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Office hours: 9am-4pm Mon-Thu 9am-3pm on Friday

Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral and Administrator: Fr. Michael O'Brien Associate Pastors: Fr. Tom Duncan and Fr. Nandana Saparamadu

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.

## FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [Year B] Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2021

First Reading: Job 7:1-4, 6-7 – I am filled with sorrow all day long.
Responsorial Psalm: Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23– Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the Gospel.
Gospel Acclamation: ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering. ALLELUIA!
Gospel: Mark 1:29-39 – He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

In the first reading today we hear from Job, the man of sorrows, whose life probed the mystery of suffering. "Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery? Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!'..." Job's pessimism was certainly understandable, given the tragedies that were inflicted upon him (Job 1:13-2:10). Perhaps we too can identify difficult times in our lives when we've felt "like a slave sighing for the shade", as Job puts it, or as one whose "eyes will never again see joy"?

Yet in our Gospel today we see another man of sorrows traversing the long days and nights: "That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils." "In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there... 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.'"

What is the difference between Job and Jesus?

In Job we see a man undeservedly afflicted by disaster, who would ultimately protest his sufferings and do his utmost to justify himself before God. Most of us would probably be inclined to do as Job did. In Jesus, we also see a man undeservedly afflicted, yet who offered no complaint in the face of his suffering – who carried his cross in humble acceptance.



Furthermore, and perhaps this is the

key, in Jesus we see one who labours day and night to relieve the sufferings of others and who would ultimately bear the mystery of our suffering in his own body on the cross. In this image, the mystery of human agony is shown to be a path to holiness and redemption, a road to healing and new life – *if* it is embraced with utter faith, hope and self-giving charity.

God Bless, Fr. Tom



**We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently**; Pauline Dixon, Jo Phillips, and those who have died from Covid-19. 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:** Beryl Cordner, Jacqueline Hoddle, Fr Raymond White [2000], Most Rev James Byrne [1938]

For all those who are ill in our community, especially, Rohitha Jayamanna, Pauline Dixon, Ray Frelek, Patsy Quinn, Brian Machin, Graham McGovern, Madeline Gray, Richard Jones, Loan Smith, Maria Brown, Kim Ireland, Christine [Faus] Barron, Greta Berge, Matt Vlietstra, Dr Peter Reiter, Elijah Rolls, Hayden Smith, Patricia Whyte (nee Stark), Margaret Walker, Rita Blacker, Kristina Dawidowicz, Nora Machin, Mary Allen, Tina Hobson, Bev Boundy, 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 McCraken, Reggie James, Teresita Pamulaklakin, and those in our nursing homes and hospitals, and those suffering from Covid-19.

**THE TRYBOOKING SYSTEM FOR WEEKEND MASSES WILL <u>NOT</u> <b>BE STARTING UNTIL MARCH**, as we are waiting on labelling of seats. There have been a few queries from parishioners concerned about this system. **PLEASE DON'T PANIC**, our aim is to help everyone transition to this new system, there will be step by step instructions and we will be available to help over the phone where necessary. For now things will continue as they are, please be patient as you check in each week. WATCH THIS SPACE, MORE INFORMATION TO COME ...

**Ash Wednesday Masses:** St Patrick's Cathedral 7am and 5.30pm. St Thomas More's at 9.00am. Please be aware that due to the pandemic the recommended way to distribute the ashes is to sprinkle some ash over the head of the person. Please know that the receiving of ash on Ash Wednesday is **not** compulsory. Your prayerful entering into the season of Lent is the simple requirement for this celebration. It is up to you whether you feel comfortable receiving the ash in this way.

ADORATION will resume each Thursday during Lent 5.00pm – 6.00pm. (18/2; 25/2; 4/3; 11/3; 18/3; 25/3; 1/4)

## Lenten Programs are now available from the table. Please feel free to take a copy. Should you wish to contribute toward the cost it would be appreciated.

St Patrick's **BLUE ROOM** is a welcoming place of hospitality and friendship and quiet reflection. The welcome mat is out, so come on in and meet one of the volunteers, and connect with others over a cup of tea or coffee. Browse through books and magazines, share stories and experiences of life. The Blue Room is located within the Parish Centre, entrance in the corridor where the toilets are located. Open Monday to Friday 10am to 3pm.



Today we farewell Aylish Ryan, who has been a wonderful part of our musical team here at St Pat's. In fact Aylish has been singing here since being in the St. Saviour's Primary School Choir. We take this opportunity to thank her for sharing the gift of her beautiful voice and wish her every success at the Conservatorium of Music enrolled in Classic Voice. Thank you for your generous, humble and kind presence at St. Pat's and we look forward to your return for weddings, so you can join us once again to share your talents with us. God Bless you on your journey, from the St. Pat's parish.

| Sunday 7 Feb   | 7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass         |  |
|--|-------------------------------|--|
| •  | 9am Live stream available SPC | 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre           |
| Monday 8 Feb   | 9am Mass STM                  |  |
|  | 5.30pm Mass SPC               |  |
| Tuesday 9 Feb  | 7am Mass SPC                  | 7pm – Sacramental program parents night in the |
|  | 5.30pm Mass STM               | Cathedral Centre.                              |
| Wed 10 Feb   | 7am Mass SPC                  | 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre           |
| Saint Scholastica  |                               |  |
| Thursday 11 Feb<br>Our Lady of Lourdes   | 7am Mass SPC                  |  |
| Friday 12 Feb  | 7am Mass SPC                  |  |
|  | 9am Mass STM                  |  |
| Saturday 13 Feb  | 7am Mass SPC                  | Enrolment Mass for Reconciliation (6pm)        |
|  | 6pm Mass SPC                  |  |
| Sunday 14 Feb  | 7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass         | 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre           |
|  | 9am-Live stream available SPC |  |
| Planned Giving \$714; Loose \$589; PayPoint \$560; Helen Hoddle, Mick Cuskelly |                               |  |
| Thank you for your generous giving to assist the works of St. Patrick's.       |                               |  |