



St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter



T: 4637 1500 F: 4637 1511
Email: admin@stpats.org.au
www.stpats.org.au

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.



SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A Saturday 15 February/Sunday 16 February 2020

First Reading: Sirach 15:15-20 [He never commanded anyone to be godless.]

Responsorial Psalm: Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord! [Psalm 118]

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10 [God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began.]

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37 [Such was said to your ancestors; but I am speaking to you.]

Each year, the Pope writes a reflection on the needs of the sick within our world, and the challenges that face the medical professionals. On the 11th February, we celebrated the 28th World Day of the Sick.

Here is Pope Francis' reflection in full. Pope Francis begins with the quote from Matthew -

"Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest" (Mt 11:28)

Dear brothers and sisters,

1. Jesus' words, "Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest" (Mt 11:28) point to the mysterious path of grace that is revealed to the simple and gives new strength to those who are weary and tired. These words of Christ express the solidarity of the Son of Man with all those who are hurt and afflicted. How many people suffer in both body and soul! Jesus urges everyone to draw near to him – "Come to me!" – and he promises them comfort and repose. "When Jesus says this, he has before him the people he meets every day on the streets of Galilee: very many simple people, the poor, the sick, sinners, those who are marginalized by the burden of the law and the oppressive social system... These people always followed him to hear his word, a word that gave hope! Jesus' words always give hope!" (*Angelus*, 6 July 2014).

On this XXVIII World Day of the Sick, Jesus repeats these words to the sick, the oppressed, and the poor. For they realize that they depend entirely on God and, beneath the burden of their trials, stand in need of his healing. Jesus does not make demands of those who endure situations of frailty, suffering and weakness, but offers his mercy and his comforting presence. He looks upon a wounded humanity with eyes that gaze into the heart of each person. That gaze is not one of indifference; rather, it embraces people in their entirety, each person in his or her health condition, discarding no one, but rather inviting everyone to share in his life and to experience his tender love.

2. Why does Jesus have these feelings? Because he himself became frail, endured human suffering and received comfort from his Father. Indeed, only those who personally experience suffering are then able to comfort others. There are so many kinds of grave suffering: incurable and chronic diseases, psychological diseases, situations calling for rehabilitation or palliative care, numerous forms of disability, children's or geriatric diseases... At times human warmth is lacking in our approach to these. What is needed is a personalized approach to the sick, not just of *curing* but also of *caring*, in view of an integral human healing. In experiencing illness, individuals not only feel threatened in their physical integrity, but also in the relational, intellectual, affective and spiritual dimensions of their lives. For this reason, in addition to therapy and support, they expect care and attention. In a word, love. At the side of every sick person, there is also a family, which itself suffers and is in need of support and comfort.

3. Dear brothers and sisters who are ill, your sickness makes you in a particular way one of those "who labour and are burdened", and thus attract the eyes and heart of Jesus. In him, you will find light to brighten your darkest moments and hope to soothe your distress. He urges you: "Come to me". In him, you will find strength to face all the worries and questions that assail you during this "dark night" of body and soul. Christ did not give us prescriptions, but through his passion, death and resurrection he frees us from the grip of evil.

(Continued on the 3rd page)

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Eric Howe, Roland [Roly] Griffin. *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:** Pat McGrory, Frs John Bergin, Michael Hayes, Michael Cronin, Henry MacFarlane and Brian O'Dwyer.

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially** Matt Vlietstra, Jean Denison, Jo Tuite, Dr Peter Reiter, Elijah Rolls, 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:** Ave Mae and Billie Jade Tait children of Paul and Sarah and Jasper Eli Sutcliffe son of Timothy and Samantha. *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.**

Holy Hour/Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Every Friday from 2pm at the convent of Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver, 71 Margaret Street, Toowoomba.

Ash Wednesday Masses: 7am and 5.30pm at St Patrick's and 9am at STM. If you wish to celebrate with the school community, 9am St Saviour's in the Callaghan Centre or 10am at St Thomas More's Parish School.

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.

LENTEN REFLECTION BOOKS: On the tables at the two main doors, you will find books to assist in reflecting on the meaning of Lent and Easter. Please feel free to take a book, and if you are able, please make a donation on the collection plate, or via the Pay Point located at the Neil Street entrance. God bless your journey to Easter.

RETURN OF PALMS: Anyone who wishes to return their palms from Passion Sunday last year, you will find a container at the Neil Street entrance. These will be burnt to become the ashes for Ash Wednesday this year.

LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUPS: We are offering the opportunity for parishioners to share prayer and fellowship through the Lenten programme. This year's programme from Brisbane is **Be Opened – A Journey to New Life.** If you are interested in joining a group, please write your name, phone number and preferred day/time on the forms that have been placed on the tables at the front door and eastern transept.

