate? You will now find a **Pay Point** located on the table at the Neil Street entrance. Simply tap your card – credit or debit – and you will donate \$10.00 to St. Patrick’s Parish Community. Please consider an ongoing donation to assist us in our good works as a community.

Communion Ministers and Readers: A new Sunday roster will be drawn up soon. If you would like any changes made please contact the Parish Office on 4637 1500 as soon as possible. New Communion Ministers and Readers are always welcome. Training will be provided.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2020: Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist will be celebrated in the first two terms of the school year, 2020. Our program begins with Enrolment Masses and Parent Information Sessions outlining the structure and background of the Sacraments. The parish will require a copy of your child’s baptism certificate. The Reconciliation program [Term 1] will begin with a Parent Information Session on Tuesday 11 February 2020 at 7pm in the Cathedral Centre. **Sacramental Enrolment Forms are available from the Parish Office and should be completed prior to the first information evening.** Please contact the Parish Office to receive the program outline, and enrolment form, on 4637 1500, if you would like your child to participate in the program. Enrolment for Eucharist and Confirmation can be made at this time.

Father Hal is continuing to recover well. He is walking and moving fairly smoothly, but will need to stay in the back brace for some time to ensure no further damage occurs. Currently he is spending time on the coast with friends. Please continue to keep him in your prayers and thoughts. He thanks everyone for their support at this difficult time. He hopes to return to be with us in early February.

Multicultural Choir: Practice will begin this Sunday after 9.00am Mass at 10.30am till noon, each week. This choir is to explore multicultural music and singing, and will sing at Masses in the Cathedral. Please feel free to join at any time!

Christmas Collection: Thank you to all those who gave generously to the Christmas Collection. The total amount was \$10,210.00. Half of this money will be given to the Diocese for distribution to Drought Angels and Catholic Care for much needed assistance to those in need during this difficult time. Some of the remaining amount will be given to assist our local St. Vincent de Paul Conference. Thank you once again!

Sunday 19 Jan	7am Mass 9am Mass 5.30pm Mass	4.30pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Monday 20 Jan	9am Mass STM	5.30-7pm Choir Practice
Tuesday 21 Jan	7am Mass 5.30pm Mass STM	12.30pm SPC Indoor Bowls
Wed 22 Jan	7am Mass	7.15pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Thursday 23 Jan	7am Mass	6pm SVdP meeting in Parish Centre
Friday 24 Jan	7am Mass 9am Mass STM	7.15pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Saturday 25 Jan	7am Mass 6pm Vigil	9am-10.00am First Rite of Reconciliation SPC
Sunday 26 Jan	7am Mass 9am Mass 5.30pm Mass	Australia Day 11am Baptism of Mia Lily Nosworthy [FM] 4.30pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Planned Giving \$1500.15; Loose \$3003.05 : Kevin and Judy Lindores and Jim Harris		