

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.



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - Year A

Saturday 14 March/Sunday 15 March 2020

First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7 [Give us water to drink.]

Responsorial Psalm: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. [Psalm 94]

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8 [The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us]

Gospel Acclamation: Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: John 4:5-42 [The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.]

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 Freda Coorey who has taken time this week to ponder this question.

"God is spirit and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth"

My Lebanese parents instilled in me as a child a deep sense of faith and commitment to prayer. Growing up was difficult and many a prayer went to God. My eyes were opened to the world when I went nursing at St Vincent's Hospital Toowoomba and Darlinghurst Sydney. I met the - poor, homeless, wealthy and forgotten souls in the back streets of Kings Cross, many living on the edge with drug addiction, suicide and alternative lifestyles - the injured people at the scene of the Granville Train Disaster, bandaging their limbs - comforting families who were donating organs from loved ones for people waiting for the miracle of life through organ transplant. The diversity of the social and multicultural backgrounds of people I came into contact with introduced me to another level of caring, compassion, acceptance, empathy and respect.

My life direction changed and many years were spent caring for premature and sick infants while supporting their families. Silent prayers went to God constantly as the little ones fought to survive. Parents watched as their babies grew stronger, suffered the effects of drug withdrawal and in some cases prepared for their loss. I was privileged to work amongst amazing health professionals and share experiences with the families. I remember - the parents who asked if they could take their baby out under the blue sky and into the sunshine before his last breath - the parents who knew there wouldn't be a formal or wedding for their little girl so we dressed her in white and wheeled the humidicrib to the place of prayer for her baptism, the room was filled with white roses, family and friends - the parents who called me as they took their boy out into the farm air to hear the birds as he slept in their arms. I am still amazed at the miracle of birthing an infant, the first cry and the look on the parents face as they see and hold each other for the first time.

Three years ago my life changed through chronic illness. Drug treatments and pain were with me constantly but I was determined to get as well as I could be for my family. The power of prayer from family, friends and parishioners was amazing. I returned to work after 12 months and am still looking after premmies and continuing my treatment. My prayers are not only for me now but the many people who are in my life through this ongoing illness.

Where is God? When is he coming to the well of life giving water? How will we know him?

GOD is here always - In words of comfort and encouragement, the touch of another human being in times of loneliness, sadness and pain - the smile shared with a stranger or the person at the checkout counter.

Open your eyes and look around you and there, like me, you will find GOD.

SPECIAL EVENT: As you are aware Archbishop John Bathersby passed away last week. His funeral Mass will be on Monday, 16th March at 11.00am in St Stephen's Cathedral, Brisbane. To celebrate and remember Archbishop John's life the Mass is being web cast. An invitation is extended to come to St Patrick's Cathedral to watch the Mass on the monitors. We hope you will take this opportunity to remember one of our own diocesan priests who has touched many with his pastoral kindness over his 65 years of priestly ministry.

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Archbishop John Bathersby, M'Angela Theuma. *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:** Mary Jane Theuma, Fr Ronald Walton.

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially** Christine [Faus] Barron, Hughie Boyce, Greta Berge, Matt Vlietstra, Jean Denison, Jo Tuite, Dr Peter Reiter, Elijah Rolls, Hayden Smith, Rita Berry, Juanita Umipig, Maria Brown, Patricia Whyte (nee Stark), Margaret Walker, Rita Blacker, Kristina Dawidowicz, Nora Machin, Mary Allen, George Pardon, Tina Hobson, 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:** **Mackenzie Raine Clapham** daughter of Aaron and Angela. *May the gift of the Holy Spirit grow throughout their lives.*

This week **St Patrick's Cathedral, St Patrick's Allora, St Patrick's St George, St Joseph's Dalby, St Joseph's Stanthorpe and St Joseph's Wandoan** celebrate their Feast Day. *We keep these parish communities in our prayers.*

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 next time of adoration is at 5pm on Wednesday 18th 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.

Second (communal) Rite of Reconciliation: Opportunities for the reconciliation will be offered at St Patrick's Cathedral on 1st April at 5.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral and 9.30am at St Thomas More's.

