



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.



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - Year A Saturday 29 February/Sunday 01 March 2020

First Reading: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7 [Creation of our first parents, and sin.]

Responsorial Psalm: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned. [Psalm 50]

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19 [Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.]

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory.

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11 [Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.]

Lenten Reflections

On the front page of the bulletin during lent this year will be a number of guest writers.

They have been invited to reflect on the question "Where do I find Christ?"

Thank you to Kathy Pingel who has taken time this week to ponder this question.

As we embark on this year's Lenten journey and think of Jesus in the desert for forty days, with the strength of the Holy Spirit, being able to turn that temptation into something beautiful, I recall a five-year period in my life when I was tempted to despair and lose hope. At times I found myself thinking God had deserted me; with hindsight, I came to realise it was during this period in my life that He was more present than ever, including via the outpouring of love and support from my family and friends.

It's not the details of what transpired that really matter but for context, what started off as difficulties in a particular setting, escalated in a more public arena. In an effort to address significant untruths, I sought legal recourse. The journey through the legal system took many twists and turns. Ultimately, the case became statute barred on a time technicality and resulted in the undertaking of a second legal case.

Throughout the whole saga, I had an incredibly strong network of support and it was through this 'circle of friends', that is, my family and friends, that I found the light of Christ and the strength to carry on. Their belief in me, frequent contact, care and concern as well as their practical assistance and unwavering support, helped me to navigate the multitude of challenges I was facing. Following a particular turn of events after which I was struggling to find a way forward, dear friends of mine presented a *Circle of Friends Concert*. I will forever treasure this gift of music, friendship and generosity from which I drew strength when it was most needed. One of the works on the program was *You'll Never Walk Alone* by Rodgers and Hammerstein. The lyrics, 'When you walk, through a storm, keep your head up high...Walk on, walk on, With hope in your heart, And you'll never walk alone, You'll never walk alone', epitomise the way in which my circle of friends were and still are Christ-like to me, ensuring that I never walk alone. Mendelssohn's *Oh Rest In The Lord* also featured in the concert, serving as a timely reminder to trust in the Lord, wait patiently for Him and not to fret. The choice of program for this concert was truly inspired, delivering these and other messages I needed to hear at a stage when my hope was waning.

The poem, *Footprints in the Sand*, resonates strongly with me as I look back along the path of this journey; although not only was I carried throughout this troublesome time, I was encircled by my family and friends who accompanied me every step of the way, lighting the way forward for me.

It is my hope for our Parish community that we be Christ-like to one another as we accompany each other on life's journey.

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Joan Patricia Garrett.
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:**
 Daniel Gainey, Sylvia Pedersen, Elizabeth (Betty) Eiser, Pat Murphy, Sol and Patricia Betros, Fr Dominic Burke, Fr Tom Sheeran.

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially** Archbishop John Bathersby, 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.

✠ **Congratulations to these newly weds: Patrick O'Connor and Danielle Brazel.** *May the Holy Spirit bless their lives together.*

✠ **For all those recently baptised: Sadie Pearl Bottrell** daughter of Stephen and Kylie, and **Arthur Noel McGaw** son of Ashleigh and Daniel. *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: You are invited to spend an hour in quiet reflection each Wednesday of Lent between 5pm and 6pm in the Cathedral. **Please note our first time of adoration is at 5pm on Wednesday 4th March.**

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.

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.

Mass will be celebrated at the University of Southern Queensland Multi-Faith Prayer Room on the 4th March 12:00pm.

Youth Adoration Night – everyone is invited to join Fr. Tom on the 6th March 6:00pm at St Patrick's Cathedral.

New Issue of **Australian Catholics** is now available from the tables - please take your free copy.

Lenten Material – you will find some of the Lenten program books on the table for quiet reflection.

Last Tuesday's Pastoral Council meeting endorsed the project "The Blue Room": a place of hospitality, a place of welcome. A quiet, comfortable place for conversations, listening and sharing experiences, or simply browsing or reading. There are lots of books there already and back copies of magazines such as the Weekly Tablet, The Swag, etc. It will NOT be a place for handing out money or food: but will be a place for providing up to date information about services in Toowoomba. The room is situated to the left when you enter the Parish Centre from the doors on the southern side. There will be someone in attendance from 10am to 4pm Mondays to Fridays.

