



# 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 and Fr. Nandana Saparamadu

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

## TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year C Saturday 17 August/Sunday 18 August 2019

- First Reading:** Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10 – *You bore me to be a man of strife for the whole world.*
- Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, come to my aid; do not delay [Psalm 39]
- Second Reading:** Hebrews 12:1-4 – *Let us bear patiently the struggle placed upon us.*
- Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!
- Gospel:** Luke 12:49-53 – *I have come not to give peace, but discord.*

*I was quite taken by this image in relation to the gospel this weekend, so I thought it was worth sharing. It was written by Fr. Michael Tate, and titled "I have come to bring fire...."*

As Australians living on the edges of heavily timbered country we all know that a fierce fire is one of the best things which can happen to a eucalyptus forest. The seed pods burst open in the intense heat.

The fire cleanses the soil of smothering undergrowth and returns nutrients to the soil in the ashes.

The seeds have a chance to germinate in that soil. It is that sort of fire which Jesus had in mind when he says 'I have come to bring fire to the earth and I wish it were blazing already!'

What is the fire he is speaking of? It turned out the 'what' was not a 'what' but a 'who'!

The Holy Spirit was unleashed on the first Pentecost Sunday just like a lightning bolt in the South West Wilderness.

Recall that scene at Pentecost – the frightened and dispirited disciples huddled in a room like seeds in a pod putting a hard outer casing between themselves and a hostile world.

This might have given them some sense of security, but, so long as they stayed in that protective shell of a room, they were quite unable to realise their true destiny.

Then, what happened?

'Something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire . . . They were all filled with the Holy Spirit.' (Acts 2:2-3)

That fire – that divine fire – burst them out of the room. They began to preach the Resurrection and they realised their destiny as fearless disciples of our Risen Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. But this can have divisive consequences. At the extreme, following Our Lord can mean total repudiation by members of one's family, and persecution by the society concerned. For example, quite apart from torture, killings and displacement, in some Muslim countries, like Malaysia, to become a Christian is to lose property and inheritance rights – the family is dismembered as one becomes a member of the Body of Christ. We should pray often for those who suffer this ostracising by their families and communities.

But, for us, what does it mean to be ignited by the divine flame? What does this mean for the undergrowth of our lives?

You and I know, if we have had a few years on the planet, what are the actions or attitudes which stifle or smother our lives as fearless Christians.

Family expectations and stereotyped roles can be one. Our Lord himself experienced that so strongly at Nazareth – his home village – that he had to break away, never to return. He knew he had to be immersed (baptised) in the chaos of the outside world in order to conduct his ministry with power.

That is why Our Lord warns that for some disciples, following him with vigour and creativity may well mean breaking out of the little boxes which families can construct for their members – and that will cause division.

My dear friends, I love roses and dahlias and hollyhocks and lupins and English country gardens. But, if we see ourselves as plants in such a garden, particularly if we see ourselves as plants in a walled garden, of course in that situation fire is a real threat and our natural inclination is to look to the hose to douse it.

But, we are Catholics, not roses or dahlias. We are little eucalyptus seeds. We need fire. We need the blazing fire of the Holy Spirit to allow who we truly are to burst forth.

Then, and only then, we have a chance to be fully who God calls us to be!

Until at the end of history we together become a great stand of tall trees aching for the risen Son in all his glory! *God's Blessings, Fr. Michael*



✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Lino Tubis [father of Fr Gerry Tubis PACEM], Patricia Joyner [mother of Sr Maria], Tom Morrison. *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:** Mona O'Brien, Peter Byrnes, Sally and Jim O'Mara, Kath and Frank Byrne, Fr Charles McDonald.

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially** Merle Hunter, Graham McGovern, Jo Phillips, Fr Don Murray, Margaret Walker, Rita Blacker, Kristina Dawidowicz, Michael Brady, Nora Machin, Mary Allen, George Pardon, 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 Pamulaklakim.