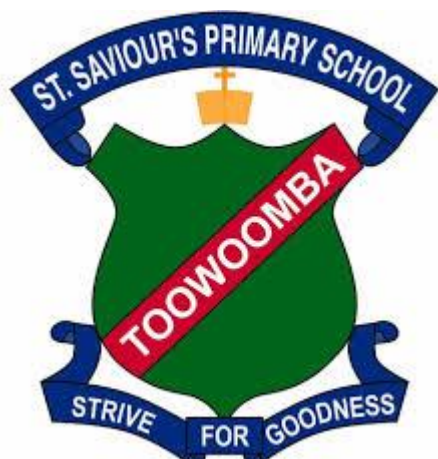
Lenten Material – you will find some of the Lenten program books on the table for quiet reflection.

New Horizons now available – full of information from around the Diocese – collect your free copy today!

URGENT: EASTER ROSTERS: Altar Assistants, Communion Ministers, Readers, Welcomers are invited to be part of the liturgies during Holy Week and Easter. There are folders in the Sacristy and on tables in the eastern transept and front of the Cathedral. **If available please put your name on a form this weekend.** Readers must be available to attend a practice session beforehand! If you will be away over the Easter period please indicate on the sheet provided.

Hand Sanitizers: As you will have read in last week's bulletin, Bishop Robert, mindful of our health and wellbeing, in this current climate, has made some decisions regarding some elements of our Eucharistic celebrations. You will find mounted hand sanitizers in the entry way at both the front entry and the Neil Street entry. For the middle doors there is a unit on the notice board on the Neil Street side.

Sunday 15 Mar	7am Mass 9am Mass 5.30pm Mass	4.30pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Monday 16 Mar	9am Mass STM	5.30-7pm Choir Practice
Tuesday 17 Mar	7am Mass 5.30pm Mass STM	Feast of St Patrick 8.45am SSC Mass [HR] 12.30pm SPC Indoor Bowls
Wed 18 Mar	7am Mass	9.30am Prayer Group in Board Room [except school hols] 11.30am Memorial Mass for Kieren Hearne [HR] 5–6pm Lenten Weekly Adoration SPC 7.15pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Thursday 19 Mar	7am Mass	Feast of St Joseph 6pm SVdP Meeting in Parish Centre
Friday 20 Mar	7am Mass 9am Mass STM	9.30am Ladies Friendship Group in Board Room 6pm Celebration of First Reconciliation 7.15pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Saturday 21 Mar	7am Mass 6pm Vigil	9am-10am First Rite of Reconciliation SPC 10am Celebration of First Reconciliation 11am Baptism of Oliver Hibbs [FM]
Sunday 22 Mar	7am Mass 9am Mass 5.30pm Mass	11am Baptism of Camilla Fleming and William Cattle [FM] 4.30pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Planned Giving \$1658.00; Loose \$2220.00 : Jenny Hurd, Helen Hoddle, Mick Cuskelly		



Thought for the week:

Children don't say, "I had a hard day. Can we talk?"

They say, "Will you play with me?"

Laurence Cohen (Positive Parenting Solutions)

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

Recently, I have been reading several articles about student motivation and behaviour. Particularly focusing on positive education, how ending behaviour rewards (extrinsic prizes, awards etc) and instead focusing on student motivation and character is the way to helping students regulate their emotions.

Handing out 'champion cards' and prizes from the prize box when students behave well seems like an effective strategy for encouraging civility. Little

prizes and public praise would seem to encourage honesty, generosity and other marks of good character, and for years schools and parents have relied on such rewards to elicit the behaviour they desire in their students and children.

Rewards can be seductive, according to Marvin Berkowitz, a professor of education at University of Missouri-St Louis and author of *You Can't Teach Through a Rat*. They're easy, they seem to work – particularly with the hard-to-reach children – and many teachers are taught according to the behaviourist model, which posits that people repeat conduct that's reinforced and avoid what's punished. Berkowitz writes: *We are breeding a new generation of kids who are well trained to be reward and recognition torpedoes*. Certainly, food for thought.

Daniel Pink author of the book: *The Surprising Truth about What Motivates Us*, identifies seven drawbacks to extrinsic rewards. These being, they cripple intrinsic motivation, limit performance, squash creativity, stifle good conduct, promote cheating, can become habit-forming, and spur a short-term mindset. Giving prizes for routine and mindless tasks can be moderately effective. He went on to write that offering rewards for those tasks that are "inherently interesting, creative, or noble.... Is a very dangerous game."