Sunday 01 Mar	7am Mass 9am Mass 5.30pm Mass	11am Baptism of Rylan McPhee [TD] 4.30pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Monday 02 Mar	9am Mass STM	10.30am Mass at Brodribb 5.30-7pm Choir Practice
Tuesday 03 Mar	7am Mass 5.30pm Mass STM	8.45am SSC Mass [HR] 12.30pm SPC Indoor Bowls
Wed 04 Mar	7am Mass 5.30pm Mass 9am Mass STM	9.30am Prayer Group in Board Room [except school hols] 11am Funeral Ministry meeting 12noon Mass – University of SQ Multi-Faith Prayer Room [TD] 5.00pm – 6.00pm Lenten Weekly Adoration SPC 7.15pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Thursday 05 Mar	7am Mass	10am Mass at Numylo 5.00pm Liturgy Meeting SPC 6pm SVdP meeting in Parish Centre
Friday 06 Mar	7am Mass 9am Mass STM	9.30am Ladies Friendship Group in Board Room 6pm Youth Adoration Night – SPC [TD] 7.15pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Saturday 07 Mar	7am Mass 6pm Vigil	9am-10am First Rite of Reconciliation SPC 10.30am Anointing Mass in Conference Room followed by morning tea 11am Baptism of Bentley, Kensey and Esra Suey [PD]
Sunday 08 Mar	7am Mass 9am Mass 5.30pm Mass	4.30pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Planned Giving \$1030.00; Loose \$2676.90 : Kevin and Judy Lindores and Jim Harris		



Dear Parents and Carers,

" Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love."
Saint Teresa of Calcutta

At the Launch of Project Compassion at Mass last Sunday, Catherine McLeer, our Diocesan CARITAS Director concluded her reflection with these words of St Teresa. As we commence our Lenten journey, these words help us to focus on the theme of 2020 Project Compassion, "Go further together".

At school, all students have been introduced/ reminded of the work of CARITAS, which works around the world with local partners to offer hope to people most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice. Students have heard the story of Shirley from the Philippines....

**** Around 2.8 million children in the Philippines do not go to school.***

Shirley was struggling to support her family and keep her children in school. She faced regular discrimination and disadvantage, limiting her family's access to food, education, employment and healthcare.

With Caritas Australia's support, Shirley trained to become an indigenous health worker. She has learnt to supplement her income and is able to feed her family. The program has also empowered Shirley to send her children to school.

Let's Go Further, Together! Please support the Project Compassion: lent.caritas.org.au

Over the next few weeks we, as a school will be doing some "awareness" activities and also some fundraising. We thank you in anticipation of your support.

ASH WEDNESDAY, combined liturgy with the College....

On Ash Wednesday, we were delighted to host the College community who joined with our Yrs 2-6 students for a simple Ash Wednesday liturgy. Fr Hal and Fr Michael reminded us of the significance of Lent as a time to prepare well for Easter...a time to become a little more like Jesus. How can we do this? Of course there are many ways, but technically it is said that Lent is a time for praying, fasting and almsgiving. The one that is hardest, seems to be fasting as we are supposed to **do without** something, but that "something" can be lots of things. For the students, it might be that instead of an iceblock/ slushie etc that money is donated to project compassion. It could be that they "give up" lollies/ chocolate/ ice cream OR as Pope Francis has said...





- *Fast from hurting words and say kind things*
- *Fast from anger and be filled with patience*
- *Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others*
- *Fast from words and be silent so you can listen*

Pope Francis is a very wise man. I hope his words might help you to discuss what your children are doing as part of their preparation for Easter.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM: Cluster groups are well underway, taking place on Sunday mornings (10:15am) and Thursdays (3:30pm). Over the next few weeks we will be organising photos of the children that will be displayed in the cathedral. A reminder that the sacrament of Reconciliation takes place on Friday March 20 at 6pm OR Saturday March 21 at 10:30am.



St Savoiur's Primary Choir singing at Mass last Sunday.

Some Key Dates (Religious Life of the School):

March 10- Year 3 Prayer Gathering

March 15- Term 1 School/ Parish Mass at 9am

March 16- St Patrick's Day Assembly, (Yr 3 leading)

March 23- Harmony Day Assembly, (Yr 2 leading) + Cultural Dress/ Free Dress

***Enjoy the coming week,
Mrs. Judy Smith APRE***