✠ **For all those recently baptised: Harrison Daniel and Riley Kevin Ford** children of Daniel and Carissa and **Madison Elizabeth Richardson** daughter of Justin and Gabrielle. *May the gift of the Holy Spirit grow throughout their lives.*

**Reconciliation:** 1<sup>st</sup> 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. **Due to the Carnival of flowers the next adoration time is 11/09.**

**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.

**Pray for those needing rain:** As we hear on the news the growing desperation nearby at Stanthorpe and district for life giving rain, please keep those affected by drought in your prayers and thoughts.

**Date Claimer:** St Patrick's and St Saviour's Race Day – Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November – *Derby Day* at Clifford Park, 3pm to 10pm. Tickets available from St Saviour's Primary School office. \$75 each or two for \$140.

**Cent Sale:** The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver are holding their **Cent Sale** on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August at All Seasons Function Hall, cnr North and Tor Streets Toowoomba, 8.30am for a 9.30 start. Entry fee is \$5.00. All Proceeds go to Charity. Phone: 4632 1818.

**Date Claimer: Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 7pm to 10pm** - Old Boys, family and friends are invited to celebrate **120 years of St Mary's College** at our Old Boys Dinner. Tickets are \$50, which includes a 3-course meal and an interview conducted by James O'Shea (1999) with winning Premiership (NRL) and World Cup Challenge, Queensland and South Sydney Rabbitohs player, Ethan Lowe (2008). A major auction of sports memorabilia will be held together with the opportunity to buy our new history book, celebrating 120 years.

**St Patrick's Cathedral Spring Ball:** St Patrick's Cathedral SPRING BALL – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September. \$40 per ticket. Tickets On Sale Now in Parish Office. If you would like to join our Parish Tables – Book Now!

**Welcome to Fr. Tom Duncan and Farewell for Fr. Nandana Saparamadu:** In a couple weeks we will have the opportunity to celebrate the ministry of both these priests within our community. On Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> September, at the 9.00am Mass you are invited to bring a plate for a shared morning tea to say thank you to Fr. Nandana and to welcome Fr. Tom. Please mark this date on your calendar, as it is also the celebration of 90 years since the foundation of the Diocese and 20 years since the patronage of Our Lady of the Southern Cross.

**Thank you** to all those who took the time to suggest people for nomination onto our Parish Council. We are excited to announce the following new members: Ken Avenell, Sharon Collins, Michael Newman, Emilio Anteliz, Pennie Shearer, Charles Kitapindu, Rex Miguel and Louise Fitzgerald. Some further details will appear in subsequent bulletins. Thank you for offering your time and energy for the life of our community.

<b>Sunday 18 August</b>	7am Mass 9am Mass 5.30pm Mass	11am Baptism of Darby Williams [Fr Marty Larsen] 2pm Rosary Crusade in Cathedral 4.30pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
<b>Monday 19 August</b>	9am Mass STM	5.15pm SSPS Board meeting 5.30pm SPC Finance meeting
<b>Tuesday 20 August</b>	7am Mass 5.30pm Mass STM	8.45am Mass SSC [HR] 12.15pm SPC Indoor Bowls
<b>Wednesday 21 August</b>	7am Mass	9.30am St Patrick's Prayer Group in Boardroom <b>5-6pm Holy Hour SPC</b> 7.15pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
<b>Thursday 22 August</b>	7am Mass	6pm SVdP meeting in Parish Centre
<b>Friday 23 August</b>	7am Mass 9am Mass STM	9.30am Ladies Friendship Group in Parish Centre 7.15pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
<b>Saturday 24 August</b>	7am Mass 6pm Vigil	9am-10am First Rite of Reconciliation 11am Baptism of Mabi Blake and Kip Weston [HR]
<b>Sunday 25 August</b>	7am Mass 9am Mass 5.30pm Mass	11am Baptism of Savannah Bennett-Walker [FM]  4.30pm Bingo – Cathedral Centre
Planned Giving \$1080.00; Loose \$1693.15 : Jenny Hurd, Helen Hoddle, Bob Ryan		