As a school this year, we are committed to working with staff around the proven approach of Positive Education. Focusing on students' strengths and supporting them to flourish in their social interactions and learning. This will take some time to implement and bring change to the way we all interact with each other (staff to staff; staff to student, staff to parent, student to student, parent to parent, parent to staff). Anne Wood-croft Brown (School Counsellor) and myself in the past two weeks have met with the teachers and school officers introducing the Positive Education approach. Over this upcoming year we will work with staff on incorporating the Positive Education approach across the curriculum and in the daily life of our school. We plan to then hold parent sessions to support parents as well in this area.

LAWRENCE STREET PICK UP

Last week I met with Ms Sharon Collins regarding the traffic situation around our school at pick up times. We discussed the possibility of creating a 'STOP, DROP and GO' zone utilising the boarding school driveway. Over the next few weeks we will be consulting with Boarding school staff, Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office and Council Traffic control to find a safer solution for all students in this area.

I have been asked to notify parents and students to not wait in the boarding school driveways or undercroft area after school. This is due to boarding school staff trying to get students from the boarding school to sport and medical appointments. Thank you for your support in keeping our students safe.

NEW PHONE SYSTEM

Recently the school has invested a considerable amount of money in a new phone system after our last phone system was failing quite often throughout Term 4. I am pleased to announce that we have a new system installed. This has resulted in a new phone number for our school.

NEW SCHOOL PHONE NUMBER: 07 4637 1700

We have a diversion setup with the old number for the next 6 months. However, I advise you to save the new number in your phone to avoid any issues.

STAFF UPDATE

Best wishes Mrs Harkins on your long service leave for the remainder of the term. We hope you enjoy your time away. Mrs Kelly Maher will be taking Year 3H in Mrs Harkins' absence.

Thank you for reading, **Madonna Sleba, Principal**

Dear Parents and Carers,

SCHOOL/ PARISH MASS this Sunday: Once a term we have a 9am Sunday Mass that is designated as a combined school/ parish Mass. At this Mass, our choir leads the singing, there is Children's Liturgy for the "littlies" to attend during the readings, our older students are involved in the readings and other "jobs" and we finish with a shared morning tea afterwards.

Our Term One School/ Parish Mass is this coming Sunday, March 15 at 9am and we would love to have you join us. Fr Michael is saying this Mass so we are pretty much guaranteed to be having a cuppa by 9:50 or so. You should have a Caremonkey permission request to complete, just so we have a rough idea as to how many students are likely to attend Kids' Liturgy etc.

Hoping to see you at St Pat's on Sunday.

BRODRIBB Visit:



On Monday last week, Hayden, Jamilia, Lilly and Grace came with me to visit and share Mass with residents at Brodribb Aged Care. Fr Michael says Mass there and our Year 6s assist with the singing and the giving and collecting of hymn books etc. The residents are always very happy to have the "young faces" around. We will continue to do this throughout the year.

YEAR 3 Prayer Gathering: On Tuesday, Year 3 students and parents, gathered with Fr Michael to reflect on what it means to be a good friend. Fr Michael reminded us, that sometimes we have to be the first one to extend a hand or to forgive. That is what being a good friend is.

Year 5s are continuing their visits to SALEM Nursing Home throughout the term and will give us an update in next week's newsletter.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM: About 46 boys and girls and their families have spent the last few weeks preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, with only about one week to go.

There are two sessions for Reconciliation, Friday March 20 at 6pm OR Saturday March 21 at 10:30am. Both sessions will be held at St Patrick's Cathedral.

After that, we have a break until early next term, when we start preparation for Confirmation in Week 3. More information will be communicated closer to the start date.

Our LENTEN Journey:

5K have written their Lenten promises on a cross, while **1M** have made a paper chain of theirs.

The **Year 6 students** are working on 'Random acts of Kindness' and the importance of Integrity (Doing the right thing even when no-one is looking).

5C is focusing on "Fifty Cent Friday" and "Tuckshop Change" for collections for the Project Compassion Box. They have talked about the Lenten Suggestions from Pope Francis. (giving up negativity, unkind words and being grateful were the ones that were the most popular).

Year 1s have been thinking about what they could do for someone else rather than just 'give up' something. For example what could students do to be more helpful or kind? Students are also encouraged to think about what they could do outside of school such as at home or when out with family or friends. How can they be more like Jesus?

How is your Lenten journey progressing? We will share some more insights into what is happening in our SSPS classrooms in the next newsletter.

Enjoy this beautiful Autumn weather,

Judy Smith, Assistant Principal, Religious Education