



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
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We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Owners of this place, the Jarowair and Giabal peoples.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year C Saturday 13 July/Sunday 14 July 2019

- First Reading:** Deuteronomy 30:10-14 – *Let the instruction of the Lord God be near you.*
- Responsorial Psalm:** Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live. [Psalm 68]
- Second Reading:** Colossians 1:15-20 – *All things were created through him and for him.*
- Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!
- Gospel:** Luke 10:25-37 – *Who is my neighbour?*

The Good Place

Recently I finished the third season of an American TV series on Netflix called, "The Good Place". A series of light humour and certainly not of "must watch" status, but entertaining none the less. The premise of the storyline is based on there not being a heaven or hell, but rather a Good Place and a Bad Place. The way that a person ends up in one of these two places is determined by the points that they accumulate when alive – positive and negative, depending on actions being good or bad. The accounting office decides on the system of allocation. Now the main characters – Chidi, Eleanor, Tahani and Jason arrive at the Good Place and are welcomed by Michael, the architect. "Welcome, everything is fine, you are in the Good Place" is the casual welcome followed by a tour of where they will live for eternity. Everything is exactly perfect for them – right flavoured ice cream, perfect house, assigned soulmate according to type of life on earth etc. However it soon becomes apparent to the four main characters that their lives were not as loving and giving on earth as many others present in the good place. So coincidentally these four are drawn to each other and realise that they need to become better people so they can remain in this place of paradise. Now that all sounds good, but as the series moves on it is discovered that they are not actually in the Good Place. Michael is an architect for the Bad Place and has deliberately created this illusion. Normally he would create a place of physical and mental torture for all those who end up in the Bad Place. Michael's belief is that given time these four humans would end up torturing themselves and thus require hardly any effort from the demons, and they would continue do it to themselves for eternity. Cynically the plan sounds somehow feasible – people thrown together for all eternity – how could they get along? But Michael is forced to reboot the system 820 times and every time these people get together to try to become good people, and every time they succeed to some extent whatever is put in their path. To cut a long story short it is discovered that it has been 500 years since anyone has made it to the Good Place. The reason for this is that, as a point system, the ability to achieve points has become more difficult as it has developed into there being too many consequences for any action. So 500 years ago giving a tomato to someone in need earned, say 2,000 positive points, but today after earning the points the negative consequences are also taken into consideration – the tomato was grown using chemical harmful to the environment, picked by underpaid labourers wearing shirts made in sweat shops overseas...and so on. For all of which you lose points. So it raises the question, is doing good a complicated matter?
Which leads us to today's gospel.....

Jesus works on the simple premise that every good act is reward alone. If we can simply do something good for someone on our path, then that is what is asked of us. To overthink the situation, or become paralysed by the bigger questions just robs goodness from the world. We know it's not a point system. We know we rely on the mercy of God for every good act left undone. The gospel of the Good Samaritan surely tells us that God does, and will inspire us to spontaneous acts of kindness. I'm sure the Good Samaritan didn't head off from home planning to meet someone on the road to help. Had he thought too much about his capacity to help, then he may have done the same as the others who walked over to the other side of the road. Don't be afraid of spontaneous acts of kindness. These are the ways in which we see the presence of God in the world today. Be ready to do acts of kindness, just keep your heart open, and let God **prompt** you into needed action.

God's blessings, Father Michael

**Please keep in your prayers, Deacon Tom Duncan who will be ordained priest this week.
All are invited to celebrate with the Diocese at 5.30pm on Thursday, 18th July.**

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Lorraine Wardle. *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:** Matt Langsdorf, John Brady, Fr John Clancy, Fr Patrick Campbell, Fr Neville Grundy, Fr Joseph Portley.

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially** Fr Kerry Costigan, Fr Don Murray, Kristina Dawidowicz, Michael Brady, Nora Machin, Mary Allen, George Pardon, Rita Avenell, Leo Ryan, Tina Hobson, Michael Cuskelly, Vince Stephens, Bev Boundy, Roslyn Pardon [nee Kearney], Joanne Essey [Sydney], Mr Rene Perla, Braxton Rayner, Kate Gibbs, Max Shearer, Saturnino Bustamante, Hannah Marie Marasigan, Stephanie Shine, Andrew Supple, Mary-Ann Hine, Antony Dunbarr, Kathy Allan, John Morgan, Patricia McCracken, Reggie James, Morgan O'Brien, Teresita Pamulaklakin.

✠ **Congratulations to these newly weds: Brian Maclellan and Miriam Singiat.** *May the Holy Spirit bless their lives together.*

✠ **For all those recently baptised: Pippa Louisa Smith** daughter of Nathan and Rhielly. *May the gift of the Holy Spirit grow throughout their lives.*

Reconciliation: 1st Rite available every 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: 17/07**

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.

Position Vacant: Expressions of interest are invited for a three day per week [24 hours] position as a Cook and some light cleaning at the Parish House, St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Toowoomba. For further information please contact the Parish Office by phone on 4637 1500, by mail at PO Box 7062 TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350 or by email at admin@stpats.org.au. **Applications close Friday 19 July 2019.**

Unit for Rent: A one bedroom unit for an elderly person at St Patrick's Community Village is available for rent. Applications to be made in writing to the Secretary, Board of Management, St Patrick's Cathedral, PO Box 7062 Toowoomba 4350 or dropped in at the Parish Office. Applications close on **Friday, 26 July 2019.**

Office Space for Rent: The building previously occupied by TRAMS located at the back of the Cathedral Precinct is available for rent. All enquires to Celia Waters at the Parish Office on 4637 1500.

Date Claimer: St Patrick's Cathedral and St Saviour's RACE DAY! Please mark on your calendar this date – **2nd November 2019.** If anyone would like to donate a prize for a multi-draw raffle, please contact the office. If you wish to sponsor one of the races on that day, please call Sam Hannant on 4637 1555.

Seminary Appeal Next Weekend: The Seminary Appeal supports Toowoomba Diocese's contribution to the Holy Spirit Seminary, Banyo. The Seminary is currently preparing three young men from our diocese for the priesthood. Nathan Webb is in his fourth year while Dominic Jayasuriya and BJ Perrett are both in their first year. Our diocese is richly blessed to have three young men preparing themselves for the priesthood. Envelopes will be available on the tables. Thank you!

Sunday 14 July	7am Mass 9am Mass 5.30pm Mass	11am Baptism of Joseph Davidson [FM] 4.30pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Monday 15 July	9am Mass STM	School Term 3 commences 5.30pm Parish Finance Council meeting (Staff Room) 6pm Ordination Choir Practice
Tuesday 16 July	7am Mass 5.30pm Mass STM	12.15pm SPC Indoor Bowls
Wednesday 17 July	7am Mass	5-6pm Holy Hour 7.15pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Thursday 18 July	7am Mass	4-5pm Ordination Choir Practice 5.30pm Ordination to the Presbyterate of Deacon Thomas Duncan
Friday 19 July	7am Mass 9am Mass STM	4.00pm Safeguarding Meeting (Staff Room) 7.15pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Saturday 20 July	7am Mass 6pm Vigil	9am-10am First Rite of Reconciliation 11am Baptism of Molly Gillam and Tyson McKandie [FM]
Sunday 21 July	7am Mass 9am Mass 5.30pm Mass	11am Baptism of Jackson Miller and Noah Harrison [HR] 2pm Children's Rosary 4.30pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
St Patrick's weekly collection: Planned Giving \$2533.00; Loose \$1945.30; Money Counters: Sandra and Peter Daly and Jan-Nell and Errol Chase		