



St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter



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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 Pastor: Fr. Nandana Saparamadu
Safeguarding Officer: Ann Marie Pawsey (safeguarding@stpats.org.au)

St Patrick's, in communion with St Saviour's Primary School - Madonna Sleba (4637 1700)
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 ADVENT [Year C] Sunday 12 December, 2021

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18 With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Responsorial Psalm: Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7. The Lord is near. **Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 3:10-18. What then must we do?

What must we do?

In 1886 the great novelist and thinker Leo Tolstoi wrote an essay analysing the dire poverty and glaring inequalities in his homeland, Russia: he named the injustices in society and called his essay "What ought we to do?" – Tasking the title from the passage in Luke's gospel we listen to today. Tolstoi was a Christian and asked his question within the same context as ours – this is God's word, entrusted to our care and faithful management.

The first option, Tolstoi says, is to do nothing! "It'll be alright, the whole challenge is beyond us, my little bit won't make any difference....." For him, for John the Baptiser and for each and all of us **there is a problem** and each and all of us have to do something about it.

Our preparations for Christmas are mostly external and focused on the joyful celebration. Accordingly we focus on shopping, housecleaning, exchanging greetings, going (sometimes just out of obligation) to parties and social gatherings. But if we are to make Christmas an occasion to welcome God into our lives we need, surely, a different sort of preparation; prayer, aloneness with God, re-setting of priorities in our lives, opening up to new initiatives....

To the question "What must we do?" John responds: "If anyone has two tunics, share with the person who has none, and if you have something to eat, do the same". He is speaking to tax collectors, soldiers..... he's saying it also to us – farmers, teachers, nurses, mothers, shop assistants, bus drivers, engineers, accountants, doctors, cleaners, counsellors, plumbers, fathers..... do your chosen job well and be generous to others.

God is interested not only in some separate "religious/spiritual" world but in the **real** world. What must **we** do in the social, political, economic, public world.

That's the challenge before us – with the help of the promised Spirit working in and among us.

May our God enliven us!

Fr Hal Ranger



✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Joseph Saunders, Bernard McCabe, Kevin O'Neill, Patrick Murphy 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:** Fr Joseph Callaghan [1989], Fr James Byrne [2020].

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially;** Fr Raymond Sweeney, Angelina Santa Lucia, Addison McEwan, Daniel Ligon, Rohitha Jayamanna, Ray Frelek, Patsy Quinn, Brian Machin, Madeline Gray, Loan Smith, Maria Brown, Christine [Faus] Barron, Greta Berge, Matt Vlietstra, Dr Peter Reiter, Elijah Rolls, Hayden Smith, 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 McCracken, Reggie James, Teresita Pamulaklakin, and those in our nursing homes and hospitals, and those suffering from Covid-19.

RECONCILIATION – 1st Rite available every Saturday morning between 8am and 9am.

PLEASE NOTE: Mass on Saturday 1st January will be 9.00am, there will not be a Mass at 7.00am. There will not be any reconciliation available.

St Pat's are looking for someone to spray the church, as it is a legal requirement, after 6pm, 7am and 9am Masses each weekend, on alternate months starting in 2022. Remuneration of \$100 per week. Would suit school or uni students. Training and PPE will be provided. Enquiries: admin@stpats.org.au or 4637 1500.

Information Package for the **2022 Sacramental Program** is now available, please contact the Parish Office; admin@stpats.org.au or 4637 1500, we are happy to email the information package.

ROSTERS FOR CHRISTMAS: If you are able to assist with any of the ministries over Christmas, please put your name on the roster available on the table near the Neil Street entrance. **Please note:** there will be two venues for the Christmas Eve 6pm Masses **ONLY** – Cathedral and Cathedral Centre. Thanks from the Liturgy Committee.

ST PAT'S WORKING BEE. We need help to clean the "sticky" pews in the Cathedral. **Tuesday 14 December 8am–12pm.** Masks and gloves will be provided. Even if you can only give an hour, it would be greatly appreciated. Please advise the parish office if you can help: admin@stpats.org.au or 4637 1500

SPRED VOLUNTEERS 2022. SPRED is a faith formation program which seeks to nurture the spiritual, social and emotional well-being of people with an intellectual disability. We are currently looking for volunteers to commence in February next year to provide support and companionship for our differently abled Friends as they make their faith journey. There will be an information session at the Diocesan SPRED Centre (cnr Hume & Jellicoe St) on Tuesday 14th December, 5.45pm-6.30pm. For information contact Loretta Coman: 0459 683 642 or spred@twb.catholic.org.au

Parish Secretary: Our Lady of Lourdes Parish - part-time position available - 20 hours per week with holiday/sick leave relief (including school holidays). Contact lol.parish@bigpond.com to obtain a copy of the position description and selection criteria. Applications should include a cover letter, responses to the selection criteria, and at least two referees to: Jon Dwan, Chairperson Parish Council, 153 Holberton St, Toowoomba, by Friday 17 December 2021.

Sunday 12 Dec	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass 9am Live Streaming SPC	12pm Baptism of Mariel Arjona 1pm Baptism of Maverick Arthur 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 13 Dec <i>Saint Lucy</i>	9am Mass STM 5.30pm Mass SPC	
Tuesday 14 Dec <i>Saint John of The Cross</i>	7am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	6.30am Rosary SPC 8am – 12pm WORKING BEE SPC 5.30 – 7.00pm Choir Practice
Wed 15 Dec	7am Mass SPC	6pm SVdP Meeting Parish Centre 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 16 Dec	7am Mass SPC	7.30am – 8.30am Adoration SPC
Friday 17 Dec	7am Mass SPC 9am Mass STM	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 18 Dec	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass	8-9am Reconciliation SPC
Sunday 19 Dec	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass 9am Live Streaming SPC	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Planned Giving:\$1429; Loose:\$739; Paypoint:\$720. Pat Power, Leo McMahon, Eileen Stephen Thank you for your generous giving to assist the works of St. Patrick's. Planned Giving Options: Envelopes available from parish office. For direct debit/credit card please contact Celia at the Parish Office on 4637 1500. You may simply like to do a bank transfer: St Patrick's Cathedral, BSB 064-786, Account Number 100014072, reference envelope number. Thank you		