

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 Pastors: Fr. Tom Duncan and 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.



THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY [Year B]

Sunday 15th August, 2021

First Reading: Revelation 11:19; 12:1-6, 10 I saw a woman clothed with the sun and with the moon beneath her feet.

Responsorial Psalm: The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26 As members of Christ all people will be raised, Christ first, and after him all who belong to him.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Mary is taken up to heaven, and the angels of God shout for joy. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 1:39-56 The Almighty has done great things for me; he has lifted up the lowly.

A prayer of hope and joy during difficult times.

As we celebrate the assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary; mother of Jesus; the mother of the disciples, and mother of the church, we are reminded about God's preferential love for the lowly. Mary of Nazereth and Elizabeth were both regarded as nobodies, as they were poor and women. More over Young Mary and Old Elizabeth were a scandal to society, as Elizabeth was barren; and Mary was pregnant without a husband. Mary was ill-treated by the proud hearted as she was from an unnoticed village, in and out of Roman Province. So Mary's greatness does not come from her social status as she was from the bottom of the social ladder. Nevertheless she enjoys God's favour together with Elizabeth. Yes, indeed it is a celebration.

Once, Peruvian theologian, Fr Gustavo Gutierrez asked, "how do you sustain the virtues of joy and hope during difficult times or in the midst of criticism?" in relation to the song of Mary (the Magnificat). Christian joy is not tied to a particular object, but to the experience of God's unconditional love for us. Christian joy comes from knowing God and from trying to follow God's will. Joy means rejoicing in God. But we can see from the Magnificat that, when Mary rejoices in God, she is also celebrating the liberating action of God in history. Mary rejoices in a God who is faithful to the poor. Our service of others must be wrapped in this joy. Only work embraced with joy truly transforms.

And we must also engage in our work hopefully. Hope is not the same thing as optimism. Optimism merely reflects the desire that external circumstances may one day improve. There is nothing wrong with optimism, but we may not always have reasons for it. The theological virtue of hope is much more than optimism. Hope is based on the conviction that God is at work in our lives in the world. Hope is ultimately a gift from God given to sustain us during difficult times. Charles Péguy described hope as the "little sister" that walks between the "taller sisters" of faith and charity; when the taller sisters grow tired, the little one instills new life and energy into the other two. Hope never allows our faith to grow weak or our love to falter.

Mary, our Mother, identifies herself with lives of the poor, the aged, strangers, immigrants, refugees, minorities from different religious or ethnic groups, people who are in isolation and suffering due to Covid 19. As God raises Mary into heaven, God's plan to raise the weak and the underprivileged up into a life of Joy and hope. It is our calling today to collaborate with God's plan as Mary did.

Today the people of India are celebrating 74 years of independence. Let us remember them in our prayers for the people who are struggling to get over the pandemic; and to live as united family with all its differences.

God Bless you, and protect you all.

Fr Nandana

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Robert Toombs, Fr Dan Carroll, Tony Rosenthal, Peter Davis 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:** Helen Betros Jabour, Theresa Betros Fitzpatrick, Joan Hannant, Peter Byrnes.

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially;** Jenny Werth, Regina Albion, Daniel Ligon, Rohitha Jayamanna, Ray Frelek, Patsy Quinn, Brian Machin, Graham McGovern, Madeline Gray, Loan Smith, Maria Brown, Kim Ireland, 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 TO RESUME: From Saturday, 31st July, the 1st Rite of Reconciliation will again be available at St Patrick's. This will be at the new time of **8.00am – 9.00am** on Saturday mornings. However in order to continue this practice you must sanitise your hands and check in using the Queensland Check in App. Should you not be able to do this you MUST leave your details on the sheet provided so that it can be entered later. If there is an obvious failure in these areas, regular reconciliation times will cease. Please keep in mind that these requirements are for the safety of all, and using the Queensland Check in app maintains confidentiality when attending reconciliation. Thank you for your cooperation, Fr. Michael.

CELEBRATING SAINT JOSEPH: As you would be aware this year is dedicated to the life of St Joseph and his important place in the life of Jesus. You are invited to spend some time in prayer and adoration at St. Patrick's. The day will begin with 7.00am Mass using the Votive Mass for St. Joseph. This is followed by each hour beginning with a reflection and prayers for St. Joseph, finishing at 1.00pm. Adoration will occur throughout. Come for whatever amount of time you are able to commit to. Please put the 16th October in your calendar now to celebrate this Year of St. Joseph.

Fr. Tom's Final Mass will be on Sunday, 29th August at 9.00am. This will be followed by a farewell morning tea. We will have the opportunity to wish him well in his new appointment as Parish Priest in Roma.

Morning Teas will resume at St. Patrick's! Each fortnight after Fr. Tom's farewell it is hoped we will have a morning tea after each 9.00am Mass. The first on the 12th September will incorporate the St Saviour's Primary School children singing and children's liturgy will be available, so please put this into your diary NOW! Morning teas are not just social events, but an opportunity to connect with people in the parish. These morning teas will be hosted by the Parish Council, so there is also an opportunity to share ideas, thoughts, suggestions and to identify things that are going well. See you there!

Unit for Rent: One bedroom unit for an actively independent person around 60 years of age or older at St Patrick's Community Village is available for rent. Applications are to be made in writing to the Secretary, Board of Management, St Patrick's Cathedral, PO Box 7062, Toowoomba 4350 or may be dropped in at the Parish Office. [Single unit rent \$162.50 per week].

RARE AND BEAUTIFUL SPRING FAIR hosted by **The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver** on Saturday 28 August, 9am to 1pm, 71 Margaret St Toowoomba. Lovely gifts, sausage sizzle, cake stalls and generous raffle. All proceeds to The Missions, donations welcome, contact: 07 46321818.

St Saviour's College, Toowoomba, Catholic Day and Boarding School for Girls in Years 7-12
Principal's Breakfast, Thursday 19 August, 7am. For families with Year 9 and 10 female students looking for senior schooling options. Free registration essential at www.ssctwb.catholic.edu.au.

Enquiries: welcomestsav@twb.catholic.edu.au

Sunday 15 August	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass 9am Live Streaming SPC	11am Baptism of Harper Rose Acquisto 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 16 August	9am Mass STM 5.30pm Mass SPC	
Tues 17 August	7am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	6.30am Rosary SPC 5.30pm Choir Practice
Wed 18 August	7am Mass SPC	
Thurs 19 August	7am Mass SPC	7.30am – 8.30am Adoration SPC
Friday 20 August <small>Saint Bernard</small>	7am Mass SPC 9am Mass STM	Fr Michael away on holidays until 23 rd August. 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Sat 21 August <small>Saint Pius X</small>	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass	8am – 9am Reconciliation SPC
Sunday 22 August	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass 9am Live Streaming SPC	11am Baptism of Rhylee Alana Farr 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Planned Giving: \$1169; Loose: \$894; Paypoint: \$460 Wendy Heelan, Sam and Fina Ginardi. Thank you for your generous giving to assist the works of St. Patrick's.		