Multicultural Choir: Practice **every** Sunday after 9am Mass at 10.30am to noon in the Parish Conference Room. 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 – just turn up!!**

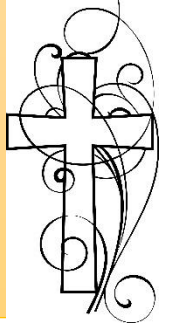
St Saviour's College 2020 Alumni Evening: Friday, 20 March 2020, 6pm–8pm, Callaghan Centre, cnr Neil and Perth Streets. \$10pp includes canapés and drinks. Tickets can be purchased online at Trybooking by February 28.

ADORATION DURING LENT: There will be an opportunity for quiet and reflective prayer each week during lent. Each Wednesday you are invited to spend time at St. Patrick's from 5.00pm and 6.00pm, to mark your Lenten journey, beginning 4th March.

Sunday 16 Feb	7am Mass 9am Mass 5.30pm Mass	9am Enrolment Ritual for Sacramental Program 11am Baptism of Angus Hand and Zahra Cotter [HR] 4.30pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Monday 17 Feb	9am Mass STM	
Tuesday 18 Feb	7am Mass 5.30pm Mass STM	9am SSPS Beginning of Year Mass 12.30pm SPC Indoor Bowls 2pm Indoor Bowls AGM
Wed 19 Feb	7am Mass	Fr. Michael attending Council of Priests Meeting in Roma. 9.30am SPC Prayer Group in Board Room [except school hols] 5-6pm Holy Hour SPC 7.15pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Thursday 20 Feb	7am Mass	6pm SVdP Meeting in Parish Centre
Friday 21 Feb	7am Mass 9am Mass STM	9.30am Ladies Friendship Group in Board Room 7.15pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Saturday 22 Feb	7am Mass 6pm Vigil	9am-10.00am First Rite of Reconciliation SPC 11am Baptism of Lucy Weber [FM]
Sunday 23 Feb	7am Mass 9am Mass 5.30pm Mass	9am Mass – Launch of Project Compassion – Bishop McGuckin Followed by Morning Tea in the Conference Room 4.30pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Planned Giving \$1654.20; Loose \$2327.55 : Pat Power, Leo and Maureen McMahon and Eileen Stephen		

Welcome to following young participants in the sacramental program for 2020. We will continue to keep you in our prayers as you prepare to embrace Christ even more deeply in the coming months:

Abigail Allan, Ayla Allen, Chelsea Baker, Noah Betros, Scarlett Bishop, Sophia Bumatay, Luca Chalvien, Patrick Chappel, Mason Collins, Juel Condon, Keesha Dass, Kyara Flanigan, Cleo Gordon, Jonah Greenaway, Elijah Grundon, Charlotte Grundon, Nicholas Hack, Francesca Hack, Azariah Hart, Flynn Hogan, Charles Hunkin, Avalon Jackson, Angelo Jamin, Ariana Jeffrey, Zac Luder, Mackenzie Lyons, Ashton McHugh, Ashley McKenzie, Elaia Ong, Evie Phillips, Callan Politch, Thomas Prust, Pacita Quiroga, Huntah Robinson, Ellie Scheikowski, Amelia Taylor, Jacob Taylor, Sianna Thomas, Taylor Wann, Erin Ward, Lucy Warner, Margaret Wolbers, Riley Woods.



Continued from Page one

In your experience of illness, you certainly need a place to find rest. The Church desires to become more and more the “inn” of the Good Samaritan who is Christ (cf. *Lk* 10:34), that is, a home where you can encounter his grace, which finds expression in closeness, acceptance and relief. In this home, you can meet people who, healed in their frailty by God’s mercy, will help you bear your cross and enable your suffering to give you a new perspective. You will be able to look beyond your illness to a greater horizon of new light and fresh strength for your lives.

A key role in this effort to offer rest and renewal to our sick brothers and sisters is played by healthcare workers: physicians, nurses, medical and administrative professionals, assistants and volunteers. Thanks to their expertise, they can make patients feel the presence of Christ who consoles and cares for the sick, and heals every hurt. Yet they too are men and women with their own frailties and even illnesses. They show how true it is that “once Christ’s comfort and rest is received, we are called in turn to become rest and comfort for our brothers and sisters, with a docile and humble attitude in imitation of the Teacher” (*Angelus*, 6 July 2014).

4. Dear healthcare professionals, let us always remember that diagnostic, preventive and therapeutic treatments, research, care and rehabilitation are always in the service of the sick person; indeed the noun “person” takes priority over the adjective “sick”. In your work, may you always strive to promote the dignity and life of each person, and reject any compromise in the direction of euthanasia, assisted suicide or suppression of life, even in the case of terminal illness.

When confronted with the limitations and even failures of medical science before increasingly problematic clinical cases and bleak diagnoses, you are called to be open to the transcendent dimension of your profession that reveals its ultimate meaning. Let us remember that life is sacred and belongs to God; hence it is inviolable and no one can claim the right to dispose of it freely (cf. *Donum Vitae*, 5; *Evangelium Vitae*, 29-53). Life must be welcomed, protected, respected and served from its beginning to its end: both human reason and faith in God, the author of life, require this. In some cases, conscientious objection becomes a necessary decision if you are to be consistent with your “yes” to life and to the human person. Your professionalism, sustained by Christian charity, will be the best service you can offer for the safeguarding of the truest human right, the right to life. When you can no longer provide a cure, you will still be able to provide care and healing, through gestures and procedures that give comfort and relief to the sick.

Tragically, in some contexts of war and violent conflict, healthcare professionals and the facilities that receive and assist the sick are attacked. In some areas, too, political authorities attempt to manipulate medical care for their own advantage, thus restricting the medical profession’s legitimate autonomy. Yet attacking those who devote themselves to the service of the suffering members of society does not serve the interests of anyone.

5. On this XXVIII World Day of the Sick, I think of our many brothers and sisters throughout the world who have no access to medical care because they live in poverty. For this reason, I urge healthcare institutions and government leaders throughout the world not to neglect social justice out of a preoccupation for financial concerns. It is my hope that, by joining the principles of solidarity and subsidiarity, efforts will be made to cooperate in ensuring that everyone has access to suitable treatments for preserving and restoring their health. I offer heartfelt thanks to all those volunteers who serve the sick, often compensating for structural shortcomings, while reflecting the image of Christ, the Good Samaritan, by their acts of tender love and closeness.

To the Blessed Virgin Mary, Health of the Sick, I entrust all those who bear the burden of illness, along with their families and all healthcare workers. With the assurance of a remembrance in my prayers, I cordially impart my Apostolic Blessing.

From the Vatican, 3 January 2020

Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Jesus

Francis

St Saviour's Primary School, Toowoomba
OPEN DAY
 CO-EDUCATION PREP TO YEAR 6
 14 Lawrence Street, Toowoomba | 07 4637 1555 | www.sspstwb.catholic.edu.au

ALL ARE WELCOME!
PREP TOURS ARE AVAILABLE ON
 Tuesday 3rd March - 9am and 5pm
 Friday 13th March - 9am | Monday 16th March - 9am
Come and see what's on offer!

Strive for Goodness

APRE NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers,

The term is well underway and hopefully routines are getting set to ensure a smooth start and finish to the school day. Thank you to those who have made a concerted effort to be on time for the 8:30am gathering in the Mercy Centre, especially if this had been an issue in the past. It does make a real difference to how settled a start your child has to their day (and probably yours as well).

WHOLE SCHOOL MASS:

On Tuesday at 9:30am we will gather as a whole school to celebrate Mass for the first time in 2020. The Preps have already had a "practice run", know where they will be sitting and have discussed "Mass manners." Some students from Years 5 and 6 are involved with the Gospel and choir members from Year 5 will be leading the singing.

After Communion our Year 6 students will gather in front of everyone to be acknowledged as leaders of the school and to make their Leadership Pledge. We would love to have parents join us, not only at Mass but also for the shared morning tea afterwards.

Thank you to members of the Pastoral Care Team who have offered to supply a plate for parents to share. The Tea/ Coffee station will be set up outside the tuckshop. Hope you can join us!

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM:

There are almost 40 students and families who have enrolled in the Parish Sacramental Program for 2020, with the Parent Information Night on Tuesday signalling the start of the program. This weekend, participants and their families will be recognised at mass (Saturday 6pm/ Sunday 9am) and then Cluster 1 gets underway at either Sunday 10:15 OR Thursday 3:30pm. If there is anyone you know who has not signed up yet, it is not yet too late but they would need to get paperwork to the Parish Office ASAP.

Our Choir is leading the singing this Sunday at 9am Mass. Students are asked to gather for 'warm ups' at 8:45am. Thank you

Just Leadership Day and Project Compassion Launch:

Next Thursday (Feb 20), 8 Year 6 students will be attending a Just Leadership Day, led by Catherine McAleer from CARITAS.

Our school leaders will be involved in the special Mass to celebrate the launch of Project Compassion on Sunday 23 February.

ASH WEDNESDAY:

Wednesday of Week 5 (**Feb 26**) is **Ash Wednesday** and the start of Lent. This is a very significant time in the Church calendar and this year Years 2-6 will be gathering with all the College students in the Mercy Centre for a simple Ash Wednesday Liturgy, led by Fr Michael and Fr Hal. Parents are welcome to join us.

Thank you for consideration with these matters.

Enjoy the rest of your week and the gentle rain,

Regards,

Judy Smith.